

Dear Parent / Guardian,

An important aspect of being literate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century includes being able to understand and use technological tools in effective and responsible manners.

As one example, for close to a decade now, Surrey Schools has provided student email accounts as a classroom and learning tool for students to communicate with each other, as well as their teacher regarding classroom assignments. Through the use of a Surrey Schools email account, students are able to learn effective and responsible use in a safe, monitored environment.

Consistent with board policy, Surrey School District student email accounts are subject to monitoring by teachers and other district staff to ensure appropriate use.

This year, the district's student email accounts will be hosted by a Microsoft email service with a U.S.-based server, and student emails and the information in them may be stored for a period of time on that server. Accordingly, these communications may be subject to U.S. law, including the Patriot Act. This is the same for other commonly-used general email accounts such as Gmail or Hotmail. U.S.-based servers are also used to store personal information for services such as Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's school email account, please contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Principal