Dear 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent or Guardian:

North Allegheny School District (NASD) is pleased to announce an exciting opportunity to integrate "cloud" computing into our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. Cloud computing is simply sharing software applications over a network; a cost savings, collaborative alternative to installing stand-alone software on individual machines. The District has entered into an agreement with Google to deliver free access to Google Apps for Education for all of our students and teachers in grades three (3) through twelve (12). Google Apps for Education provides our students and teachers with a platform to communicate and collaborate in a safe, online environment using word processing, presentation, and spreadsheet tools. North Allegheny's Google account is a closed domain limiting access to only NASD students and employees. Our goal through this initiative is to engage students in activities designed to help them discover the opportunities and responsibilities that coincide with online interaction.

North Allegheny School District's Google Apps accounts are <u>only</u> to be used for school related tasks. The students will receive an orientation presentation through their school's librarian to review the requirements and opportunities associated with these educational applications. In order to use Google's services as provided to NASD, all participants must be aware of, agree to, and adhere to the following:

- When utilizing *Google Apps for Education* services, students must abide by the NASD <u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>. A copy of the <u>Acceptable Use Policy</u> is available for your review on the District's website at <a href="http://www.northallegheny.org/page/20">http://www.northallegheny.org/page/20</a>.
- Anyone in the NASD community utilizing Google Apps for Education services must agree and adhere to the Google Terms of Service that will be presented for review when the account is created.
- Anyone in the NASD community utilizing Google Apps for Education services must be aware that their data may be stored in data centers outside the borders of the United States.
- As stated in the NASD <u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>, anyone in the NASD community utilizing <u>Google Apps for Education</u> services acknowledges that NASD has the ability to monitor students' data.
- Anyone in the NASD community utilizing *Google Apps for Education* services will be supported through the NASD Help Desk.
- Anyone in the NASD community utilizing Google Apps for Education services must acknowledge that Google can terminate their account if they fail to abide by the Google Terms of Service.

Students will be able to log in to their North Allegheny Google account from any computer with internet access via the website <a href="www.northallegheny.org/google">www.northallegheny.org/google</a>. Each child will receive a unique username and password to gain access to his/her files and resources. All products, <a href="with the exception of email">with the exception of email</a>, are activated for your child.

North Allegheny School District is committed to integrating current educational technology and assisting you in preparing your child to be a productive, contributing citizen in the 21st Century. Granting students' access to Google Apps for Education aligns with this commitment, it encourages students to think critically and collaborate in a safe, online learning environment.

Sincerely,

Karyn Dobda

Coordinator of Online Learning and Professional Development

North Allegheny School District