

September 8, 2020

Dear Dodgeland Families -

When our schools were suddenly closed in March due to the COVID pandemic, the District quickly crafted a plan to address the immediate needs for students to have access to technology, enabling them to continue their learning from home. The distribution of portable hotspots was a short-term solution for families that did not have reliable and consistent home internet access.

When the 2020-2021 learning options were shared by the district, it was with the understanding that families choosing Option 2 (blended learning) or Option 3 (virtual learning), currently had reliable and consistent access to home internet. The district was able to provide high speed internet access to families in the spring due to emergency circumstances, but that is not sustainable for the district.

That being said, the District does understand the challenges many of our students are experiencing with no or limited high-speed internet access at home. The following options will be available for students to access the internet:

### **1. After School Internet Access**

To assist with access to the internet, the district is offering after school/evening access to the building. District students will have access to the internet for the purpose of completing assignments and retrieving electronic instructional materials. These supervised sessions will be a total of four hours long and open to all Dodgeland K-12 students. Students do not need to stay for the entire four hours, just the hours needed to access learning materials. Any Dodgeland student signed up for In-Person, Live-Streamed/Blended, or Virtual/Online may use this service.

#### **Logistics**

- Available Monday through Thursday from 3PM - 7PM. An after school session will not be provided on days that school is cancelled.
- Students must sign up for the afterschool internet access by 12pm daily.
  - Sign-Up Here: <http://bit.ly/InternetSignUp>
- There will be a maximum of 30 students allowed per day for the designated area.
- Students will not be allowed to leave the designated area.
- Students will enter and exit through Door 2 (Elementary School Entrance).
- Masks must be worn until the Governor's mask mandate expires. Masks also must be worn if not socially distanced from one another.
- All cleaning and sanitary procedures must be followed.

### **2. Outdoor WiFi**

*Note: This service will not be available until October due to equipment backorders.*

The district is capitalizing on an infrastructure grant to expand its wireless network to outdoor areas around the building. Students and families will be able to come on-site and connect their district-owned devices to gain access to the internet. This service will be available in the Elementary and Middle/High School parking lots and surrounding outdoor green spaces. Outdoor WiFi will be available from 6am to 12am.

### **3. Other internet Options**

Home internet - The district has been working with local internet companies to find the best home internet solutions for families across our district. If you are struggling to find quality internet for your home, please contact Director of Technology, Brad Modaff, at 920-386-4404 ext. 1222 or email [modaffb@dodgeland.k12.wi.us](mailto:modaffb@dodgeland.k12.wi.us). The district will provide information and assist to the best of our abilities in finding an internet solution for your home. Options will be shared with the family and the district will assist in introducing the family to the internet provider. Due to the rural landscape of our district, some families may have limited options or no options at all.

Financial Burden - If you are unable to provide internet access to your household due to a financial burden, please reach out to reach out to a member of the pupil services team for your child's school or our 4K - 12th grade school social worker. District pupil services may be able to assist you with additional options available.

- Ms. Ganser - Elementary School Counselor  
E - [Ganser@dodgeland.k12.wi.us](mailto:Ganser@dodgeland.k12.wi.us)  
P - 920-386-4404 ext. 1105
- Mr. Dunn - MS/HS School Counselor  
E - [Dunn@dodgeland.k12.wi.us](mailto:Dunn@dodgeland.k12.wi.us)  
P - 920-386-4404 ext. 1027
- Ms. Breselow - School Social Worker  
E - [Breselow@dodgeland.k12.wi.us](mailto:Breselow@dodgeland.k12.wi.us)  
P - 920-386-4404 ext. 1026

Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns about any internet option that was shared in this letter.

The district technology department has been working diligently to find internet solutions for all families, regardless of the location of their residence, income level, or selected learning option. A quality learning experience for your child is our utmost priority, and the District will make every effort to ensure that a lack of internet connectivity does not hinder his or her education.