August 13, 2020

Dear Families,

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. Last week, we welcomed our families back for our first-ever virtual start to school and we were pleased to see students begin to get connected across all grade levels.

We know many of our families rely on devices from the district in order to learn and succeed. For families who recently made a request for a device or hotspot who have not yet received one, it will be available for pick-up no later than Friday, August 14. Though we surveyed families throughout the summer to assess the need, there is a higher need for hotspots than earlier reported, and we appreciate your patience.

If your child needs a device or hotspot and you have not yet requested one, please contact your school directly to schedule an appointment to pick up your technology. Appointment hours will vary by school. We have made several attempts to reach those families who have enrolled their child but have not received devices. If you or anyone you know has not been contacted by an FCS staff member, we may not have your phone number on file. We are eager to begin working with your child and encourage you to contact your school immediately or email superintendent@flintschools.org.

The district will not penalize students for attendance while they await a Chromebook, iPad or hotspot, so long as these families contact their school directly to inform them of the need. When placing this call, families can check in with a teacher, paraprofessional, or staff member in order to receive assignments that count toward attendance.

We are also committed to ensuring your child’s technology is safe for use. While online learning provides many opportunities, we understand there are also safety precautions we must take—such as ensuring that each Chromebook or iPad that goes home with a student has a safeguard license applied by our IT department. While this process requires additional time, it is another way we are providing for the safety of our students.

While this school year is unlike any other, I am confident that with your support, we will be successful together. Please continue to monitor your email, phone and our district website for updates: www.FlintSchools.org.

Your partner in education,

Mrs. Anita J. Steward
Superintendent