



**GCPS Learns Anywhere**  
Planning for the Virtual Start  
Update to Families - 9/4/20

**This week's update includes the following:**

- Technology Devices and Assistance with Internet Connectivity
- Community Child Care Information
- GCPS Special Education
- GCPS Meal Services
- Parent Resources for CANVAS

**We're ready for Tuesday, September 8!**  
**Enjoy your Labor Day weekend!**

## Technology Devices and Assistance with Internet Connectivity

- Our new tablet devices for our PK-2 students have started to arrive! The Technology staff is preparing these devices for delivery to schools. Families will be contacted soon regarding an opportunity to pick up these devices. In addition, protective cases will be ordered and available soon, as well.
- If your student still needs to borrow a loaner device, please contact your school directly. In addition, contact your school if your student needs assistance logging into the division network.
- GCPS is still pursuing the purchase of MiFi ® hot-spot devices. Demand for these devices remains high, and distribution during the COVID-19 pandemic is delayed. Until then, please maintain contact with your school to ensure that teachers are aware of your connectivity limitations and can accommodate, as needed.
- **Internet Cafe** - To assist families who need internet access, several schools are planning to open Cafeteria spaces on a limited basis, beginning the second week of school, to a limited number of students (with a parent), **by appointment, in reserved time slots**. These time slots will allow a student to bring a device to the school to access content, download or upload materials, email teachers, etc. Please note:
  - These spaces are not open to the general public for unrestricted internet access.
  - These opportunities will not include tutoring, instruction, conferencing, etc.
  - Appropriate distancing and safety protocols will be followed, including temperature checks, face coverings for all guests.
  - ***Look for more specific information in upcoming communications.***
- The **Gloucester County Public Library** (Main Street location) also is offering a limited number of wi-fi study areas for students during the school day:
  - Monday - Thursday, 10:00-6:00 and Friday 10:00-5:00
  - Call to reserve a study area (in one-hour increments)
  - (804) 693-2998
- The GCPS Homepage also contains information about county locations with free Wifi access. Look for the link below on our webpage:

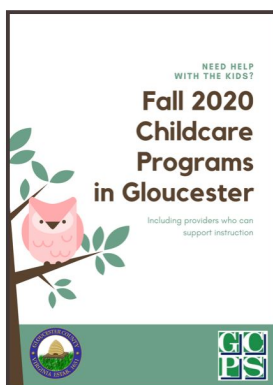
Gloucester County  
Public WIFI Information

- Families can visit Cox Communications' "Connect2Compete" website to determine if they qualify for reduced-priced broadband services in a Cox service area:

<https://www.cox.com/residential/internet/connect2compete.html>

## Community Child Care Information

GCPS recognizes that there are important and unique child care considerations for many of our families. The Gloucester County Department of Community Engagement and Public Information (CEPI) is partnering with GCPS to assist in the compilation of a local child care directory, including providers who can support instruction. This directory is now accessible on the GCPS and CEPI websites:



## Special Education

This week, case managers reached out to parents/guardians of students with disabilities to discuss student amendments. Copies of proposed amendments are being emailed or sent home through the U.S. mail. Families will also be receiving packets through the U.S. mail with several items, including: a welcome letter, a copy of procedural safeguards, resources for students with disabilities, dates for the Special Education Advisory Committee meetings, and the **VDOE Parent Survey**. We would like parents/guardians to complete their surveys and mail them back to VDOE using the enclosed envelopes. Parents/guardians may also use the link on the GCPS website under the Special Education Department tab:

[VDOE Parent Survey](#)

## GCPS Meal Services

Beginning Tuesday, September 8, “Grab & Go” meals will be available for pick-up daily at any of the elementary schools or Gloucester High School, between 7:30 AM and 8:30 AM.

If you wish to be added to a daily meal delivery service, please call 804-693-3585 to leave a message; please be ready to provide your student's ID number.

Visit the [GCPS Food Services website](#) for more information.

## Parent Resources for CANVAS

- How can parents, guardians, and other caregivers help students using the CANVAS learning management system?

### [Canvas Observer Guide Resource](#)

- View the brief introductory video:

### [CANVAS LMS For Parents](#)

- The GCPS Learns Anywhere Canvas Resource site has been updated with even more helpful information. Visit the GCPS homepage and look for this icon below:



- Need online support now?

