



# VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## **Video Conferencing Expectations and Opt Out Form**

In an effort to improve student learning outcomes, maximize district resources, and increase student engagement and collaboration, Vernon Public Schools' students and staff will predominantly utilize the Zoom and Google Meet video conferencing platforms. Both platforms are similar but have subtle differences. This form provides information on each platform and provides an opportunity for parents and students to opt-out of using such video conferencing platforms. It is important to note that students who opt out will only be provided an education experience that is asynchronous, i.e. not in real time.

### ***What is Zoom?***

Zoom is a remote conferencing services company that provides online video conferencing. It allows you to attend a meeting or class with video conferencing and audio. The platform is better for larger groups. Available collaboration tools, such as the use of breakout rooms and whiteboards, are currently more advanced when compared to Google Meet. The use of passwords to join meetings is required.

### ***What is Google Meet?***

Google Meet is a video conferencing application similar to Zoom and is run through G-suite. Unlimited videoconferencing is free to everyone for meetings up to 60 minutes. This platform is best for quick meetings. While Google Meet is working on releasing features that Zoom currently has, some of those features are not yet available.

### ***How do students access either platform?***

The teacher will send the meeting link to students and admit them to the meeting. Students will not be able enter the meeting unless admitted by the teacher. It is important to note that within either platform, students and other individuals within the home will be able to see your child's face and name on the screen. When teachers utilize the breakout room features available through Zoom or any other platforms when they become available, teachers may join only one breakout room at a time. Thus, they are not able to monitor all rooms at all times. However, students will still be held responsible for their behavior. Additionally, teachers will not record sessions in either platform.

While using any video conferencing platform, students/parents/guardians are expected to follow the practices noted below. Failure to comply with the following expectations may result in school consequences including loss of computer access privileges as well as other disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion, depending on the specific conduct.

- Screenshots or photos of screens on any device when using any video conferencing platform may not be taken.
- Meeting links and passwords cannot be shared with anyone, including other students who are not scheduled to be in the assigned meeting.
- Video conferencing sessions on any platform, including Zoom and Google Meet, cannot be recorded.
- All school and district policies apply, including the Acceptable Use and Technology Compliance Agreement for all grade levels, when using any video conferencing platform.
- All behavioral expectations included in each respective school's student handbook, including adherence to school dress codes, apply when using video conferencing platforms.
- When students lose a connection to a video conferencing platform while it is in session, they are expected to make several attempts to rejoin the session. Should problems or technical issues persist, please email the student's teacher(s). This will provide documentation of the issue and appropriate adjustments can be made to ensure a student does not fall behind due to an issue with technology.

OVER →

My child is opting out of using video conferencing platforms for educational purposes.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** By not opting out of using video conferencing platforms, you have agreed to follow the expectations noted above.

\*Only return this form if you DO NOT give your child permission to utilize video conferencing platforms for educational purposes.

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL NO LATER THAN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH.