

Date

Dear Families,

Over the past two months, students have used their district-issued Google accounts to curate their work into digital portfolios. They have created Google Sites with introductions, assignments, and reflections intended to reflect their achievement and growth over the course of the school year and eventually their school career, as mentioned in our school's five-year plan. Students have been instructed to use their classroom nicknames and not to share any identifiable information, and I will continue to monitor them to ensure that no private information is shared. Currently, these websites are only viewable to individuals whom have been granted permission via email (e.g. teachers and parents).

I think portfolios are important because they create an opportunity to foster "deeper learning" skills, like communication and self-directed learning; provide an alternative to tested-based assessments; and -- if they are viewable online -- provide an authentic audience. In my time as a teacher, I have seen that students create their best work when they have an audience outside of their own friends and family. I would like to provide an audience of teachers and students to view their digital portfolios, give them feedback, and see more examples of high-quality student work. Because I think this tool is so valuable, I am hoping the encourage more schools to adopt digital portfolios. Provided that your son/daughter has already expressed interest in this idea, I am seeking your permission to share his/her Google Site via a link on my teaching website. His/her digital portfolio would then be viewable to teachers and students looking for examples without it being included in Internet search results.

Best,

Teacher Name

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I give my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to share his/her digital portfolio with the following audience.

\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher and family members

Website is only accessible via email

\_\_\_\_\_ Other teachers and classrooms

Website is only accessible via link shared on sitename/digital-portfolios

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_