

## Virtual Learning Platform Options (*PGCPS Express*, Aug. 28)

Teachers have the option of connecting with students using **PGCPS Zoom or Google Meet**.

The Technology Training Team (T3) has developed a [useful site](#) that provides training opportunities, in-depth information and resources to include these digital tools.

PGCPS Zoom is our preferred online platform due to the “waiting room” and “mute all” features. To safeguard the learning environment, all teachers must utilize the “waiting room” option. Only known persons should be granted access.

Additionally, Zoom has the ability to run usage reports which helps to verify attendance. All instructional staff have access to Zoom and should only access this application through the Staff Portal (Applications). PGCPS has licensed Zoom accounts where district settings have been enabled to increase the ability to protect staff and students. **The public version of Zoom should never be used for instruction or any PGCPS-related matters.**

Staff also have the option of using Google Meet, which allows interaction with students using chat, reactions, or even closed captions. Educators should always launch their sessions with students using the Meet link in Google Classroom. Later in the fall, Google will release several new features. View [this graphic](#) to see which new features will be enabled in the G Suite for Education version.

Whether using PGCPS Zoom or Google Meet, students should join through Clever. Teachers may connect through Clever as well. Please refer to the T3 site for more information and guidance on Clever.