



West Orange Public Schools

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Department of Technology

Mr. Fil Santiago

Date: July 12, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The FCC recently unveiled its Final Report and Order for the \$7.171 billion Emergency Connectivity Fund ("ECF"). Congress created the Emergency Connectivity Fund ("ECF") as part of the American Rescue Plan Act as a means to help address the "Homework Gap." The ECF will provide school districts with funding support to ensure that all students have devices and Internet connectivity sufficient to engage in remote learning-- at home.

In order to apply for the funds, the West Orange Public Schools needs your assistance in completing an important survey (needs assessment) that schools must conduct before applying for federal funds to purchase technology for students in the West Orange Orange Public Schools. This is funding that is to be used strictly to purchase technology for students who currently do not have a device or connectivity at home for learning outside of school hours.

The West Orange Public Schools is asking parents/guardians of students in grades PK-12 to complete a survey for each child attending school in the District during the 2021-22 school year to determine who has an unmet need. We ask that all parents complete this short survey.

PLEASE NOTE: The funding that we are applying for is strictly for students who do not have a computer at home. This excludes a district-issued device. If your child has been provided a district-issue device, but does not have a personal device at home, please respond **NO** on the survey. By indicating NO on the survey, you are indicating that your child does not have a personal device at home for learning outside of school hours.

The District will be using the information you provide to request funding from the Federal government to purchase technology to support learning at home. By submitting the completed survey, you are hereby certifying that your responses are true and correct to the best of your knowledge and may be used for that specific purpose.

The survey will be open from Monday, July 12 to July 30, 2021. Please click below to access and complete the survey, which is available in three languages.

[Form in English](#)

[Form in Spanish](#)

[Forms in Haitian Creole](#)

If you have questions, please contact Fil Santiago, Director of Technology: fsantiago@westorangeschools.org