



## Mars Area School District

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Oct. 1, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Mars Area School District is excited to introduce *Schoology*, which will serve as a Learning Management System (LMS) for students in Grades 7-12 and as instructional communication portal for students in Grades K-6. As *Schoology* is a web-based tool, parents may access the system from any device with Internet capability.

During the Week of Oct. 2, each District parent (K-12) will receive an e-mail notification containing login information for *Schoology*. The information will be distributed by the District's Technology Department and will come from the e-mail address, [notifications@schoology.com](mailto:notifications@schoology.com).

*Note: Because of how the Schoology's notification system is designed, not all e-mail notifications will be distributed simultaneously; therefore, the District asks your patience as we continue to send out parent login information throughout the week. After the last notification has been distributed, the District will send out a follow-up e-mail message to all parents with instructions for obtaining your Schoology login information in the event that you did not receive an individual notification.*

Once you receive your login information, parents may access *Schoology* to set up your account and update your password. A "Parent Login" link for *Schoology* is available by clicking on the "Learning Management System" icon on the District's website, [www.marsk12.org](http://www.marsk12.org), or directly at <https://app.schoology.com/login>. (*Schoology* offers a mobile application, which is available for download via "GooglePlay" or the "App Store." However, parents are asked to login at <https://app.schoology.com/login> first before using the mobile app, which is a requirement of the system.)

At the secondary (7-12) level, students are already using *Schoology* to access instructional materials, assignments, assessments and a calendar of classroom information. Parents may use *Schoology* to view your student's course activities such as assignments, posts, classroom announcements, classroom calendar and instructional materials. Parents will still access students' grades via the *Skyward Family Access* portal. The integration of *Schoology* for middle school and high school students supports the District's One-to-One (1:1) Technology Program by having a consistent method of sharing instructional tools and materials. And, *Schoology* also provides for a streamlined approach to allow for more organization and real-time access to instructional tools and resources.

For elementary (K-6) parents, *Schoology* will primarily be used as a "classroom teacher-to-home" communication vehicle. Parents may log on to the system to access weekly information posted by teachers about a student's class; class calendars of important events; and learning documents such as links to instructional materials, spelling lists, tips and tools for students, etc.

Additional information regarding parent access to *Schoology* will be posted on the District's website, [www.marsk12.org](http://www.marsk12.org), when that information become available. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we introduce this new system.