



November 4, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to announce a new partnership between the Shakopee Public Schools and the Scott County Library that will provide K-12 students with a fine-free virtual library card. This collaboration, called the Virtual Student Library Card, ensures that public library resources can be a part of every student's learning experience.

Students can benefit from access to the vast resources available through the public library, including online tutoring and homework help, research tools, eBooks, audiobooks, electronic magazines, language learning tools, and print books. This virtual card will also allow for the checkout of two physical library items.

The new partnership creates a bridge between school and community resources that may help broaden students' understanding of the world, increase literacy, and provide additional structures of learning. The school district provided iPads for each student to use as a personal learning device, and we can now provide the ability to maximize the use of the public library's resources.

The Virtual Student Library Card can be used both online and in library buildings, and will expire July 1st immediately following a student's graduation. Students are not assessed late fines with this card, but are responsible for costs that occur from lost or damaged physical items. Students who already have library cards may use either card to checkout materials from the library. Please note that the Virtual Student Library Card will provide students with the same access to the full Scott County Library as does a standard-issue library card.

This opportunity is voluntary. If students or families would like to opt-out of the Virtual Student Library Card Partnership between Shakopee Public Schools and Scott County Public Library, they can simply choose not to activate their accounts. They can also fill out the digital opt-out form at bit.ly/cardoptout or the paper opt-out form (see other side).

We are excited by all the ways this partnership will benefit our students and their learning. If you have any questions, please contact parenthelp@shakopee.k12.mn.us. To read this letter in Spanish, Somali, or Russian, please visit: bit.ly/VSLCinfoletter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mike Redmond
Superintendent, Shakopee Public Schools

Virtual Student Library Card FAQ

How do students access their Virtual Student Library Card?

Students will receive a confirmation email in their school email accounts with instructions on how to access their account. Media Specialists will teach students how to access and use their VSLC during Media class time.

What will the Virtual Student Library Card access?

Students will have access to all of Scott County Library's digital resources and will be able to check out 2 physical materials at a time. Students will be able to access all things that a standard library card does.

What if a student already has a physical Scott County Library card?

Students' original cards will not be replaced, and students can use either card.

Are there fines associated with the Virtual Student Library Card?

The Virtual Student Library Card is a fine-free account for overdue physical materials. However, fines will be charged for lost or damaged materials.

Virtual Student Library Card Opt-Out Form

I do not want my child to participate in the Virtual Student Library Card Partnership between Shakopee Public Schools and Scott County Library. I understand that I will need to fill this form out each year to continue to opt-out of this district- and county-provided service. Please return this form to the main office at your child's school.

Required:

Student First Name: _____

Student Last Name: _____

Student ID number: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____