

# Can I check my email?

## Student email accounts an idea to ponder

As technology progresses, our main forms of communicating are changing. An example of this for many years has been e-mail. However, even though e-mail has been prevalent for many years, student e-mail has not been incorporated into many high schools until recently.

There are several systems available to specifically help high schools utilize e-mail for their students. One of these systems is called SchoolBits. This system does not need any software installed; all it needs is an Internet connection and a web browser. Vaguely it is stated that SchoolBits "costs only pennies per month per student."

The system is equipped with many features. First of all, it is completely possible for the administration to access all e-mails being sent and received, allowing them to control what is taking place during school hours and on school property.

Along with that, e-mails with questionable, or restricted, language can be automatically deleted. Viruses can also be detected.

After the trial period of 30 days, each e-mail address can be customized, such as "student-name@paoliHS.in.us". Also, because the system is on the Internet, hard disk space is not used. Restrictions can be placed on when students are able to get on their e-mail.

There are several benefits to student e-mail. If a student is absent, it would be simple for teachers to e-mail their assignments to the

student. Additionally, if a student just had a question for a teacher, but was not in proximity to them, it would make asking the question possible in a somewhat easy way seeing as teachers already have, and utilize, their e-mail addresses.

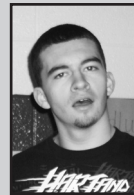
Teachers, on behalf of the journalism staff, we know you do not like us interrupting your classes to obtain information from students. With the acquirement of student e-mail, we could ask questions and plan times between classes to attain the information we need. Some stories require information from someone who is easiest to contact by e-mail. However, it is difficult to get that information without the necessary means.

Seniors are rushing around trying to get in college applications and apply for various scholarships, both of which would be greatly simplified by e-mail. Guidance counselors could e-mail all the information that they receive to a particular type or group of students depending on its relevance. Juniors and seniors both could benefit from e-mail when it comes to SATs. Scheduling for upcoming years could be done by e-mail, and then if there seem to be problems or questions, a face-to-face meeting could take place.

Several useful things can be possible with student e-mail, the main one being simplification in everyone's school life.



## What do you think about having a student e-mail account?



**"It would be pointless."**  
Junior Breck Eubank



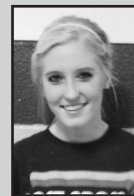
**"It would be easier."**  
Freshman Logan Cook



**"It would be beneficial."**  
Senior Aaron Weyrauch



**"Think it would be an easier way to communicate with teachers."**  
Sophomore Jaleene Mosson



**"It would be good so when I have questions I can ask."**  
Junior Rachel Manship



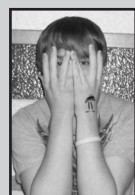
**"As long as it is monitored, I don't see a problem."**  
Mr. Kyle Neukam



**"It would be easier to stay in contact with teachers."**  
Senior Greta Farlow



**"I think it could work well for students to submit assignments."**  
Mrs. Carol Fullington



**"It would be easier and more efficient in contacting teachers."**  
Sophomore Jonathon Cook



**"I think it would be good because when you miss they could email you your assignments."**  
Sophomore Stefany Waynick

# BLACK BOARD

**Online program used in college classes creates a virtual classroom**

With the world getting so impatient and technologically dependent, the need for a mass notification system in schools has greatly increased.

A certain website is catching on all over the college nation. Blackboard.com is a site where teachers can update homework assignments, administrators can tell students when school is cancelled and when emergencies happen, and school sports and extracurricular activities can be updated.

According to Blackboard.com, 75 percent of college students having smart phones. Now blackboard has teamed up with many major colleges such as Northwestern, Stanford and Florida State to create mobile apps to notify students through notifications and text messages about school and classroom updates.

This free service is catching on at many schools across the nation, such as local colleges Ball State and Ivy Tech. Yet some people are saying that high schools should invest their time into getting a blackboard or a similar program going at local schools, yet not many high schools have caught on to this trend.

