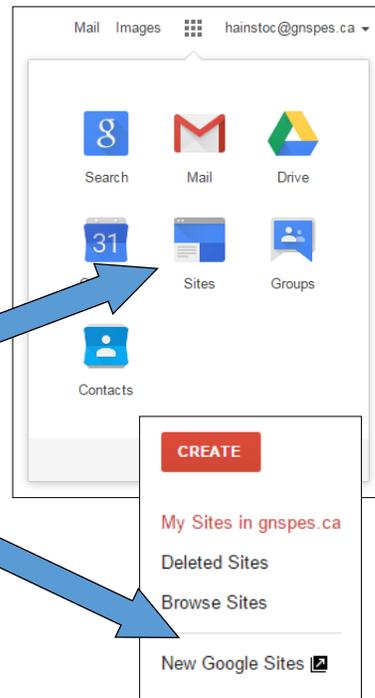# What's New in Google Apps in the AVRSB for 2016 ?

## Google Sites (new version)

Google Sites went through a major overhaul over the summer and is now available fro teachers and students. You can create professional webpages that adapt to various screens and mobile devices, using content from your GNSPES Google Drive, YouTube, Maps or Calendar. This is ideal for class websites or student projects, as it is a simple drag-and-drop interface and requires no experience in web design and publishing.

1.  To access Sites, login into your GNSPES account and click on the square app launcher in the top right corner of the window (or type in https://sites.google.com).

2.  When Sites launches, look for the "New Google Sites" link. You can continue using the old version and sites you created in that version.
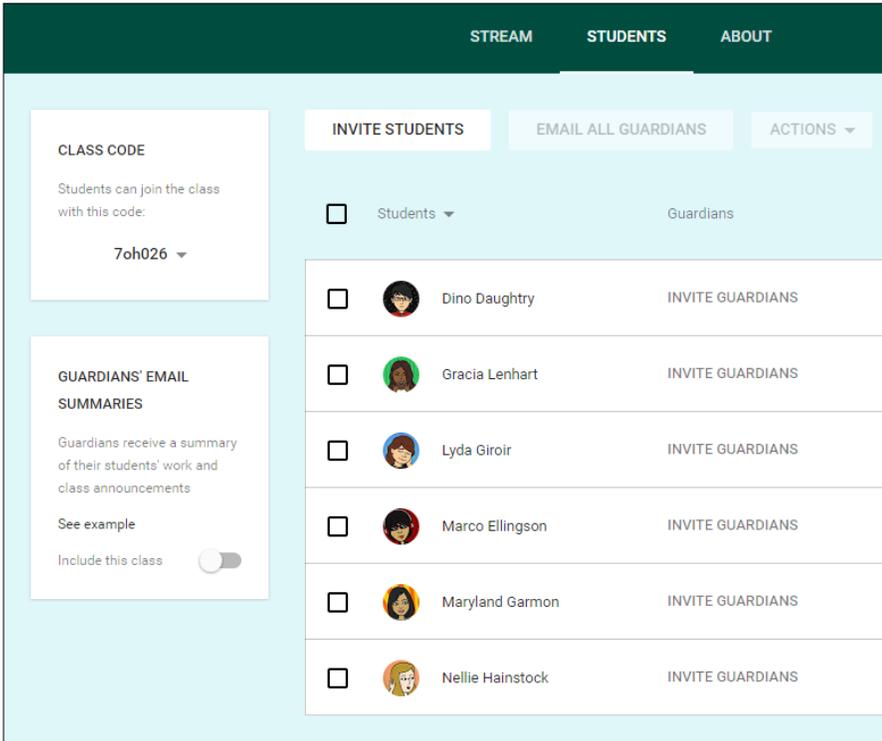
For information on how to use the new Sites, please refer to the Google Sites Help Centre.

# Google Classroom Updates

Google classroom has introduced a number of new features, but there are two in particular that will be useful for the new school year. For a full list of updates, click here.



## Guardian Summaries:

In the "Students" section of a particular class, you can invite guardians to receive regular email updates on class activities specific to their child—including missing work, upcoming work, and class activities.

You have the ability to turn this feature on for each class, and guardians can choose whether to participate and how often they receive the email summary. If more than one teacher have the summary active, the guardian only receives a single email that summarizes all classes.

For teachers, there is no management—other than inviting the parent at the beginning of the school year.

For more info, click here.

## Stream Topics:

One of the biggest complaints from teachers and students was the length of the Classroom "Stream" as you added content and assignments throughout the year.

The "Topics" feature allows you to tag a topic to announcements, assignments, and questions, and then lists the course topics along the side of the screen. This allows students to click on a particular topic and only see the content that pertains to that topic. So, a teacher could organize topics by each unit of study or particular dates—and keep their Classroom Steam more manageable.

For more info, click here.