ChromeOS 131 Enterprise and Education release notes

For administrators who manage Chrome devices for a business or school.

These release notes were published on November 26, 2024.

See the latest version of these release notes online at https://g.co/help/ChromeEnterpriseReleaseNotes

ChromeOS 131 release summary

Current ChromeOS changes	Security/ Privacy	User productivity/ Apps	Management
ChromeOS Flex Auto Enrollment			✓
ChromeOS Flex forced re-enrollment			✓
Quick Answers styling refresh		✓	
Split DNS for ChromeOS	✓		
ChromeOS Back To Safety	✓	✓	
Flash notifications		✓	
Microsoft SCEP SID update reminder	✓		
Upcoming ChromeOS changes	**Security/ Privacy**	**User productivity/ Apps**	**Management**
AI wallpapers and backgrounds		✓	
Graduate data migration		✓	✓
Native Client (NaCl) support ending on ChromeOS	✓		✓
Chrome App support ending on ChromeOS		✓	✓

The enterprise release notes are available in 9 languages. You can read about ChromeOS updates in English, German, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Indonesian, and Japanese. Allow 1 to 2 weeks for translation for some languages.

Current ChromeOS changes

ChromeOS Flex auto-enrollment

In ChromeOS 131, ChromeOS Flex auto-enrollment now allows you to deploy ChromeOS Flex devices at scale. Similar to ChromeOS zero-touch enrollment, automatic enrollment embeds an enrollment token created by an organization's administrator into a ChromeOS Flex image. This will determine which customer organization and organizational unit a device will enroll into during initial device setup. For more information, see Enroll ChromeOS devices and the ChromeOS Flex help center.

ChromeOS Flex forced re-enrollment

In ChromeOS 131, enrolled ChromeOS Flex devices support manual forced re-enrollment. If the policy is set to enforce either automatic or manual re-enrollment, ChromeOS Flex devices will prompt users to manually re-enroll after a factory reset. For more information, see Force wiped ChromeOS devices to re-enroll and the Forced re-enrollment device setting.

Quick Answers styling refresh

Quick Answers is a GenAI-powered reading assistant for ChromeOS, giving users quick insights into web pages and PDF documents. This includes summaries, interactive outlines, and document Q&A. In ChromeOS 131, we introduce an updated styling for Quick Answers. For more information, see Quick Answers—definition. This feature can be controlled using Quick Answers policies.

Split DNS for ChromeOS

You can now configure Secure DNS to be used on specified domains only. Admins can configure a list of domains to be included or excluded from using Secure DNS. You can configure this feature using these policies: DnsOverHttpsIncludedDomains and DnsOverHttpsExcludedDomains.

ChromeOS Back To Safety

This feature gives users a way to get back to a good known state by disabling extensions and resetting settings that could hurt their experience. In past releases, in order to get your ChromeOS device to a known good state, you would have to powerwash. Thanks to this feature, there are now ways to non-destructively get your device to a state you feel comfortable with again!

When a user selects **Safety reset**, this action will:
- Reset Chrome settings and Chrome shortcuts
- Disable extensions
- Delete cookies and other temporary site data

Bookmarks, history, and saved passwords won't be affected. For more details, see [Wipe ChromeOS device data](#).
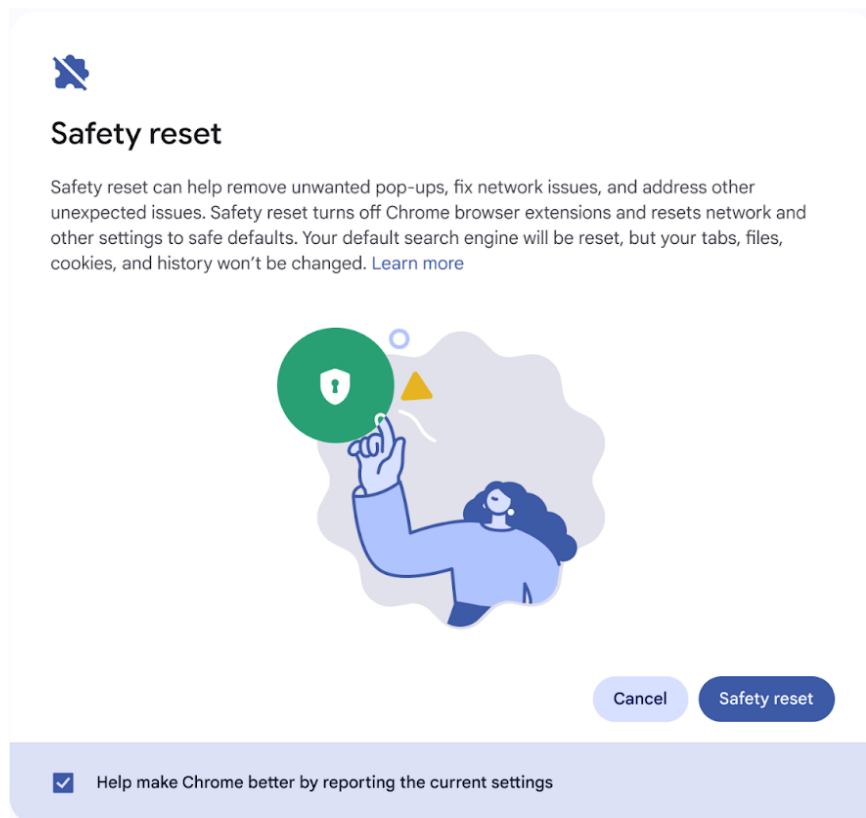
Flash notifications

Customers who frequently miss notifications that appear in the corner of the screen can now enable a setting that will flash the screen whenever a new notification arrives. This feature is particularly

beneficial for customers who are hard of hearing or who use screen magnification and are often zoomed in, making it difficult to see corner notifications. This new setting can be found under **Settings > Accessibility > Audio and captions > Flash notifications**.
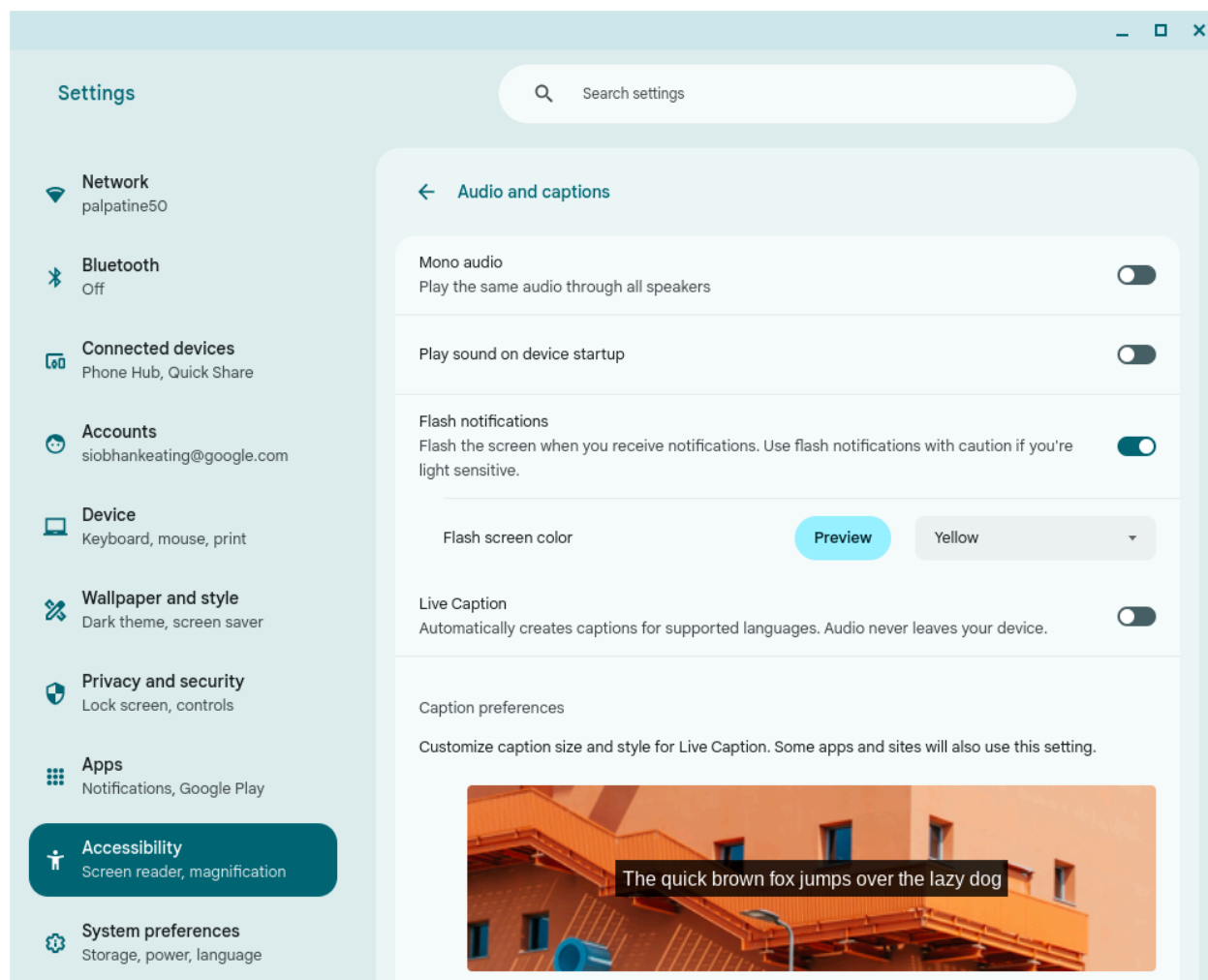
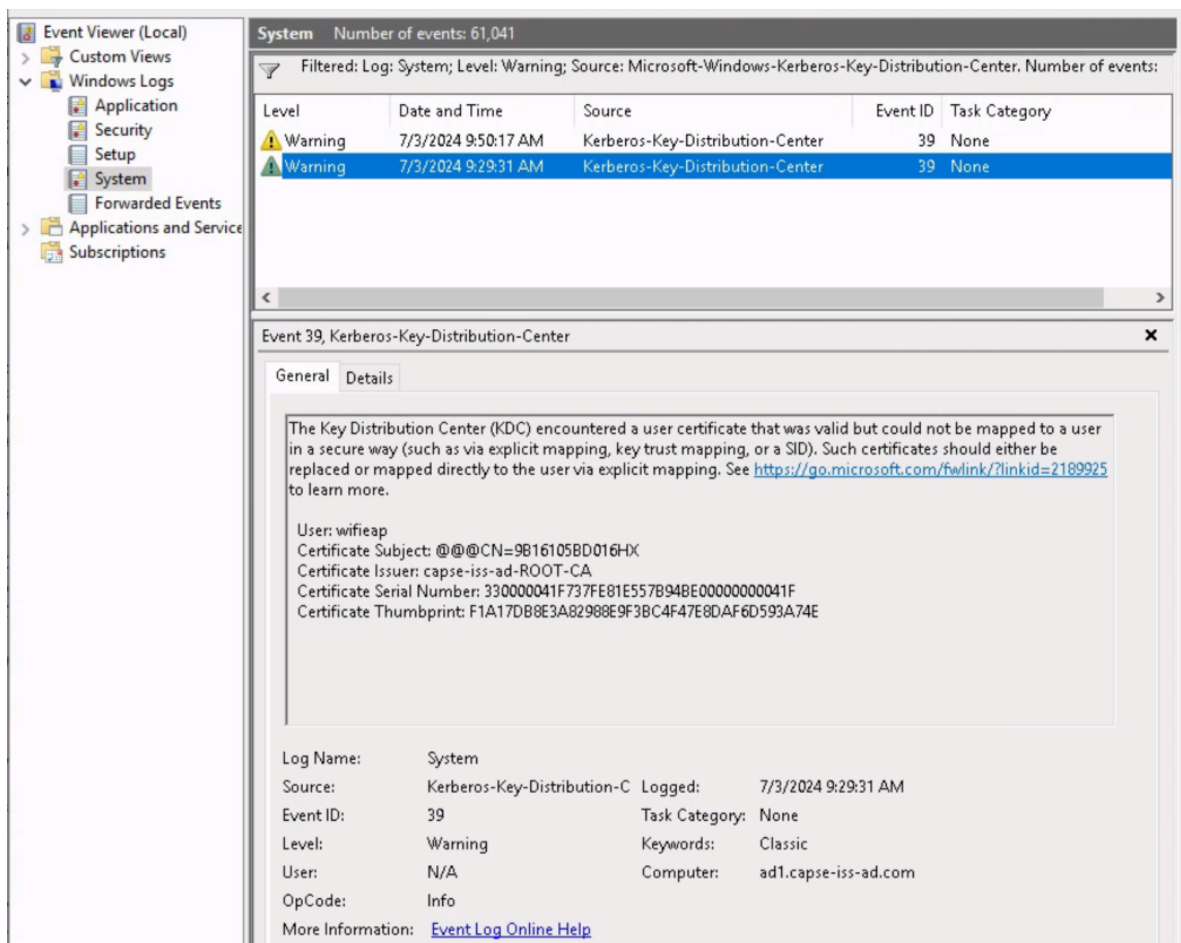**Microsoft SCEP SID update reminder (Originally published M130)**

Only for SCEP deployments using Microsoft NPS for RADIUS. If you are not using SCEP certificates in combination with Microsoft NPS for Radius for Chromebook network connectivity, **you may disregard the remainder of these instructions**. We expect this to be a setup more common in enterprise rather than in education.

Microsoft has announced a security update that will add a new required field, a Security

Identifier (SID), to SCEP certificates in environments utilizing NPS for Radius for network authentication. This addition is due to a security vulnerability on Windows devices where usable certificates with private keys can be exported from one Windows device to be used on any other device. Addition of the SID means that the certificate becomes linked to a device or user in your Active Directory environment so that an unknown device/user cannot use it. This is not a security issue for Chromebooks, as they do not allow the exporting of certificates with private keys in them and they are protected by the TPM. However, any certificate lacking this new field will fail to authenticate against a NPS for Radius server after the hard enforcement deadline of February 11th, 2025.

What do you need to do?

As soon as possible, verify if your deployment relies on both SCEP certificates and NPS for Radius for network authentication. This can be done by going into event viewer on your **Domain Controller -> System,** and searching for event ID #39. If you see this event ID:

Actions to take if you see the event ID #39:

1. Create a new object, or reuse an existing one, in your Active Directory environment for SCEP use
2. Extract the SID for the AD object, for example, PS> (Get-ADUser username).SID.value
3. Create a new SCEP profile with all settings duplicated from your current setup and add in the SID of the newly created, or existing, AD object from step 1.
4. Under the Subject Alternative name section select the **Custom** radio button. Add a new Subject Alternative name using the **+** button with the type Uniform Resource Identifier from the dropdown. Under string, the value should be similar to:

   `tag:microsoft.com,2022-09-14:sid:S-1-2-3-4-5-6-8`

where `S-1-2-3-4-5-6-8` is the SID of the AD object (see image below)

5. Deploy this new certificate to all potentially affected Chromebooks in your fleet
   a. Wait, AT LEAST ONE MONTH, to reasonably guarantee that all devices have picked up the new certificate.
6. Re-link any and all policies from the old certificate to the new one from Step 2.
7. Verify functionality using the new certificate.
8. Delete the old profile.

Upcoming ChromeOS changes

AI wallpapers and backgrounds

As early as ChromeOS 132, we plan to introduce high-resolution, generative AI wallpapers and video call backgrounds on ChromeOS. With this feature, you can unleash your creativity and turn your Chromebook into a canvas of personal expression. Choose from a diverse collection of templates and, in just a few clicks, infuse your Chromebook with your unique personality, mood, or interest.
Two new policies will be available to control these features; **GenAIVcBackgroundSettings** and **GenAIWallpaperSettings**. This feature will be available on Chromebook Plus devices only.

Graduate data migration

As early as ChromeOS 132, a new Content Transfer tool will guide graduate students or other EDU-managed users who want to migrate their data through the updated Google Takeout Transfer process. This allows them to take their Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Gmail content to a Gmail account of their choice.
This new application allows school administrators to pin an icon to the shelf, notify students and faculty on their Chromebooks, and set dates to trigger these nudges to encourage them to use the existing Takeout Transfer process.

Native Client (NaCl) support ending on ChromeOS

ChromeOS 132, scheduled for release in **January 2025,** will be the last release with NaCl support for unmanaged/consumer devices, followed by ChromeOS 138 in **July 2025** for managed devices.
In 2017, we announced the end of support of Native Client (NaCl) in favor of WebAssembly. With most developers and users having migrated away from NaCl, we confirm the following NaCl discontinuation dates:
- **January 2025:** Native Client (NaCl) will be disabled from ChromeOS 132 onwards.

- For unmanaged and consumer users, ChromeOS 132 will be the last ChromeOS release with support for NaCl.
- For managed environments (including Kiosk sessions), administrators who manage ChromeOS devices for a business or school, will have the option of extending the ability to use NaCl with a NaCl allow policy (**DeviceNativeClientForceAllowed**) through the ChromeOS 138 release. This policy will be available in the admin console from late December 2024 to early January 2025 before the release of ChromeOS 132.

- **July 2025:** ChromeOS 138 will be the last version with NaCl support.
  - For managed environments, ChromeOS 138 is a [Long-term Support (LTS)](#) ChromeOS release available to administrators who manage ChromeOS devices for a business or school.
  - For devices that have been [switched to the LTS channel](#) and have the NaCl allow policy enabled, NaCl will be available until LTS Last Refresh in **April 2026**.
  - **No exceptions will be granted.**

For Chrome Apps that use NaCl, migrate to [WebAssembly](#) (WASM). To help you with the transition, we've published the [WebAssembly Migration Guide](#).

For more information about this change or if you need assistance, you can refer to any of the following:

- [WebAssembly Migration Guide](#).
- [ChromeOS developer community on Discord](#).
- [ChromeOS release schedule](#) for release dates and updates.

Please refer to the Chrome Enterprise and Education Help Center to learn more about [managing policies for ChromeOS devices](#).

Chrome App support ending on ChromeOS

In 2016, we announced the deprecation of Chrome Apps in favor of web apps, and in 2021, we [announced on the Chromium Blog](#) that Chrome App support for ChromeOS Enterprise and Education customers and developers on ChromeOS would be extended until at least January 2025. With the majority of our customers having migrated off of Chrome Apps

(including [Legacy (v1) packaged apps](#) and [Hosted apps](#)), we can confirm the following updates about Chrome App discontinuation dates.

- July 2025: End of support for user-installed Chrome Apps (scheduled for ChromeOS M138).
  - Chrome Apps that are force-installed through the admin console will continue to be supported.
- July 2026: Last ChromeOS release with support for Chrome Apps in Kiosk Mode (scheduled for ChromeOS M150).
  - Devices on the LTS channel with Chrome Apps in Kiosk Mode will receive support until April 2027.
- February 2028: Last ChromeOS release with support for Chrome Apps (scheduled for ChromeOS M168), marking the end of life for all Chrome Apps.
  - Devices on the LTS channel can continue to use Chrome Apps until October 2028.
  - No exceptions will be granted.

These deprecation timelines also apply to self-hosted Chrome Apps.

While no new Chrome Apps can be added to the Chrome Web Store, existing Chrome Apps can continue to be updated through October 2028 when they will reach end of life on ChromeOS. After this date, Chrome Apps will be removed from the Chrome Web Store.

If your organization has developed in-house Chrome Apps and you need assistance, please refer to [Transition from Chrome Apps](#) guide. You can also join us in the [ChromeOS developer community on Discord](#), or reach out to us through the form at https://chromeos.dev/work-with-us. Refer to the [ChromeOS release schedule](#) for release dates and updates.

In the coming weeks, additional detailed information will be sent to all remaining Chrome App developers and all ChromeOS Administrators.

Additional resources

- For emails about future releases, sign up here.
- To try out new features before they're released, sign up for the trusted tester program.
- Connect with other Chrome Enterprise IT admins through the Chrome Enterprise Customer Forum.
- How Chrome releases work—Chrome Release Cycle
- Chrome Browser downloads and Chrome Enterprise product overviews—Chrome Browser for enterprise
- Chrome version status and timelines—Chrome Platform Status | Google Update Server Viewer
- Announcements: Chrome Releases Blog | Chromium Blog
- Developers: Learn about changes to the web platform.

Still need help?

- Google Workspace, Cloud Identity customers (authorized access only)—Contact support
- Chrome Browser Enterprise Support—Sign up to contact a specialist
- Chrome Administrators Forum
- Chrome Enterprise Help Center

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