

Millburn District 24 Technology Committee Update



Presentation to Board of Education
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Committee Members

- Lorie Cipolla, 4th Grade Teacher
- Bethanie Dajka, Elementary Technology Teacher
- Suzanne Dekorsi, Media/Technology Integration Specialist
- Mary Grom, Reading Specialist
- Sammi Harpke, Middle School Technology Teacher
- Sandy Helsing, Special Education Teacher
- Lisa Jazo, Kindergarten Teacher
- Laura Klier, 7th Grade Teacher
- Meghan Konicki, 3rd Grade Teacher
- Carine Lancaster, Media/Technology Integration Specialist
- Kelly Piekarz, 5th Grade Teacher
- Jen Steinert, Middle School Health Teacher
- Melissa Watters, 8th Grade Teacher

Vision

The Millburn School District believes, based on research, best practice, and experiences in other districts, that every student and staff member needs to achieve technological competence and informational literacy. This includes an awareness of how technology and information resources are applied in society and how proficient use will enhance lifelong learning. Technology must provide enhancements to the teaching/learning process that will result in increased student engagement.

Goal #1

Millburn District 24 will continuously build a technology rich environment focused on student engagement with collaborative and interactive learning experiences for lifelong learning.

Goal #2

Millburn District 24 will provide ongoing professional development experiences that will provide teachers with the skills necessary to integrate technology and enhance teaching and learning.

We (Still) Believe

- If we ensure that all students have access to high-quality content and instruction, we can improve student learning.
- If we provide tools, infrastructure and systems that will expand the learning environment, we can improve student learning.
- And, if we continuously analyze data and use the results to change instruction for each student, we can improve student learning.

Committee (Still) Recommends

The Technology Committee, after many hours of observation, conversation, and reflection is recommending that Millburn District 24 commit to closing the accessibility gap by taking steps toward full implementation of a 1:1 computing program with the deployment of an iPad for every student and teacher.

Why (Still) iPad?

- Mobility, portability and durability
- Over 75,000 educational apps
- Engages and motivates students
- Assistive device for special education
- Adds flexibility in instruction
- Endless resources for differentiated instruction and immediate feedback
- iOS features-split screen & multitasking

Technology Priorities

A 1:1 initiative requires attention to the list of items below:

ACTION ITEM	STATUS
Establish a robust wireless network	Complete
Upgrade network infrastructure	Complete
Increase bandwidth	Complete
Equip all classrooms with projector and Apple TV	Complete
Equip all classrooms with an interactive device	50% Completion
Provide each teacher a laptop/personal device	Complete
Transition to Google Apps for Education - GAFE	Complete
Provide staff development	Ongoing
Provide each student a personal device	Grades 3 & 6 Complete

1:1 Pilot

- Unofficial Pilot – 15/16 School Year
 - One 3rd Grade Classroom
 - Two 6th Grade Classrooms
- Official Pilot – 16/17 School Year
 - All 3rd Grade Students
 - All 6th Grade Students
 - One 5th Grade Classroom
 - One 8th Grade Classroom

1:1 Pilot - We Learned...

- The importance of good cases
- A device management system is a must
- Everything takes longer than you think
- Forms are necessary
- Procedures must be in place
- Kids must understand expectations
- How to filter content off campus

1:1 Pilot - We Learned...

- How to manage apps and updates
- How to meet teacher needs
- PD is essential
- About the best LMS - Schoology
- The value of site visits & conferences
- The value of teachers visiting D56 to see an established 1:1 environment

1:1 Pilot - We Learned...

- Kids are ready, excited, and uninhibited
- There is a place for technology in any learning
- Kids must be taught how to use the technology
- Kids depend on the technology
- Allows for immediate feedback
- Instructional coaches are essential

1:1 Pilot - We Learned...

- Planning out a timeline is essential
- Printing is not always necessary
- Workflow can be seamless
- Less is more in terms of Apps
- How to handle the unexpected
- Those taking iPads home, love it
- Classroom Management of iPads
- Piloting was the right decision

Pilot Middle School

- iPads went home the end of October with all 6th grade students
- Students were taught how to care for the iPads at school and home
- Keyboard cases are transformational
- Student Led Conferences were conducted using iPads in 6th grade

Pilot Middle School

- Focus for middle school has been using Gmail and all of the Google Apps
- Students created math videos for review
- Many new books are now available on the iPad from the Media Center
- Students use different Apps for formative assessments
- Students are able to respond beyond the typical written response using videos and pictures

Pilot - 3rd Grade

- iPads were deployed to 3rd graders by the end of October
- iPads remained at school - teachers are thoughtful about take home rights
- Coaching teachers in classroom
- iPads foster independence allowing for exploration and discovery
- iPad integration in specials curriculum began in January
- Teachers welcomed observers

Pilot - 3rd Grade

- Reading Tests
- Research Projects
- Daily messages and responses
- Center Activities
- Digital Portfolios
- Book Creation
- Virtual Posters
- Home-School Connection

Pilot - 5th Grade

- iPads were deployed in October
- January students took iPads home
- Google projects
- Collaborative work
- Research tools
- Schoology for communication and management
- Book apps used daily

Slide Show

Pictures speak louder than words

Closing Thoughts

- We did not jump on the 1:1 bandwagon because everyone else did
- We waited, watched, and learned from early adopters
- We did hours of research and carefully considered best practice and timing
- We slowed the process down
- We prepared well - put essentials in place before student devices

Closing Thoughts

- We learned from our mistakes and adjusted as needed
- We learned to respect the process and to give it the time it needs for success
- We know students are ready to embrace the change
- We know the iPad is not THE tool, but it is ONE tool with endless possibilities

Closing Thoughts

- We believe that readiness is a huge factor for success
- We believe that we are as close to ready as we will ever be
- We know our students are ready
- We know teachers are excited and ready
- We know administration is ready
- And.....

We hope you are too!

