March iPad Update

Highlights, Tips, and New Information - March 2013

Sherwood iPad Implementation - *Innovation, Motivation, Collaboration, and Efficiency*
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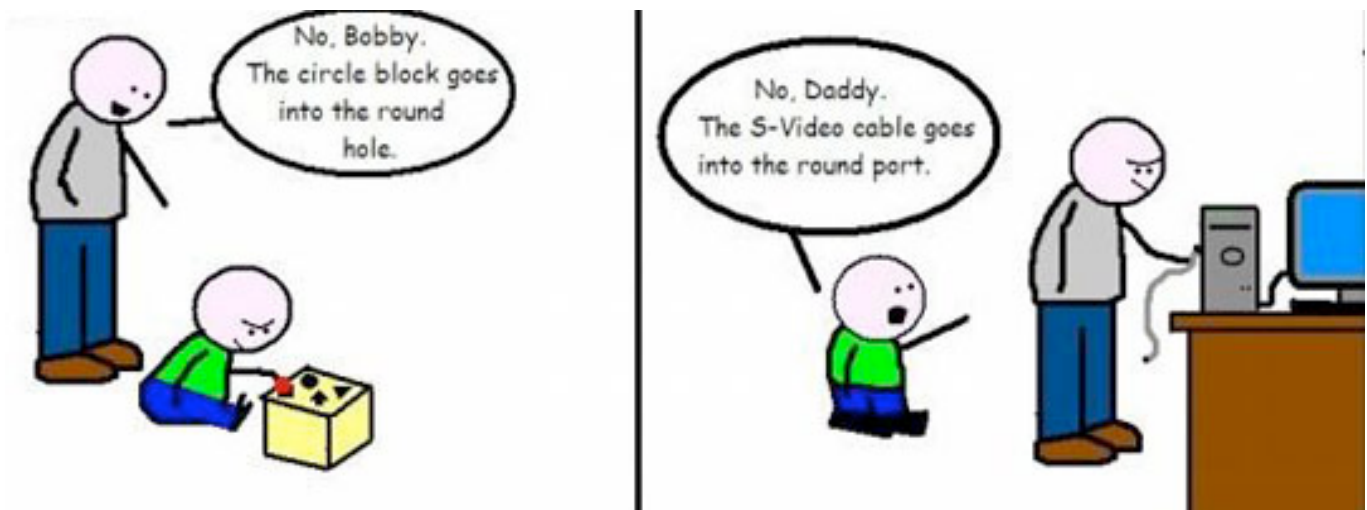
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Ergonomic Tips for Using the iPad

Source: Larrycuban.wordpress.com

iPads in the classroom
Where are we now? Where are we heading?

When we embarked on a 1:1 personal technology initiative for Sherwood Middle School, our goal was to discover together how these devices helped to improve learning for all students. We structured our implementation plan using a research model developed by Ruben R. Puentedura, Ph.D, in which he defines four levels of technology integration. Our goal was to have our students learn in a motivating environment while providing increased opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and efficiency.

Below is the SAMR model that describes each step of technology integration moving from Enhancement to Transformation.
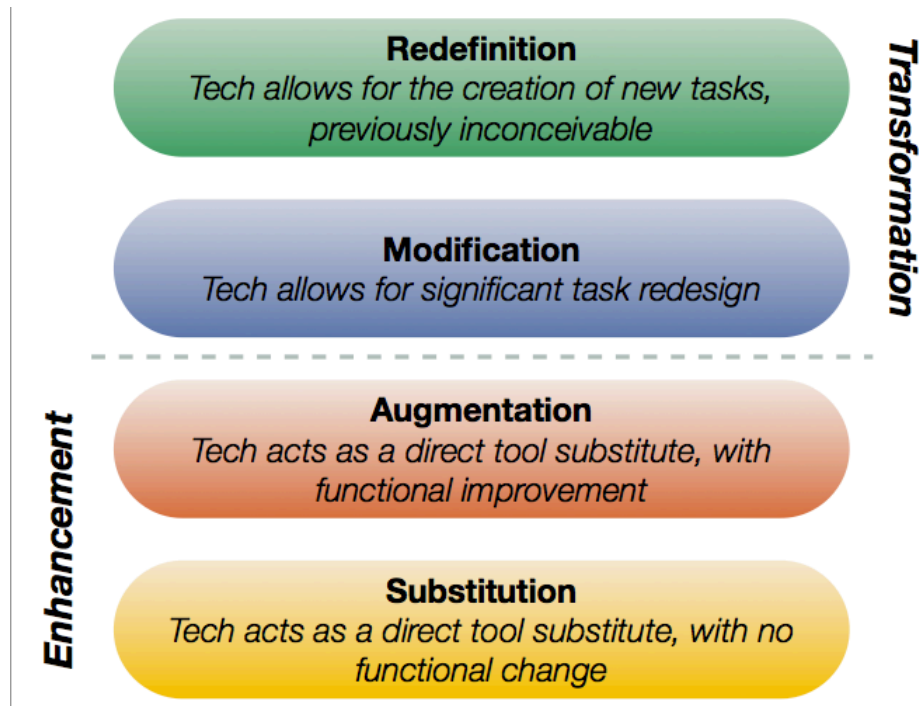
As we move past the half-way point in the year, we thought it was important to share with families where we are in the implementation process. While *enhancement* of learning is an important step in the integration of technology, research indicates that the technology is most beneficial when we cross into *transforming* the learning opportunities for our students.

Substitution
Tech acts as a direct tool substitute, with no functional change

We began our year with teachers experimenting with how the iPad could be used in the classroom. We substituted **My Homework** app in place of school purchased paper planners. We set up the **Notability** app with electronic binders. Teachers experimented with apps to improve efficiency with collecting work and providing feedback to students. These were important first steps in the implementation process.

Augmentation
Tech acts as a direct tool substitute, with functional improvement

The next step in our journey involved augmenting the curriculum using the iPads. In place of exit tickets and quick check-ins, teachers began using electronic tools like **Socrative** and **Polleverywhere** to formatively assess students. While teachers had previously assessed students throughout the unit, the technology allowed teachers to provide students with immediate feedback about their progress towards mastery of the learning objectives.

Modification
Tech allows for significant task redesign

Redefinition
Tech allows for the creation of new tasks, previously inconceivable

We are now at a point where teachers are pushing themselves to transform the learning for their students. Teachers are taking risks with the technology and we are beginning to see the power of personal technology. We wanted to take some time to highlight what is happening in our classrooms.

The Flipped Classroom –

The flipped classroom is a method of teaching that allows teachers to be able to spend more time working individually with students during class time. Many of our teachers are beginning to create videos that students can watch at home. Students then spend class time practicing what they have learned.

Here are some examples of "flipped" lessons created by our Sherwood teachers.

Empowering Writers-Introductory Paragraphs:
http://www.showme.com/sh/?h=PVxV4zl

Empowering Writers-Concluding Paragraphs:
http://www.showme.com/sh/?h=qg5Vno8

Fractions
http://www.educreations.com/lesson/view/comparing-and-ordering-fractions/3800266/?ref=link

Math
http://www.educreations.com/lesson/view/tutorial54/433500/?ref=appemail

Digital Content –
With all the features of the iPad, teachers are now able to create and organize content tailored for their students and their specific curriculum goals.
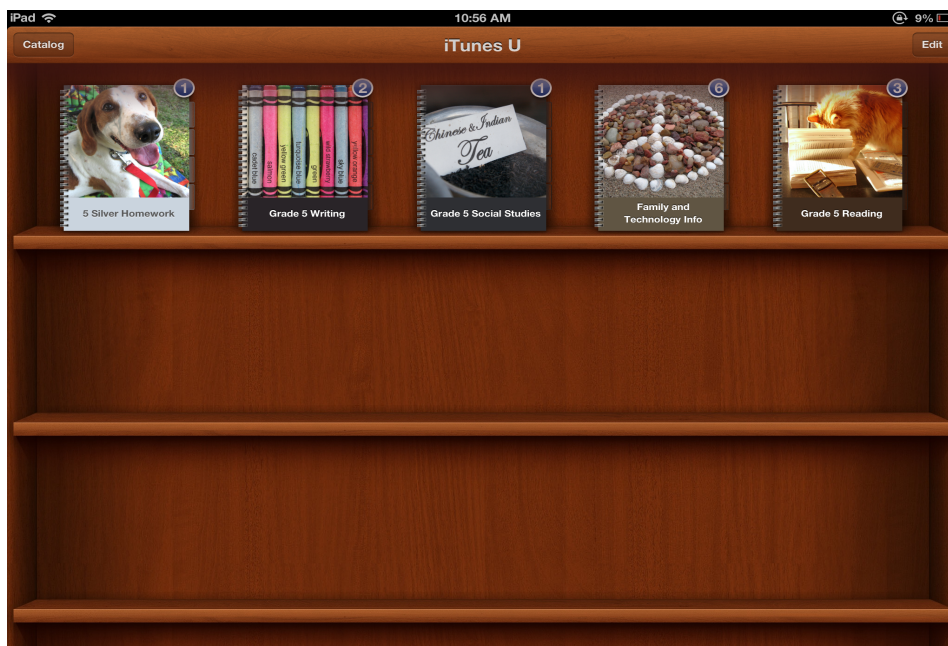
One platform that helps to organize instruction for students that teachers are experimenting with is iTunesU. This application allows students to access information from home or school. Students can take notes, collaborate with peers, and watch videos or lectures without having to navigate multiple applications.

Library   5 Silver Reading: Grade 5 Reading   🔍 ⬆️

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Unit 3: Applying Research...	1

Unit 1: Informational Nonfiction Comprehension

🔵 **Nonfiction Comprehension**

Use the resources below to strengthen your comprehension of Information Nonfiction Texts.

☐ How to "UNRAVEL" as you read

☐ Reading Strategies Poster

☐ What Kind of Reader Are You?

Unit 2: Analyzing Literature

🔵 **Literature Circles**

Below you will find our documents and materials for Literature Circles. We use Literature Circles to analyze fiction and nonfiction texts.

☐ Literature Circles Intro KEYNOTE

☐ Lit Circles Parent Info

☐ Lit Circles Roles Sheets

☐ Lit Circles Rubric

☐ Chatting Etiquette

☐ Ways We Can Partner Talk

Unit 3: Applying Research Skills

🔵 **Research Skills**

Below you will find the materials that we will use for completing research. These

Info   Posts   Notes   Materials

Collaboration, Literacy, and Student Portfolios-

One of the many benefits of the iPad is to help increase opportunites for students to collaborate with their peers and teachers around their work.

Many of our ELA teachers are using the iPads to help increase collaboration during literature discussions and responding to text. Teachers are experimenting with the app **Subtext.** This is an ereading tool where students can annotate text, but more importantly, they can join in discussions with their classmates on the literature. The teacher facilitates the discussion with guided prompts throughout the reading.

Google Drive-

An important feature teachers are taking advantage of is digital storage. Every student has a Google account. With this account, teachers are having students store work that can be shared. Students now have an easier time organizing and showcasing their work, as well as opportunities for feedback, reflection and revision.

It is amazing to see how far our teachers and students have come with this technology in just a few short months. Teachers are working hard to make purposeful decisions about when to use the technology. We continue to believe that a 1:1 mobile environment is the future of education. Teachers are helping to create opportunities for our students that are beginning to transform how they are learning and students are rising to these challenges. We will continue to evaluate our program as we work together to discover how this technology helps to improve learning and prepare our students for the future.

RESOURCES FROM PARENT INTERNET SAFETY WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, February 26th a parent workshop on internet safety was held at Oak Middle School. Julie Lesure, Assistant District Attorney and Police Officer Dave Faucher, from the Internet Crimes Against Children task force, spoke about current issues children encounter when using the internet and mobile devices and provide family internet safety tips. Below are some very informative websites from the office of District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr., regarding internet safety for you and your children. Also attached is a "Parental Tips for Online Safety" sheet. Please take some time to visit and review these very important and helpful sites.

www.worcesterda.com
www.netsmartz.org
www.missingkids.com
www.connectsafely.org   (has a FACEBOOK Parent Guide on this site)
www.thatsnotcool.com
www.bullyinginfo.org
www.onguardonline.gov
www.netfamilynews.org
www.yoname.com
www.netlingo.com
www.neahin.org/bnetsavvy/
www.staysafeonline.org
www.marccenter.org
www.stopbullying.gov
www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org
www.pacer.org (Children with Disabilities)
www.fcsn.org (Federation for Children with Special Needs)
www.massadvocates.org
www.cyberbullyhelp.com
www.theanti-drug.com
www.k9webprotection.com
www.commonsensemedia.org

# SECOND IPAD/1:1 PARENT SURVEY NOW OPEN – PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Our second of three surveys on our 1:1 programs and pilots is now open. Please follow the link below to share your feedback.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8M9WKVB

We will make the survey results public, so if there is any feedback or information you would like to share with us privately, please send it along to the e-mail below:

mbanios@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

REFLECTING ON LESSONS LEARNED - SHREWSBURY IPAD RETREAT
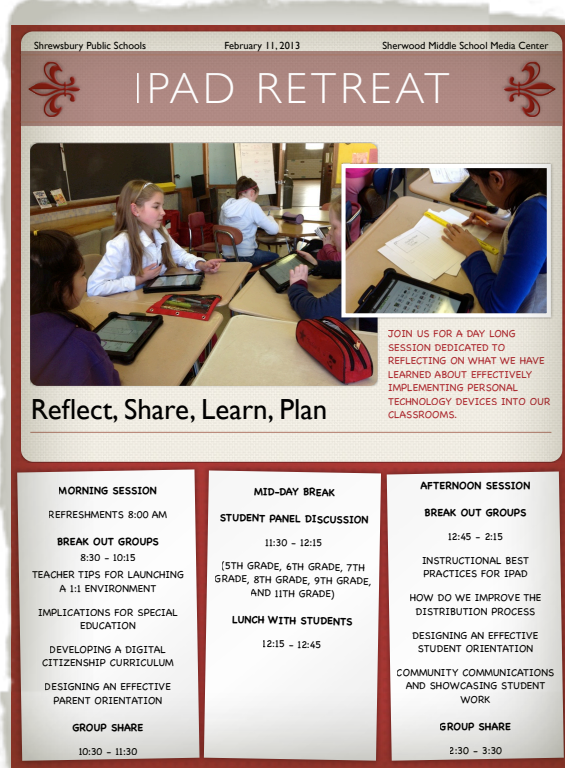
Overview

On February 11th, the Shrewsbury Public Schools hosted an iPad Retreat to reflect on lessons learned to date around 1:1 implementations. Shrewsbury teachers, IT staff, administrators, parents, and school committee members , along with educators from Millis, Grafton, Westborough, and Harvard, joined in the conversation.

During the mid-day break, students were invited to share their perspectives on the implementation with the group.

Key Take-Aways From the Retreat

- Add an introductory meeting for parents prior to having to choose an iPad option. This meeting should review the features/benefits/drawbacks of each of the three options

- Add a joint parent/student orientation to our distribution process. This orientation needs to be mandatory and will cover the vision for the project, clear student expectations, and suggestions for management at home.

- Add a second optional orientation for parents also needs to be available to provide training on how to use the basic functions of an iPad, including how to set restrictions.

- Develop consistent structures for teachers to communicate with parents around the specifics of iPad use in their classrooms.

- Develop a digital citizenship curriculum that will provide direct instruction to students around how to safely, respectfully, and effectively navigate the digital environment.

- Provide foundational digital citizenship instruction to 5th grade students before allowing them to take their devices home.

10 HANDY IPAD ERGONOMICS TIPS:

Ensure you're sat in a comfortable, 'neutral' position

Use the iPad's portability to your advantage and change your position regularly

Adjust the contrast and brightness of your screen, so they complement your surroundings

Alter the size of the text and make sure you're not squinting to read your screen

Keep your iPad in a straight sight line, so you do not have to crane your neck

Keep your forearms at a 90° angle to your iPad

Sit with your head facing forward, so your shoulders are not hunched

If you're feeling any muscle strain, alter your position

Have regular breaks, ideally at least once an hour

Excerpted from: http://clicksafe.kensington.com/laptop-security-blog/bid/79697/iPad-ergonomics-10-Tips-for-Productive-Mobile-Working#ixzz2NczEEe2A