

Students' Perspective of Technology

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Why Are We Here?

- Students missing basic computer skill sets
- Blind Brook Community didn't create the technology driven world we are living in
 - In everyday life
- Need to understand advanced programs to succeed
 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint
 - Need the tools to learn and do our jobs as students

Mobility and Personalization

- Mobile electronics
 - iPad, iPod touch
 - Laptop, Netbook
- Mobility → Freedom → Enhanced learning
 - Independence ensures student comprehension
- Personal electronics
 - When item is their own, they feel comfortable
 - Become experts



At-Home Review

- Technology lets students access school from home
 - Edline, Castle Learning, Study Blue
 - Can clear up lessons night of
 - Allows additional review
- Losing papers is not a problem
- Mobile technology improves this
 - If students could take home technology...

Visual Learning

- Students with visual learning
 - Diagrams, charts, graphs
- Technology provides images
 - No need to draw own supplements
 - Works for all students
- Can be used by all
 - Teachers- Can teach with visual aids
 - Students- Can use visuals and create own



Current Issues

- Inability to access computers
 - Middle school often occupies library
 - Laptop carts rarely accessible to teachers
 - Computer lab locked -> further problem
- Lack of high school computer teacher
 - Students unable to learn necessary computer skills for college and beyond
- Computer speed
 - Class time wasted

Solutions

- Hire a high school computer teacher
 - Opens access to 25+ computers in computer lab
 - Students learn how to use computer programs
 - Teachers know how to use programs -> students know how
- Increase number of laptop carts
 - Less of struggle for computer access
 - Teachers plan lessons around laptops



The World Will Not Wait For Us

Either we jump on the bandwagon
now or we are left behind

TPC Perspective

Eric A. Kaye

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TPC's Mission Statement

To cost effectively deploy technology to materially improve the learning environment for students, teachers, administrators and the community so Blind Brook's students are best positioned for current and long-term success in an increasingly competitive world

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Students
- Recent Alumni
- Teachers
- Administrators
- TPC
 - Corporate
 - Parents and the Community

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Students
 - Lost a key resource when high school technology teaching position was eliminated
 - Need to keep current on ever evolving technology and applications
 - Will go outside for additional instruction

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Students (continued)
 - Laptops in the classrooms
 - Real time environment
 - Potential for richer content
 - Visual learners benefit
 - Limited availability negatively impacts learning

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Recent Alumni
 - Broad applications expertise critical to success
 - College
 - Career
 - Life
 - Devices and applications are ubiquitous

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Teachers
 - Bottom-line: Need ongoing training
 - Enthusiastic to dedicate the time for training
 - Without training, understandable amount of trepidation incorporating technology into the classroom

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Teachers (continued)
 - Championing a “learning organization” approach
 - We are beginning to fall behind our peers

TPC - What We Have Heard from our Key Constituents

- Administration
 - Systems, software and applications for managing Blind Brook are antiquated and time consuming
 - However, current priority is additional laptop carts

TPC - Our Perspective

TPC Members

- Corporate Perspective
 - Technology is ubiquitous, broadly adopted and changing the way we live and work
 - Content deep and visually rich presentations now the norm
 - Highly flexible databases = critical information available in real-time = better analytics = decision-making

TPC - Our Perspective

TPC Members (continued)

- Championed the following
 - Wifi
 - Paperless environment / copier reduction / lower cost laptops vs. netbooks or tablets vs. desktops / flexible classrooms / hard-wiring costs eliminated / ability to comply with new State mandates
 - Mobile devices
 - 6 laptop carts in use and in heavy demand
 - iPad Pilot

TPC - Our Perspective

- Parent and Community Perspective
 - Parent perspective
 - Our children are / will be competing for jobs in an increasingly competitive world
 - Community perspective
 - Desire to see Blind Brook retain its long standing top reputation
 - achieved through the dedication and hard work of its teachers, administrators, parents and the community

Our Asks

- **Current Asks**
 - Reinststate high school technology teaching / training position
 - 10 laptop carts
- **What We Really Need**
 - Laptop / tablet access for all high school students
 - Robust enterprise solutions to more effectively manage the Blind Brook school system

Additional Data

- Suggested Websites / Videos

- http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/en/salman_khan_let_s_use_video_to_reinvent_education.html
- http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/en/dan_meyer_math_curriculum_makeover.html
- http://www.ted.com/talks/thomas_suarez_a_12_year_old_app_developer.html