Blended Learning in Owasso Public Schools

Owasso Public Schools is continually making strides to provide the best possible educational experience for each and every student. As the developments in technology continue to advance, our goal is to create an environment that prepares students for life after high school and to prepare students for the world beyond Owasso.

Pieces to the Blended Learning Puzzle:

1. Student Devices
2. Instructional Functions
3. Security Measures
4. Teacher Training

- In Owasso Public Schools, there are four fundamental pieces of the blended learning puzzle that work together to create both an enriching and safe learning environment for our students.

Student Learning Resources:

Elementary

- 435 iPads (across all 8 sites)
- 723 Chromebooks (across all 8 sites)

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Centers

- 6th GC: 541 Chromebooks, 17 Carts
- 7th GC: 515 Chromebooks, 17 Carts
- 8th GC: 555 Chromebooks, 19 Carts

High School

- OHS: 2,937 Chromebooks
- Ram Academy: 48 Chromebooks

Device Distribution Plans

Elementary: In August of 2018, Owasso Public Schools will be rolling out a comprehensive portable device distribution to all eight elementary sites. The starting ratios for this year are iPads for K-2nd grade students with five students to one device (5:1) and Chromebooks for 3rd-5th grade students with three students to one device (3:1). Ex. Teachers can use devices for smaller student groups; if a second grade teacher has 30 students, that teacher might have 6 devices in their classroom.

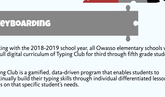
6th, 7th, & 8th GCs: Our 6th-6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Centers all have classroom sets of Chromebooks and carts. These carts are scheduled to rotate through core math and English class at the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Centers (Year Chromebook carts with an additional two to three Chromebook carts that teachers of other subjects can check out as needed. The end goal is to have Chromebook Carts in all four of the core subject classes.

OHS: Owasso High School is about to begin its third year of a fully take home one device implementation for all students ninth through twelfth grade. For the Fall of 2018, freshman Chromebooks will be distributed within the first two weeks of school.

Instructional Functions

Digital Curriculum: Digital curriculum and resources are becoming an increasingly important part of the modern instructional experience. OPS currently has digital curriculum/textbooks for secondary English, as well as elementary and secondary Math (with the latest adoption). Moving forward, digital curriculum and online platforms will continue to play a large roll with teachers and decision plans for our students.

SAMR Model: In order to continually strive toward excellence in all areas of instruction, OPS has chosen to follow the SAMR model of instructional technology integration.



G-Suite

G Suite: Formerly known as Google Apps for Education (GAFE), the G-Suite is the techpro around which our district technology goals currently revolve. All OPS third through twelfth grade students have active google accounts that collect any and all student work until they leave Owasso Public Schools. The G Suite is comprised of Google Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Gmail, Calendar, Forms, Sites, Classroom, etc.

One of the largest benefits of using the G-Suite is the unlimited potential for collaborative learning for both teachers and students. Particularly in today's social and technology driven climate, culturally responsive and relevant learning is critical to student engagement; the G-Suite provides opportunities for both of these ideas to be put into practice.

Educational Apps

As Google and other technology tycoons have focused on assisting educational institutions, the number of free or minimal cost educational apps has skyrocketed. At this point, there is a app for just about everything and everything. Some of the information is a teacher's creativity, but a lot is also available for purchase. Some of the most commonly used apps in OPS are Kahoot!, BrainPOP, Newsela, Pear Deck, Flubaroo, Quizlet, Mystery Maps, Google Earth, Blogger, Khan Academy, Socrative Student, Quizlet, Remind, Dropbox, Class Dojo, SeeSaw, Book Creator, EdPuzzle, NewsELA, Diigo, Flipgrid, PlayPosit, Vimeo, and many more!

Keyboarding

Starting with the 2018-2019 school year, all Owasso elementary schools will have the full digital curriculum of Typing Club for third through fifth grade students.

Typing Club is a gamified, data-driven program that enables students to continually build their typing skills through individual differentiated lesson that focus on that specific student's needs.

Kindergarten through second grade students will still use the free version of Typing Club to introduce keyboarding concepts, but will not participate in the intensive curriculum until they reach third grade.

Intervention & Enrichment

Perhaps the single largest benefit of making technology more prevalent and accessible in the regular classroom is enhancing a teachers ability to differentiate their instruction to meet the needs of all students in the room.

These benefits are particularly evident through the "Six P's of Blended Learning": Participation, Pacing, Personalization, Place, Personal, and Preparation.

6 P's of Blended Learning

Security and Student Safety

What is in place to protect students?

- Owasso has implemented a content filter specifically built with education in mind. The filter allows for a wide variety of educational sites and resources to be accessed, but also allows or disallows access to those websites based on the categorization. We also have a robust firewall, so that people from the outside of our network cannot gain access to student information. We also have a monitoring system that flags any inappropriate behaviors. Google drives for specific keywords that could be harmful to the student or other students. We feel this extra security measure is important in helping us protect the safety of our students.

How do we track logins/sites devices?

- OPS maintains a device inventory based on serial numbers, asset tags, and student names. If a student reports their Chromebook as missing or stolen, we disable the device so that it cannot be used on our network. If it is found, we re-image the device, the device is re-enabled and made available for student use. iPads, will sync to a server/management system that will track their physical location. If a device is missing, we have the ability to lock down the device and "ping" the device so that it rings at a loud volume for quicker discovery.

Teacher Training

Instructional Technology Site Leaders (ITSLs):

- These teacher leaders are the first line of support in assisting their colleagues with anything technology related. Their main responsibilities are to provide instructional coaching, instructionally relevant ways to incorporate technology into new and exciting lessons, to assisting with ongoing training and professional development within their building.

Professional Development for Teachers:

Summer Training:

- During summer, the Instructional Technology Coordinator hosts a series of technology related training that is available to all district personnel. This training series covers everything from the basics of the G-Suite (Google products) and their classroom applications, to advance blended learning and flipped classroom methodologies.

Monthly PD Offering:

- The ITSLs mentioned above provide on-going, once a month, optional technology related trainings for all personnel in their buildings. These trainings are tailored and individualized based on the needs of the teachers in the building and are facilitated by the building ITSL for that site based on the needs that they observe during the normal instructional day as well as specific requests made by teachers.

District PD Days:

- Technology related training is typically available on district professional development days during breakout sessions.

Google Bootcamp Tour Stops:

- During the 2018-2019 school year, Owasso Public Schools will be an EdTechTeam Google Bootcamp Tour Stop. This opportunity will allow our district to host a Google Apps for Education Fundamentals, Google Classroom, a Google Educator Level 2 Bootcamp, and a Certified Google Trainer Bootcamp.