

Oct. 17, 2012

(present: Gretchen Zaitzeff, Cory Culbertson, Jim Kurz, Wes Majteka, Jim Potter, Kim Rojas, Maria Pessman, Kevin Thompson, Kate Pole, Suzie Thetard, Tom Holbrook)

(next meeting: Nov. 13, 3:10 pm, 219)

Analyzing the data from a faculty survey which included input from 25 faculty:

(including 3 from the freshman department, 5 from math, 4 from English, 3 from Social Science, 3 from Science and 4 from Foreign Language)

1. 96% said student access to a computer remained important relative to completing class work. This would seem to argue for continuing a one-to-one initiative.
2. 72% said it was important to be able to monitor what students did on their computers during class; 83% thought the filtering was very important. Both are key reasons we continue to believe a school-owned initiative works best.
3. Microsoft Office remains essential to instruction; PowerPoint was listed as somewhat or very important by 79% of teachers; 58% said OneNote was important; and 52% said the more advanced features of Word were important.
4. At the same time, 74% said that they want access to a tool that allows students to collaborate on a document (like GoogleDocs)
5. Tablet functionality remains important to all math faculty.
6. Sketchpad remains very important to math, while Logger Pro remains very important to science.
7. the computer video camera was only listed as important by 36% of teachers.
8. Printing in classrooms remains important to 79%.

From the survey, and from additional discussion, faculty identified the key criteria for the next one-to-one device:

Software (able to run)

1. Microsoft Office
2. Sketchpad
3. Logger Pro

Hardware

1. Processor
2. Ram
3. Larger screens; more resolution
4. Battery life
5. Tablet functionality
6. Usb access
7. Keyboard
8. Camera
9. Audio jacks
10. Better case

Behind the scenes

Cory and Jim identified the following additional criteria:

1. being able to manage computers in the domain is important, especially using group policy and the filter system
2. being able to repair the machines using a student help desk and after-market parts saves time and money
3. Being able to monitor the computers using Dyknow remains important.

Textbooks

- Many departments now offer students the option of using online or traditional textbooks. We will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Hybridizing courses

- “hybridizing” in our case refers to making more content available via technology. How and when teachers do this varies widely throughout the school. In a couple of courses, it means students actually meet 3 days instead of 5, with the other two days being left open for students to complete work on their own and/or to meet teachers individually or in small groups. In many other courses it means teachers making more and more of their content available in an online format that can be accessed by students both in and out of class.
 - As a lab school, shouldn’t we be at the forefront of this?
 - Online learning continues to grow exponentially across the country

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