

West Valley ENGAGE - Blended Learning Journey

Mike Brophy, Superintendent
Jeremy Cox, IT Director
Bill Oppliger, MLC Principal

WERA Conference - December 9, 2016 - SeaTac Hilton



The Vision - The Inspiration

Fabulous Team I have the pleasure of serving alongside at West Valley! We believe in setting a direction, and taking risks that lead to initiatives that will make a difference in the lives of kids **5 Years From Now!**

February 13, 2016 - Final Day of AASA National Conference - Phoenix, Arizona

Michael Horn - Speaker for final keynote session, Saturday morning. Bought the Book **BLENDED** and from that point on made the commitment to provide Blended Learning opportunities for children. No more of the industrial model - Goal to Personalize and Individualize Learning

Presentation on **BLENDED** - Practical field guide for implementing blended learning techniques in K-12 schools. Includes a step-by-step framework upon which to build a more student-centered educational system along with real-world advice for creating the next generation of K-12 learning environments. **BLENDED** is about the teaching and learning!

Originally we were set for BYOD for grades 5-12. Last two weeks of school we committed to 1:1 Initiative that launched at WVMS for 5th/6th Graders in August, 2016, moves to WVJH for 7th/8th Graders in January, 2017, and in August, 2017 moves to WVHS for 9th - 12th Graders.

Blended - Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools - What is it?

Disruptive Innovation - innovations/change comes from disruptions to the norm.

Factory-Based Model of Schooling - me, parents, grandparents - teacher dispenses knowledge to rows of students.

Student-Centered Learning - individualized, personal learning that captures the imagination of students and creates the thirst for more.

What is Blended Learning? - Combining the best of teaching in the industrial model and combining it with the greatest advances ever imagined in educational technology.

Models of Blended Learning - 20 videos in the book.

20 Videos of Blended Learning in Action - Example - Carpe Diem, Yuma, Arizona

Started Sending The Videos out to Principals - expectations to present at Summer Leadership Academy.

ENGAGE - West Valley Blended Learning Initiative Timeline

Blended Learning stimulates Engagement through a personalized, individualized methodology.

February 19th - Cabinet - Blended Learning Focus

February 25th - Cody Freeze Science BYOD Lesson

Friday, March 4th - IT Meeting of the Minds "Where are we? Where are we headed? How are we going to get there?"

March 18th - Jeff Utecht Opening Day Speaker.

April 13-15th - AASA Digital Learning Consortium - Silver Spring, MD

April 25th - Opened Twitter Account @SuptBrophy - Supt's Blog Opened October, 2014

May 11th - Secondary ENGAGE Meeting

Engage - West Valley Blended Learning Initiative Timeline (cont)

May 16th - Elementary ENGAGE Meeting

May 17th - Superintendent's Advisory Council - ENGAGE Initiative Outlined

May 18th - Secondary ENGAGE Meeting

May 26th - Admin Leadership Expectations - BLENDED videos finalized

May 31st - Spanish Speakers Supt's Advisory Council - ENGAGE Initiative Outlined

June 8th - School Board Study Session - ENGAGE 1:1 Initiative / Deployment Plans Approved

June 8th - Morning ENGAGE 1:1 Strategy Session

June 8th - West Valley Middle School ENGAGE 1:1 Initiative Release

ENGAGE - West Valley Blended Learning Initiative Timeline (cont)

June 16th, Aug 25th - Jennifer Garrison, Discovery Learning

June 22nd and every Friday - ENGAGE Blended Learning Team Meeting

July 20th, July 22nd, Aug 8th, and every Friday - Greenways Academy Meeting

July 26th - 29th - AASA Digital Leaders Consortium - Chicago, Illinois

Aug 1st - Digital Transformation Debrief

Aug 2nd - Makerspace Meeting with Teacher Librarians

Aug 3rd - 4th - West Valley Leadership Academy - Blended Learning/Leadership Focus. School Teams Assigned to break down videos from BLENDED and review pros/cons. Leadership of Blended Initiative Focus for Goals/Ongoing

Aug 8th - West Valley Virtual Academy School Board Approval

ENGAGE - West Valley Blended Learning Initiative Timeline (Cont)

Aug 18th - TSI Concept Development Meeting

Aug 29th - Jeff Utecht Opening Day Speaker - MS/JH 1:1 Focus in Afternoon

Sept 19th - ENGAGE Blended Learning Challenge Initiated to Challenge WV Teachers

Sept 20th - Superintendent Advisory Council - Mike Durbin, YPD - Dangers of the Internet

Sept 23rd - Digital Leaders Symposium Planning with Jennifer Garrison - Set for November 10th 1:00 to 5:00 Conv Ctr.

Oct 5th - 7th - AASA Digital Leaders Consortium - San Francisco, California

Oct 20th - Washington Alternative Learning Association Regional Meeting in West Valley

Nov 10th - WASA SCR - West Valley Presentation / Discovery Digital Leaders Symposium at Conv Ctr.

ENGAGE - West Valley Virtual Academy (WVVA)

Opportunity at the end of July, 2016 to host Greenways Academy - St. Louis, MO

Greenways Academy hosts 10 online providers (Apex, Pearson, Rosetta, etc)

West Valley is fiscal agent and Washington State host.

Went “live” on August 31st. A lot of private school/homeschool participation.

Credit Retrieval as well as Extensions Opportunities was motivation.

Currently 45 FTE’s and growing statewide.

ENGAGE - Lessons Learned

There are some serious bumps in the road - STAY FOCUSED, on MESSAGE, and POSITIVE!

Decisions made on type of device and access must all focus on Student Safety. You will not be perfect - no matter the filtering software, the device, etc. But, the message is Student Safety and monitoring access.

Gaggle is a good service - monitoring in network email and messaging 24/7.

Talk to folks, get out where people have been 1:1 for 5 or 6 years and have experienced all of the pitfalls. Benefit from their deployment issues.

AASA Digital Leader's Consortium was the best source of inspiration, networking, idea generation. Heard from 39 other superintendent's from across the country, Discovery Education Team, Education Re-Imagined Foundation, Google Educational Team, school visitations in Chicago and San Francisco, constant networking for ideas and thoughts from the AASA Leader's Consortium. Expectation to fully engage, present at conferences on the knowledge gained - I am presenting here, WERA in December, AASA in March, and will apply for WASA/AWSP in June to be a resource.

Points of View

Instructional Technology - Jeremy Cox - Deployment, Management, and Personnel Impact and Decisions

Principal - Middle Level Campus - Bill Oppliger - Overall Challenges, Deployment Issues with Staff and Students

Instructional Technology Considerations

Jeremy Cox, IT Director

2nd year as IT Director in West Valley

Instructional Technology Considerations

Jeremy Cox, IT Director

- Network Infrastructure

- Both wired and wireless infrastructure play a key role. The district has invested quite a bit of funds to expand and update our network infrastructure.
- With the Internet's move to SSL packet decryption traffic monitoring is a constant challenge. We tested several different products and chose to go with Smoothwall as our content filter. So far it has met all of our expectations.
- There are many hostile users that are attempting to bypass filtering.
- It requires constant monitoring and fine tuning as the load increases. We have a full time Network Administrator analyzing and troubleshooting network traffic.

Instructional Technology Considerations

- Selecting the correct device for 1:1
 - We talked with other schools using Chromebooks and tested several different makes and models of Chromebooks. We opted for the Dell Chromebook 11 due to its rugged build and long battery life. To date we have had 6 damaged devices.
- Additional IT support
 - Like most districts our IT support is small for an environment our size. Deploying an additional 3,000+ devices required additional support. TSI class will help offload some of the device support once it is established.
 - There is additional support required for all of the new online curriculum. Student and teacher account creation, integration, maintenance and troubleshooting requires time and resources.

Building Level Implementation Considerations

Bill Oppliger - WVMLC Principal

-First year at the Middle Level

-Prior 24 years at the High School level (teacher, AP and Principal)

Deployment

This is an area to “over think”

- How will you get the devices in the hands of students? Who will do it?
- Accountability (both parent and student)
- Will students return at the end of the year, or keep over the summer?
- Charging?

Deployment

- Who will be working with students on day to day tech issues?
- Have you deliberately taught cyber etiquette?
- Bring a law enforcement officer to speak to both parents and students about internet safety.
- Chromebooks left at home?

Parents

- Start prior to deployment

 - Have a written plan that can be shared with parents and community.

Pushback

 - Be prepared, know your community

 - You tube-big push back at our school

Parents

- Parents need to know that they still have control.
- Push partnerships

Cyber Safety

How will you filter internet use?

- WVSD uses internal filters for ALL searches, both school and home.

- Gaggle

Commitment

- Your district must be completely committed in order for 1:1 to be successful.
 - School Board (philosophy and financial commitment over time)
 - Continuous teacher inservice (financial commitment)

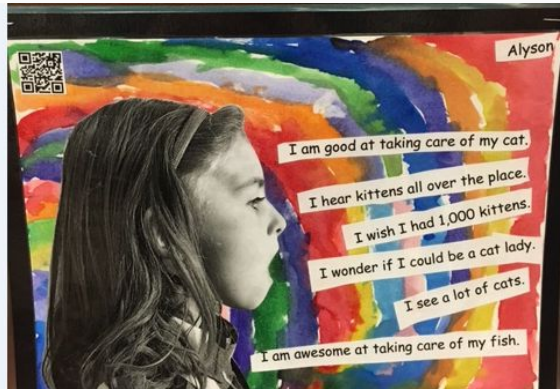
If lacking in any of the above, DO NOT LAUNCH A 1:1 INITIATIVE

Next Steps (Cont) for **ENGAGE**

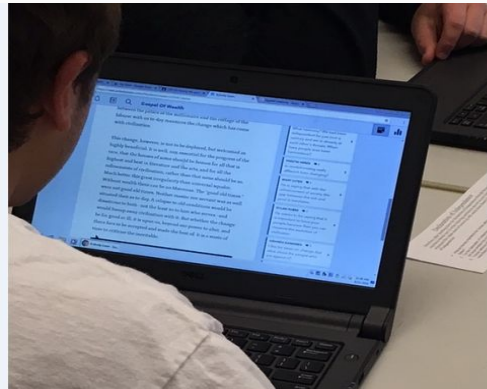
ENGAGE - Blended Learning Challenge

Challenging teachers throughout the WVSD to notify us for photos and videos that we can post on Twitter, Superintendent's Blog, WV Connection, and Friday 5 that shares with everyone the changes in teaching and learning.

Examples 2nd Grade QR Reader



CHS US History Actively Learn



2nd Grade ZEARN Math Program

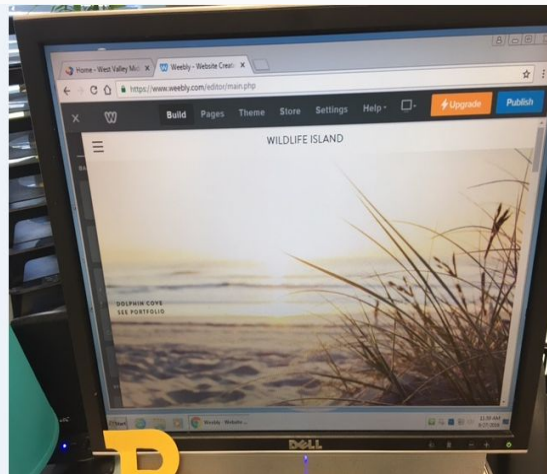


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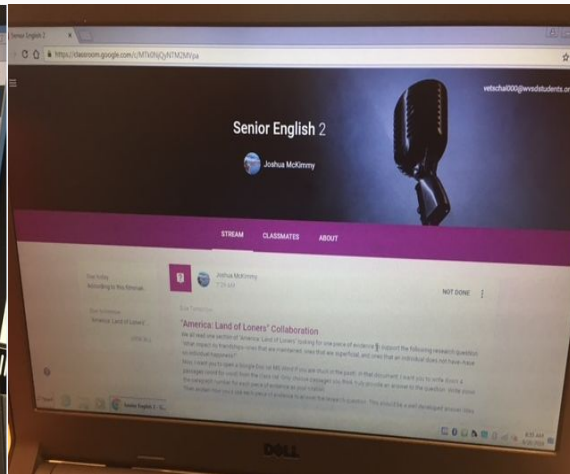
ENGAGE Blended Learning Challenge

Examples

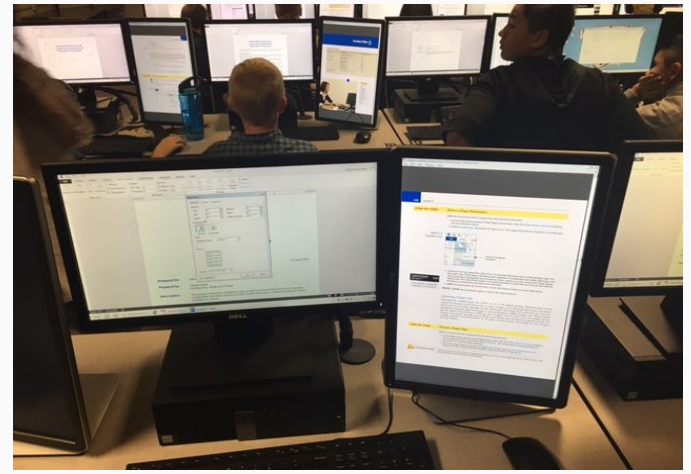
5th Grade Geography Weebly



Sr. English Google Classroom



7th Grade MOS Certification Course/Digital Citizenship



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Next Steps - What is next for **ENGAGE**?

ENGAGE is about the teaching and learning. It is not about 1:1 devices. What are we doing differently in order to better provide for our learners? How are we modifying our practice? What differences are we seeing?

January 1:1 deployment at WVJH.

Planning for 1:1 deployment at WVHS next August, September - Which is really a simultaneous 5-12 deployment.

Movement of 30 COWS (computers on wheels) to 6 Elementary Schools in August for Blended Learning Rotations.

Tech Support Internship (TSI) Program at WVJH and eventually to WVHS. Ideally 6 periods a day of support with 24 - 30 students. 3 periods a day at HS Campus, and 3 periods a day at MLC to provide checkout and basic repair services.

ENGAGE - West Valley Blended Learning Initiative

Questions:

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Jeremy Cox - IT Director coxj@wvsd208.org

Bill Oppliger -MLC Principal oppligerb@wvsd208.org