Secrets for 1-to-1 Success: Planning, Pedagogy, and Patience
Secrets for 1:1 Success: Planning, Pedagogy and Patience

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It does not do to leave a live dragon out of your calculations, if you live near him.

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*
Transforming our schools to be more student-centered through the use of effectively applied technology can make their education more relevant, their coursework more meaningful and allow both teachers and students to communicate more effectively.
All CAT Students, grades 9-12, were going to get a device.

This meant over 400 tablets +10%
Identify your source of funding

The source, the way and the amount of funding will have a direct impact on everything you do.
Chose the device that makes the most sense

Take into account infrastructure, manageability and Pedagogy. Put the devices under consideration into the hands of the people that matter most, the students.
We felt that it was important to give the students a sense of ownership so we allowed them to have some control over the look and feel of their Venue.
Plan your configuration

Whatever device you choose it is imperative that they are configured for student use before distribution.
You can’t train your teachers enough

Make sure the teachers have the same or similar device that the students will be using and train them on it.
Don’t just distribute, train them too.

Use the distribution procedure to your advantage. Provide basic training on tablet usage at the same time.
Plan the support mechanism

You must have robust support procedures in place to make sure that students, who now depend on the device for everything, are not without the device for more than one school day.
“Formal learning is like riding a bus: the driver decides where the bus is going; the passengers are along for the ride. Informal learning is like riding a bike: the rider chooses the destination, the speed, and the route.”

— Jay Cross, *Informal Learning: Rediscovering the Natural Pathways That Inspire Innovation and Performance*
Move to the cloud

Mobile technology means 24/7 access. Students live in a 24/7 environment and thus expect access at all times. We have to provide for that. We have to change.
Prepare your teachers early

Give them the tools and training to start the process before you pass out a single device to students. It is what they do with the device that will make 1:1 successful.
Avoid canned curriculum

Create the curriculum that will maximize the use of the device but don’t try for 100% usage all of the time.
Patience

“Technology offers us a unique opportunity, though rarely welcome, to practice patience.”

— Allan Lokos
This is going to take time

Once the devices are distributed you have to be patient with the learning curve of faculty, students and parents. Plan incremental staff development and idea exchanges to help with the learning curve.
### Lessons Learned & Living

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| ![2015 Calendar](Image) | Plan. Plan again. Then plan some more. “If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.”  
— Yogi Berra |
| ![Hammer and Wrenches](Image) | Prepare your teachers early. Give them the tools and training to start the process before you pass out a single device to students. |
| ![Man with Flag](Image) | It is important to give the students a sense of ownership. |
| ![Trash Can](Image) | Create the curriculum that will maximize the use of the device but do not try for 100% usage all of the time. Avoid canned curriculum. |
| ![Blindfolded Person](Image) | As with all things tech the digital natives and early adopters will not be much of an issue, it will be those uncomfortable with procedure and change that will need the most hand holding. |
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