No Student Is an Island: Improving Outcomes With Blended Learning
No Student Is an Island: Improving Outcomes With Blended Learning

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Blended Learning

Anytime a student learns, at least in part, at a brick and mortar facility and through online delivery with student control over time, place, path or pace.
About Us

Donna Therrien
Director of Pedagogical Practices

M.ed, NBCT
25+years at all levels including restructuring/turn-around
Parent learning coach
About Us

Marc Collins
Math Teacher,
GradPoint Administrator

BS Engineering
9+ years classroom
Algebra-Calculus
Systems alignment
All things GradPoint
About HTA

• State’s largest charter school
• Serve 980 students k-12 in 5 islands, multiple learning centers
• 60 teachers/assistants, 28 at high school
• On state testing- scores surpass other charter schools, and public schools- all divisions
• Team committed to blended education
SY14-15 Smarter Balanced Assessment Score Comparisons

**ELA/Literacy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Hawaii Department of Education</th>
<th>Charter Schools</th>
<th>Hawaii Technology Academy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Grade</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Grade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentage at Level 3 or Above*
SY14-15 Smarter Balanced Assessment Score Comparisons

Math

Grade Level

- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade
- 11th Grade

Percentage at Level 3 or Above

- Hawaii Department of Education
- Charter Schools
- Hawaii Technology Academy

Average
High School Learning Model: Enriched Virtual

**PAST**
- Online with teacher support
- F2F as needed
- Virtual by invitation
- Rigid curriculum-lots of clicking
- Attendance issues
- 60% failing

**NOW**
- Balanced mandatory schedule-F2F & virtual
- Control over curriculum and assessments
- Data driven student support
- Less than 10% failing
Enriched Virtual Model: Oahu Blend

Face to face classes 2 days a week

- Teacher driven
- Focused on 4C’s of 21st century learning
- Instructional best practices
- 80 minute classes
- Anchored in relationship
Enriched Virtual Model: Oahu Blend

Live virtual class 1 day a week

- Same daily schedule as F2F
- Same best practices-instruction/behavior
- Same attendance
- Sandwiched between F2F classes
- Use Adobe Connect
Enriched Virtual Model: Oahu Blend

Independent, work from home, 2 days a week

- Teachers available/small group
- Attendance via advisors
- Support at learning center both voluntary and mandatory
- Use GradPoint
- Offers flexibility-control over time and place
Enriched Virtual Model: Neighbor Island Blend

- Core teachers live on 3 islands
- Virtual live classes 2 days a week
- Advisory/support 1 day a week
- Workshops with traveling teachers on Fridays
  - hands-on, project based, authentic assessment
  - relationship and community building
- Heavy reliance on technology
- Clear, consistent communication is a must
Why blended charter?

- Purpose of a charter school is to “chart” new course
- Looking forward can’t separate learning and technology
- Question shouldn’t be why… but how
Challenges...and what we do

- Funding (every charter)
- No models - distance over island chain
- Often attract unsuccessful/transitional students
- Clearly communicating who we are, what we do
- Parental support
- Finding blended teachers
Benefits of Being a Blended Charter School

- Ability to analyze, make changes...a lot
- Time
- Less drama, excited for F2F days
- Parent involvement
- Best of both worlds
- Teachers and students are fresh
- Everyone's a learner
Making it Happen with Technology

- 1:1 device-loaner program
- GAFE school - communication, collaboration, assessment, organization
- In-house programmer - design and redesign custom LMS
- IT guy and Ed-tech coach
- Professional development
- Browser based and in the cloud
- Blocks at learning center
- GAFE/online curriculum - differentiate, access and organize resources
Online curriculum... *plus*

- Blended Learning
- Credit Recovery
- Virtual Learning

and more...
GradPoint

• Single “sign in” port
• Browser based
• Easy to pull data/reports - student, course, teacher, division
• All teachers “authors” and own course
• Open shell - Modern History Hawaii/Marine biology
• Content rich
• Easily add, modify, rearrange, delete
• Sync with SIS (honuhub) - gradebook, enrollment
Teachers Love GradPoint

- Easy to use
- Automated assessments
- Provides initial instruction
- Add/modify/remove content with ease
- Can reuse a course you develop
- Like having a co-teacher
Teacher Tools

- Calendar
- Digital Library
- Gradebook
- Communication
- Test Generator
- Struggling Student Alerts
- Reports
- Project Library
Students Love the Curriculum

- Rigorous
- Multi-media
- Tech enabled functions
- Real-life connections
- Visual-colors/layout
- Less than 150 words – no cognitive overload

Students Love the Curriculum

On April 30, some 20,000 of Grant’s men crossed the river and headed northeast to capture the Mississippi state capital at Jackson. After sacking that city, the Federals turned west toward Vicksburg, gaining control of the main rail line leading into the city and fortress. Vicksburg was completely cut off.

Use the interactive map to review the siege of Vicksburg.
Instruction designed for Mastery

- Embedded practice - scaffolded
- Feedback
- Reteaching hints
- Reflects teacher
- Houses teacher created assignments
- Embedded practice - can’t just click
Student View
Parents Love GradPoint

• Learning coach view
• Easy to access grades – progress color indicators
• User Activity – how long student worked on lessons
• Objectives for each lesson – extend learning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Mastery</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BDA-1.1.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Name each step of the scientific method; Explain why it is important to work safely in biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDA-1.2.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>List the skills that scientists use; Describe the measurement system most scientists use; Explain how scientists communicate results; Compare light microscopes and electron microscopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDA-1.3.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recall that biology is the study of life; Describe some characteristics of living things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDA-1.4.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>List the four cycles of life; Describe energy and understand what happens in an energy cycle; Describe what happens in the growth cycle; Explain what happens during the evolutionary cycle; Describe an ecological cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Grades

Below is a screenshot of a student's grades for the course "Physical Science Unit 1: Science Skills" on the GradPoint platform.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Submitted</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Physical Science Unit 1: Science Skills</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Mon 08/03</td>
<td>Thu 07/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Using a Scientific Approach Unit 1: Science Skills</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Mon 08/03</td>
<td>Mon 08/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Measurement Unit 1: Science Skills</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Wed 08/05</td>
<td>Wed 08/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Presenting Scientific Data Unit 1: Science Skills</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Mon 08/10</td>
<td>Fri 08/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Classifying Matter Unit 2: Properties of Matter</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Thu 08/13</td>
<td>Fri 08/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Physical Properties Unit 2: Properties of Matter</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Mon 08/17</td>
<td>Mon 08/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Chemical Properties Unit 2: Properties of Matter</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Mon 08/17</td>
<td>Mon 08/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Solids, Liquids, and Gases Unit 2: Properties of Matter</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Mon 08/24</td>
<td>Mon 08/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Phase Changes Unit 2: Properties of Matter</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Mon 08/24</td>
<td>Mon 08/24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A large pizza has a diameter of 20 inches, with 1 inch of crust. What is the surface area of the cheese?
Lessons Learned

Designate a curriculum liaison

- Bridge GradPoint and our Student Information System (HonuHub)
- Teachers need real time support with the technology throughout the school year
- Create and enroll students in classes
- Share updates and changes
- The more we learn, the easier it gets
Lessons Learned con’t

Have ongoing trainings and orientation for students, returning parents and new families (HTA 101)

• New families need orientation to technology
• Before school starts/after for struggling
• Real time training
• Graphic organizer-passwords, URLs – save multiple places
Lessons Learned con’t

Start year with F2F classes

• Model how to effectively do the online in each class
• Use the virtual platform in the F2F class to teach platform and troubleshoot
• Practice submitting assignments-trial run
• Find connections, build relationships
Attendance key to accountability

- Clear expectations and procedures
- Teachers record attendance – even independent days
- Critical alerts, escalating consequences
- Correlate attendance to user activity
- Truancy down- specific data coming
Lessons Learned con’t

Teachers must “drive” the course

- Create, modify content-relevance
- Create assessments with DOK 2-3
- Score/grade summatives
- Pacing—less is more, go deep
- All classes focus on CCSS literacy
- Online curriculum just one of many resources
- Teacher “voice” coming through—human element
Lessons Learned *con’t*

Block is better in blend

- 3-4 classes a semester
- 80 class periods
- More in depth, deeper focus - less juggling
- Entry level math two semesters for 2 credits
- Projects and authentic assessment
- College model
- Students love it-less than 10% failing
Lessons Learned con’t

Virtual classes follow same F2F schedule

- 80 blocks - used multiple ways
- Same instructional practices
- Sandwiched between F2F days
- Pre-teach/front load or reteach
- Student collaboration
- Ongoing training and sharing
Lessons Learned con’t

Professional Learning Communities

- By department-set schedule
- Targeted support/data
- Training opportunity- show-use
- Virtually as needed-information
- All agendas and minutes recorded one location-transparency
Success

- Attendance - up
- Grades - up
- Test scores - up
- On time graduation - up
- Behavior incidents - down
- Truancy - down
- Happy people
Long road to success...

...and this is is just the beginning.
Contact Information

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