Amherst Central School District Saves Money and Improves Collaboration With Google for Education

Content provided by Google for Education
Amherst Central School District saves money and improves collaboration with Google tools

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Stephen Fang, Google for Education

Anthony Panella, Asst Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Amherst Central School District

Donna Frymire, District Technology Integration Specialist, Amherst Central School District
Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Overview
3. Solutions for schools
   - Platform: Google Apps for Education
   - Devices: Chromebooks and Android Tablets
   - Content: Google Play for Education
4. The story of Amherst Central School District
5. Question & answer
60%
Prepare students for jobs that don’t yet exist
What is Google for Education all about?

Transforming teaching and learning

Enabling kids to create with technology
“Going Google means adopting a culture that extends beyond the classroom walls: it’s about openness, curiosity, and working together.”

— Jim Sill
Educator & Trainer
Visalia, California

EMPOWERMENT
Discover a world of infinite resources

CHOICE
Use the right device, anytime anywhere

TEAMWORK
Work together in real-time

SCALABILITY
Affordable and easy to manage
The phases of Google for Education

- **Phase 1**: Organize info, make it accessible
- **Phase 2**: Create school versions of consumer tools
- **Phase 3**: Designed for learning, made for the classroom
“The technology itself must be invisible during ed-tech rollouts. It’s our job as a tech company to get out of the way.”

Jaime Casap
Google Global EDU Evangelist

Google for Education.
A Collaborative Solution built for learning.
50 million students, teachers, and staff use Google Apps for Education
5M businesses use Google Apps
What is Google for Education all about?

Transforming teaching and learning

Enabling kids to create with technology
1,000,000 more jobs than students by 2020

$500 billion opportunity

1.4 million computing jobs

400,000 computer science students

Computer science is a top paying college degree and computer programming jobs are growing at 2X the national average.
In 2012, fewer than 3,000 African Americans and Hispanic students took the high school A.P. computer science exam.
Programs for educators and students

- Google Teacher Academy
- Made with Code
- RISE Awards
- Google Science Fair
- Computer Science for High School (CS4HS)
- CS First
Introduction

Anthony Panella
Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum and Instruction

&

Donna Frymire
District Technology Integration Specialist

Amherst Central School District
Amherst, New York
About
Amherst Central School District

- Largest Suburb of Buffalo
- Ranks 29th out of 431 districts in Upstate New York
- 2,900 students
- 4 schools
- 550 employees
- 30% Free/reduce lunch
Past Timeline (2010-2015)

2010 - Google Apps for Education (GAfE)
2011 - 1 Classroom Chromebook Pilot
   - Tech Committee Pilot CBs
   - Students Access to GAfE (No Gmail)
2012 - Grades 3-8 Students Access to Gmail
2013 - Grade 3 Chromebook Carts
2014 - Grade 4-5, MS Team, HS Dept Carts
   - Tech Committee Pilot Tablets
   - June - Chromebooks for All Teachers
   - Primary Tablet Pilot

Future Timeline (2015-2018)

2015 - Grade 2 Tablets
   - Grade 6 Chromebooks
2016 - Increase Chromebook Carts at MS and HS
   - Grade 1 Tablets
   - Modified 1:1 Chromebooks at Middle School
2017 - Grade K Tablets
   - Increase Chromebook Carts at HS
2018 - Amherst 1:1 Initiative Complete
Out of Focus - Need for a Vision

Computer Based Testing
Warning of state-mandated transition from paper testing to online testing

Digital Content
Increasing demands for Digital Education Content

Equity
Providing engaging opportunities for all students

Active Learning
Differentiated Collaborative Student led
Google World - Helped Define Our Vision

What is our district potential? Can we be technology leaders? Is our technology plan aligned? What is the potential for growth with Google?

District Technology Committee Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2014
Why Google Apps for Education?

Collaboration

Any Device

Anytime

Collaboration

Collaboration

Collaboration
Devices?

Desktop PCs  iPads  Chromebooks  Android Tablets

Decisions
Devices: Why Chromebooks?

- Cost
- Computer Based Testing
- App Compatibility
- All Day Battery

- Simple Deployment
- Security & Filtering
- Management
- Instructional Time
Ease of Use

Technology Department
Device / App Management

Instructional Use
Classroom Management
Professional Development - Natural Progression

Phase I
Initial Training
Technology Committee Members piloted the use of Chromebooks.
All teachers received initial training how to use device for professional use and collaboration.

Phase 2
Reinforce Learned Skills
Technology Committee Members present in buildings as support network.
Teachers required to bring device to meetings, trainings, and team/grade/department planning.

Phase 3
Implementation with Students
Specialized grade level or content specific training.
Integration Specialist support
Technology Staff Development Day
Google focused GAfE Partner - Keynote Speaker
In-house trainers
Teacher User Experience

Google Drive / Docs
- Access to all of the students’ files.
- Collaboration with colleagues.
- Anywhere. Any device.

Google Classroom
- Single classroom interface.
- Anywhere. Any device.

Aspen SIS
- Google connectivity.
- Gradebook to Drive.
- Anywhere. Any device.
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What does instruction look like in Amherst Central School District?
Differentiation Allows...

Students become independent learners.

Individualized learning paths.

Windermere Boulevard Elementary School Kindergartners
Traditional Assignments are Being Replaced by . . .

Collaboration
Student to student
Student to teacher

Amherst Middle School 6th Graders
Students are Genuinely . . .

Engaged.

Empowered.

Involved.

Confident.

Amherst Middle School 7th Grade Student Collaborating on a Presentation with a Peer in another Class During Study Hall
What’s Next?

January 2011
Amherst Goes Google
- Gmail Chosen for Email
- Opened GAfE
- Increased Professional Collaboration
- Devices Needed
- CBT Announced
- Wireless Connectivity

Sept 2012
Amherst Platform
- Amherst Commits to Google Platform
- Too Many Systems
- Frustration with Process
- Strengthen Wireless
- Ease of Use
- District Vision
- Student Engagement

June 2018
Amherst 1:1
- Define 1:1
  - 1:1 Look and Feel
  - Training & Support Curriculum
  - Collaborative Learning
  - Wireless Infrastructure
  - Replacement Cycle
TIGER PRIDE