

Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools



In 2011, Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools (CFEVS) took a big step toward their goal of helping teachers and students cultivate real-world 21st century skills by introducing G Suite for Education to the district. While teachers worked towards a goal of becoming 100 percent Google Certified Innovators, students began experimenting with self-directed learning or simply creating their own original work. Combined with support from technology specialists like Nancy Kevern to make teachers comfortable with G Suite for Education, and later Chromebooks, Chagrin Falls is now a school district where over 90 percent of students say Google tools improve the quality of their school work.

District facts

Public school district

Total district enrollment

2,011 Students
136 Teachers

Grades served

Pre-K > 12

Number of schools

4 
 1 Elementary school
 1 Middle school
 1 Intermediate school
 1 High school

Free/reduced price lunch

9% of students qualify

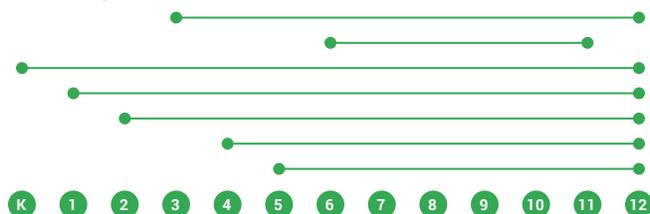
Google tools

2,400 Chromebooks
3 Years using Chromebooks
5 Years using G Suite for Education
100% Students using G Suite for Education

Ethnicity


94% White
2% Two or more races
2% Hispanic/Latino
1% Black/African American
1% Asian

Students grade level



Take devices home during the school year
 Take devices home over the summer
 Are using Google Classroom and Google Docs
 Begin using Google Slides in 1st grade
 Begin using Google Drive in 2nd grade
 Begin using Google Calendar in 4th grade
 Begin creating Google Sites and using Gmail in 5th grade

Why Chromebooks

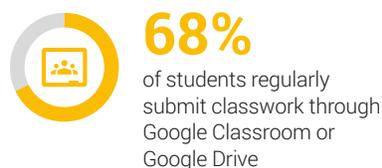
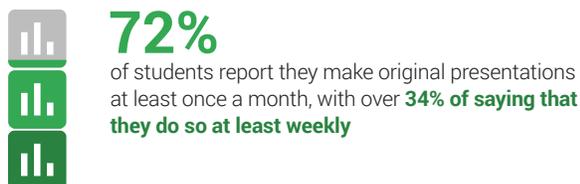
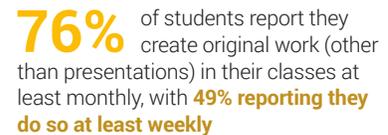
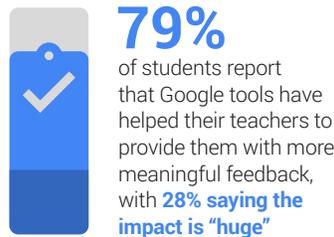
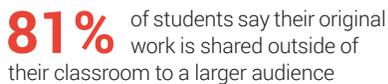
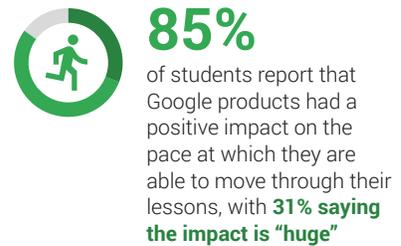
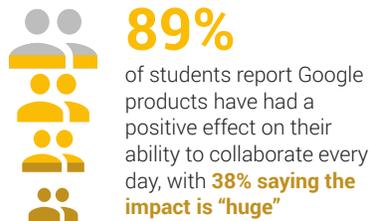
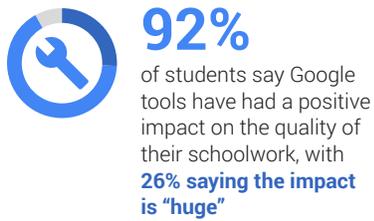
- 99% of students report that they use their Chromebook to search for information related to their classes at CFEVS.
- The district saved 100,000 sheets of paper per year switching to Chromebooks and a paperless system.
- Around 75 percent of student time on Chromebooks at CFEVS is spent accessing academic resources.

Results

After the adoption of Chromebooks, district leaders noticed more original work from students across the district. Teachers made more lessons and projects that required students to collaborate and share outside of their classrooms, and several teachers reported they got new ideas for teaching their subjects with technology from students. Chagrin Falls leveraged Chromebooks and G Suite for Education to close the digital use divide, the separation between students who use technology to transform learning from those students who use technology to complete similar learning activities with the aid of a digital device. Overall, the skills the district wanted to foster the most, what they call the “Great Techspectations” of collaboration, adaptation, research, creativity, critical thinking and communication, are more prevalent than ever.



In May of 2016, District students were asked about using G Suite for Education in their classes



The power of simple Chromebook deployment

After using G Suite for Education for several years and piloting programs with carts of other options including tablets and netbooks, district leaders recognized Chromebooks were the right devices for the future. They could even make the entire district more eco-friendly, eliminating the need to print thousands of documents. "We saved somewhere around 100,000 sheets of paper a year just from that. Teachers told me they haven't used the copy machine since the first day," says Mike Daugherty, Director of Technology and Information Systems at Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools.

The District took up the challenge of integrating G Suite for Education with Chromebooks, the final

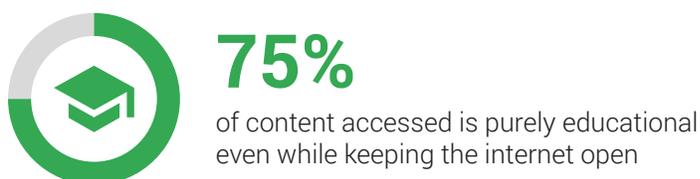
piece of the puzzle, in 2013. With the support of 20 volunteers using Google Sheets, they distributed 1,100 Chromebooks with deployment wait times of less than five minutes throughout the day. It sent a powerful message to the entire school community that collaboration with G Suite for Education would power the district in the future, working seamlessly with the tools they already had. It also saved time. Despite increasing the number of devices in the district by a factor of more than two, Daugherty spends significantly less of his time managing devices. "I can spend a lot more time on other initiatives, thinking ahead, helping teachers integrate," he says.



Building a culture of technology

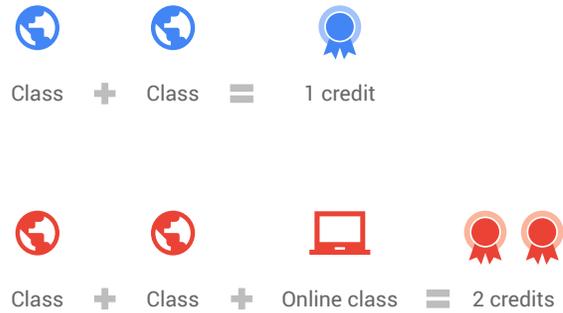
After rolling out Chromebooks 1:1 for their students, Chagrin Falls saw positive (and some unexpected) outcomes across the school. "Parents now fill out Google Forms when a child is sick instead of sending a note. The football teams use Drive to share videos. It's not how we told them to use it, it's just how it happened," says Daugherty. Students took full advantage of increased opportunities for collaboration and authentic learning with their Chromebooks. That's backed up by the school's data from GoGuardian, which found that around 75 percent of student time on Chromebooks is spent

accessing academic resources. Chromebooks and G Suite for Education usage foster a community of creators within the Chagrin Falls student base, honing skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. Enthusiasm among the students is up as well. One first grader was so clear in her explanation of how to use the technology, the school recorded her and posted her tutorial for students and parents. One CFEVS parent reported: "We no longer have a nightly battle to do homework. My student comes home, opens up his Chromebook, and does his work. It's great!"



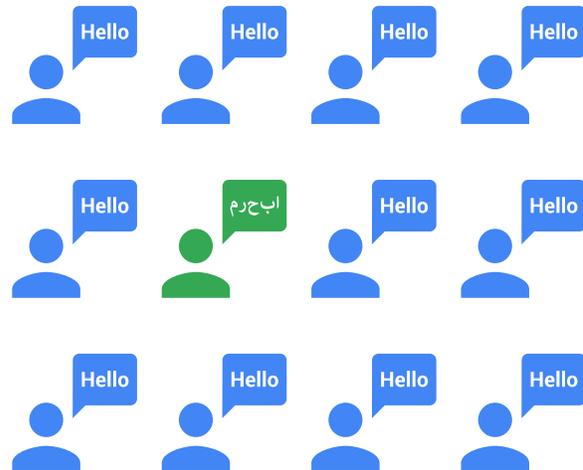
Giving students more

Chagrin Falls used G Suite for Education and Chromebooks to expand the existing curriculum for eager pupils. District middle school students take two years of world languages earn one high school credit; because the middle school French and Spanish teachers found Google Classroom to be so intuitive, they created an online class for advanced students. Students can move at their own pace through a third year of Spanish or French in Google Classroom, leaving middle school with two years of world language credits. In other classrooms, students use Soundcloud to record themselves practicing foreign languages or music for regular assessments on their progress.



Welcoming global students

Using the Translate and Research tools in Google Docs helped the District fully integrate students with limited English proficiency. In 2014, a Syrian refugee enrolled in the seventh-grade. He had limited English proficiency and technology skills. The technology integration coach immediately set the student up with his Chromebook. While neither the student nor the coach spoke the other's language, they were able to communicate right away using the Google Docs Translate feature. Google tools opened up avenues of communication that otherwise would not exist. As Daugherty puts it, "Thanks for making education awesome again. We can see Chromebooks making a difference."



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CFEVS parent



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