

Yujin Gakuen Japanese Immersion School

Technology Plan 2014-2016 Amended (June 2015) *Submitted 6/29/15*

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Technology Mission

Yujin Gakuen Japanese Immersion School strives to provide a technology rich learning environment that improves communication in both English and Japanese, makes instruction more efficient and effective, enhances thinking and learning skills, and develops 21st century skills critical to life in a global society.

Vision

Yujin Gakuen Japanese Immersion School envisions a learning community where:

- Students are engaged in a challenging curriculum that is inquiry based and hands on.
- All students have equitable access to technology, connectivity, and online resources.
- Students are information literate so that they can face the challenges of living and working in a global economy and society.
- Technology is integrated into a challenging and interdisciplinary curriculum which addresses students' specific needs, developmental levels, and learning styles.
- Technology is used as a tool to improve the depth of student work and provide an environment where all students, including at-risk, those with special needs, non native speakers, can become successful students, citizens, problem solvers, and life-long learners.
- Technology is used to improve communications, improve productivity, and enhance and enrich curriculum.
- Staff development is ongoing focusing on instructional and administrative applications for teachers, administrators, and all support staff.
- Our school infrastructure supports voice, video, online and data applications in a safe and secured wired/wireless environment.

Goal 1: Maintain 21st Century Technology Components in Each Classroom

- School technology will be utilized to meet the requirements of the Common Core State Standards.
- Instruction will be varied, engaging, and appropriate, using internet resources and tools.
- To integrate technology use with professional development opportunities in order to showcase not only the many uses of technology, but to empower our entire staff to creatively utilize applications and devices using best practices in instruction.
- Our end goal is fostering and supporting a technologically literate staff.

Goal 2: To utilize the technology in our school and buy additional technology to teach, experience, and work within the Japanese language.

- Purchase and use iPad apps to teach students to write Hirigana, Katakana, and Kanji, using proper stroke order
- Purchase and use apps to support voice recordings and use other apps that improve communication among students

Goal 4: To begin the process of having a 1:1 ratio of iPads in the primary grades.

Rationale for iPad Technology

iPad Minis in the classroom will provide:

- **Mobility:** Using state-of-the-art technology, teachers will be able to mirror iPad content on the screen at the front of the classroom. The wireless feature along with the portability of the iPad will allow the teacher to conduct the lesson from anywhere in the class, permitting the teacher to assist students and give individual feedback without interrupting instruction for the other students.
- **Improved Collaboration:** iPads will allow students to work collaboratively with more direct communication between teacher and students, as well as between the students themselves. Apps such as Subtext, Padlet, and Explain Everything can heighten student interaction by providing a digital platform to share ideas, feed off one another, and brainstorm concepts.
- **Alternative Education:** iPads provide alternative forms of learning in an untraditional way that better resonates with students. Because of the vibrant colors, sharp images, unique style, and interactive nature of iPad apps, students can learn in a more hands-on manner. This increases overall classroom productivity as it expands the number of ways that a student can delve into subject content. When combined with a blended education platform, this reduces the likelihood that a student will progress in school without actually mastering the material.
- **Differentiated Learning Levels:** iPads give programs such as eSpark the ability to deliver personalized blended learning plans where students can use educational apps to focus on the material that they individually struggle with. This student-focused curriculum optimizes a student's education to achieve maximum possible growth in either Math, English Language Arts, or both. Differentiated iPad content increases elementary school productivity as each student can receive targeted instruction that will help them push the needle on their own personal achievement every day.

A significant benefit of the iPad is the amount of free or low cost apps that have been developed for these devices. Many of these apps are based on Common Core State Standards, a new guideline for what students should know and be able to do at each grade level in math and language arts in order to be ready to graduate with an Oregon diploma, ready for college, careers and life.

Reading instruction would improve with the iPad Mini by utilizing programs such as Journeys which follows the Common Core instruction. The Journeys reading program is available for free to all 4J district schools and includes mobile apps, whiteboard lessons, and differentiation to meet the needs of all students.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education will be more accessible with science apps such as Science360, a free app from the National Science Foundation and Monster Physics. Math lessons will be more exciting for students with the use of interactive apps such as Splash Math and iTooch for learning time, creating charts, and illustrating geometric facts and figures. iPad Minis will give the class the ability to share work instantly by working out a problem on the iPad and then sharing it on the projector.

For Japanese instruction, iPad Minis would be highly beneficial for students learning to write Hirigana, Katakana, or Kanji- all of which must be done in proper stroke order that typing on a laptop with QWERTY keyboards cannot teach. Tracing on an iPad Mini with apps such as Dr Moku or Benesse Challenge Touch will help students learn Japanese characters more quickly. Voice recording is also an essential tool available with the iPad Mini as students would be able to record their conversations in Japanese and replay to hear if they are speaking correctly.

Technology Resources

Existing Resources	Quan./Condition/Age	Replacement?	Model
1 Computer Lab (Library)	1/bad/ 2004	yes	emac
4 COWS	3/fair/2008	yes	macbook 2,1
3 Smartboards	3/great/2010	no	SB-680
11 Projectors	8/fair/2008	yes	Epson 83+
11 Doc cameras	11/great/2009	no	Avervision
Wireless on wall	1/great/2013	We need more installed	
Wireless on COWS	4/fair/2007	yes	
ipads	10/good/2010	yes	ipad2
Printers	5/good/2007	yes	HP 1320n
Teacher Laptops	12 Macbooks	no	
Teacher Mobile Devices	12 iPads	no	

Professional Development

PD training will be integrated into staff meetings. The purpose is for staff to teach, learn, practice, and share basic features and functions of the iPad and iPad Apps. PD workshops will be held on inservice days. Staff will share how they used technology in their classrooms. Staff may present sample lessons, demonstrate how they utilized the equipment or software, or share student products.

Professional Development Activity	Date	By Whom?
iPad basics for teachers	September staff meeting	Technology Team
Investigation and training on specific iPad apps for primary and Japanese teachers	Technology Meeting, September, 2015	Technology Team
Technology Conference	October 9th, 2015	Technology Teacher