

## Implementing iPads in Cristo Rey High School Interview w. Janice Raach, Technology Director

How did you go about implementing iPads into your school?

- Consider the costs for school
- Consider the availability for students
- Consider usability among students
- Secured a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Initiative Grant to provide funding for implementation of iPads.

What lessons have you learned during the implementation process?

- Make sure you call Apple ahead of time to waitlist your domain
  - You should have an apple team member that will “white list” your domain name. (for example: “rockhurst.edu”) to make sure you will have available to create all of the new emails without problem
- Make sure you have enough memory on your server for the amount of additional emails & use
- Make sure your network can handle all the new devices
- 20% of the freshman boys have broken their iPads
  - Make sure to get the best case possible. It is worth the extra investment

What have been the successes of implementing them into your classrooms?

- Using Mobile Device Management (MDM) Tracking System
  - This system sets up boundaries and parameters for the students. For example, students are not able to download or view anything above a PG13 rating.
  - At any time, student’s uses can be monitored
- Teachers can implement a “Flipped Classroom” using Kahn Academy which promotes individualized learning to meet each student’s needs.
- It’s been remarkable to see the creative uses the iPads bring to typical projects
- Promotes collaborative learning
- Takes away excuses for meeting performance standards
  - Teachers know students are going home with resources to aid with homework
- For once our students do not see themselves as the poor kids
  - Having the iPads have sent a positive message that the school district trusts them and thinks they are worth it

What have been some challenges?

- The cases we bought were not the right choice for our students use.
- How do you get the students to use them wisely

### What would you do differently?

- Buy the better, more reliable cases
- Provide more time for the warm up session
  - They only spent 4 days in a row with the entire school
  - It felt rushed
  - Suggests doing a test group of smaller group of students to see to get the glitches out and then introduce to the entire school the next week
  - The students did not need much more training than the 4 day warm up session
    - They picked it up very quickly and were able to work with each other on how to use it most effectively

### Did Teachers get trained to use them?

- They were given their iPads the summer before they students received them to familiarize themselves
- Right now there is a wide range of use and their stance is they want to encourage their teachers to use them if applicable with the lessons.

### Were parents involved in the implementation?

- Parents were not involved but Cristo Rey would like them to be and are currently working on a way to involve them.
- A training session or introduction session for parents would be ideal

### What advice would you give other schools looking to implement iPads into their curriculum?

- Give teachers a head start with them
  - Ease them into the transition and be sure there is no mandates on them to use them
- Make sure you give the iPads to all students at the same time
  - This eliminates the “haves” & “have not’s”
- Be sure to have an upfront Do & Do Not Policy for students in regards to use
  - Let the students explore the iPads the first couple weeks to “get it out of their system” and you won’t see as many problems in the long run.
  - Inappropriate use of the iPad is the new main cause of detention in Cristo Rey