1-to-1 Chester UFSD Chromebooks

Mr. Edward A. Spence, K-12 Director of Curriculum / Instruction and Technology / Data Administrator Chester Union Free School District (CUFSD)

“Preparing Our Students for College & Careers.”
Mr. Ed Spence  
Chester Schools  
Orange County, NY

- IBM’er for 13 years working in Tarrytown, NY  
- Teacher for 16 years – Social Studies / Technology / Business  
- Have taught every grade level from Grade 5 through Grade 12  
- College Instructor for the past 20 years – SUNY  
- School Administrator for the past 7 years  
- Completed the NYSCOSS Future Superintendent Program 2017  
- Wife Doreen was a Regents Earth Science Teacher 25 years  
- Our family includes five adopted special-needs children

**Problem Faced (2011)** – Hired by my district in late October 2011 they did not have wireless and little technology was being used.

**2012** – Chromebook Home 1-to1 Plan

**By 2014** – Chester Schools was awarded a NYSSBA Annual “Be the Change for Kids” Innovative Schools Award
Do’s for a Successful 1-to-1 Plan

• Create a Clearly-Defined 5-year Vision – Where You Wish to Go

• Talk to Stakeholders and Build Consensus – Buy-In

• Consider What Can Go Wrong and How to Address

• Spend a Year on Training Faculty/Staff

• Start Where You Can and Make It Grow

• Build a Team and Continue to Support the Team

• Assess Success and Failure – Be Will to Adjust Plan
Don’t’s for a Successful 1-to-1 Plan

• Don’t Rush the Plan if Stakeholders Not Ready
• Don’t Listen to Voices of Negativity
• Don’t Go It Alone - Thinking You Know It All
• Don’t Forget to Communicate the Plan to Parents
• Don’t Forget to Document Everything
• Don’t Get Complacent and Feel the Goal is Met
"Classroom Technology Integration Success Formula"

\[ \text{CTIS} = V + P + \frac{\text{BI}}{E^2} \]

“Classroom Technology Integration Success Equals Vision plus Planning plus Buy-In Divided by Energy and Enthusiasm.”
“If we teach today what we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow.”

- John Dewey
Why Now for a 1-on-1 Student Plan?

The following set of reasons helped to make the decision to start a 1-on-1 laptop program at Chester UFSD:

1. Educational emphasis on College & Career Readiness.

2. NYS has posted all Common Core materials for students/teachers online. This has increased the need to move away from hard copy textbooks to the use of these online resources, for 24/7 access and cost-savings.
3. We talked to former students who returned from college about their experiences.* We followed our District and Technology Committee goals to increase technology integration K-12.

4. Many K-12 districts and colleges have switched to Google & Chromebooks, over the past several years.
“Teachers need to be able to integrate technology seamlessly into the curriculum instead of viewing it as an add-on, an afterthought, or an event…”

Heidi-Hayes Jacobs
Samsung Chromebook

• Starts up in 7 seconds.
• Software updates automatic & Free Apps
• Google Drive automatic saving of files. No viruses to worry about
• All files remain in Google Drive account even if Chromebook is lost or destroyed.
• Software & settings can be controlled through a website by administrators - no need to manually load software and update.
• Has camera, mic, card reader, USB, etc.
Chromebook Hardware & Software

1. USIM (3G model only)
2. USB 3.0
3. USB 2.0
4. HDMI
5. AC Power
6. Headphone/MIC combo
7. SD Card Slot
Chromebook Cases - Protection

We strongly recommend that all student purchase an ‘iPearl’ 11.6 inch Chromebook cover/case. We are still strongly suggesting this, along with buying a padded cover for the device. They can be purchased on Amazon for $17 and $7 each.

www.ipearl-inc.com
Chromebooks connect through our Chester & OUBOCES Web Filters for safety / security.

1. Chromebook connects to wireless from home, school or anywhere on WWW…
2. Google Domain settings route connection first through Chester & OUBOCES filters…
3. Student should have the same websites available/blocked as they see when in school.
“Education is evolving due to the impact of the Internet. We cannot teach our students in the same manner in which we were taught. Change is necessary to engage students not in the curriculum we are responsible for teaching, but in school. Period.”

– April Chamberlain
Advice on Cleaning Chromebooks

Screen Care

● Use both hands when opening the Chromebooks.
● Do not hold the Chromebook by the screen.
● Do not place anything on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, headphones)
● Never pack your Chromebook with other materials. Keep it separate from textbooks and other heavy objects that could potentially damage the screen.

Cleaning your Chromebook

● Do not use any chemicals or other liquids to clean your Chromebook.
● Use microfiber cloth to wipe down the screen.

Do NOT spray or wipe your Chromebook with any windex/household cleaner/water and/or cleaning cloth/wipes. Clean your Chromebook keys and screen with a lightly moistened soft cloth or bring your Chromebook to the Technology Resource Center to have it cleaned with a computer cleaning solution.
Reminder - the window to sign up for Worth Group annual 8-12 Chromebook Insurance **closes on 9/30/2019**. Please read this update we posted during the summer below. This update was posted on our website, Chester Facebook and Chester Twitter since mid-summer. Worth Group has activated their annual website for our Grade 8-12 parents to sign up for Chromebook coverage. The link will be open **until September 30, 2019**. For any questions of coverage options please contact Technology Secretary at Chester Academy 845 469 2231 ext. 3302.

**3/16/2020: Worth Group Insurance opened a new, temporary window for the Corona Virus School Closings for Grade 3-7 Parents ONLY. Here is the link to sign up by no later than March 31, 2020.**
https://www.worthavegroup.com/gpo/chesterufsd/

When parents go online, they will be asked for the make and model number of their students' Chromebook. We wanted to provide our parents with the list below....

**Juniors and Seniors** - Make: Samsung Model: XE503C12

**Juniors and Seniors** - Make: Samsung Model: XE500C13

**Sophomores** - Make: HP Model: Chromebook 11 G4

**Freshmen** - Make: HP Model: Chromebook 11 G5 EE

**8th Grade/ Includes GWL HS/New to district** - Make: Acer Model: Spin 11

*DISCLAIMER* We would note that this is not true for all students. Some have been given replacements throughout the year, etc. It would be best to purchase insurance after receiving the physical device so there is no confusion. ***
Harnessing Technology to Foster Individual Strengths

Chester UFSD has recently been highlighted in the New York State Schools Board Association (NYSSBA) newsletter named "On Board" for our innovative Chromebook student/teacher program.

Chester Chromebook News Story

Chester Certificate from NYS School Boards Association

Some teachers were slower to see the merits of devices than others. “I am not one to embrace technology,” Lisa Edwards, a high school English Language Arts teacher in Chester, said in an email message. “I was very nervous about the Chromebook.”
Harnessing Technology to Foster Individual Strengths

The devices make differentiating instruction “very easy,” according to Edwards. “I shared a graphic organizer with my struggling students who needed extra guidance. Kids shared their essays with each other and made comments and peer edited and it was all student-driven … It allows students to take more time on one activity without falling behind – or drawing attention to themselves.”

No more. “The Chromebooks have completely changed the way I teach the research paper and it makes it so much easier for myself and my students. One of the best parts – the students are suggesting ways to use the Chromebook’s features to make the research process easier and more efficient.”
“Attaining the goal of improving learning requires a supportive and aligned system with a shared vision and a universally embraced common purpose.”

- Bill Daggett
Instructional Paradigms Shift

This serves to **personalize our approach to learning** -- one highly qualified teacher working with one student throughout every learning session.

Technology can **equip students to independently organize their learning process**. Instead of being passive recipients of information, students are using technology to become active users.

Chester Chromebook Video
Instructional Paradigms Shift (Continued)

To foster continual progress, each teaching moment is optimized to accommodate for a student’s:

**Understanding**: At every step the teacher evaluates and adjusts instruction. The Chromebooks have provided our students and teachers with the flexibility to make such lesson adjustments.

**Learning style**: Instructional methods leverage student learning strengths. Differentiation naturally flows from the use of the 1-to-1 devices with students.
Pace: The pace of instruction slows when the student struggles and accelerates when the student “gets it.” This is especially helpful for special-needs students, as the teacher can move at the students appropriate pace throughout the lesson.

Motivation: The teacher finds the most effective ways to encourage and motivate each student. Many times, special-needs students can blossom when confronted with technological tools.
Examples of Programs – Increased Use due to our 1-to-1 Plan:

- Reflex Math [Chester ReflexMath Video Link]
- Compass Learning
- Castle Learning
- Learning A-Z
- eTextbooks and accompanying software
- Google Drive & Google Apps
 Responsible Use & Digital Citizenship

Our 1-to-1 Chromebook plan has enabled our district to further the teaching of Digital Citizenship and Internet Safety practices.

We are able to increase conversations with our students regarding their “digital footprint.” An important component of College & Career Readiness is preparing our students for the real world. Students must understand that whether it's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram – everything they do online follows them through their lives.
“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn”

Alvin Toffler
Next Steps...

• We currently have “in-school” Chromebooks for our Grade 2 through Grade 7 students in core classes.

• All Chester Academy Grade 8-12 students have a 1-to-1 take-home Chromebook which they use across their classes and through the curriculum.

• We will continue to rollout Chromebooks to the additional grade levels, convert to eTextbooks, use additional software programs/websites integrated across their classes.

• Thank you for you time and attention.