

TL2014
May 2012 Survey Results
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	# Participants	Comments
Parents	74	SHS (48); SMS (39) <i>Some participants have children in multiple schools.</i>
Students	843	HS (466); MS (377)
Teachers	40	SHS (20); SMS (20);

Theme:

- There was a high level of participation from all groups.

I. Course grades for 2011-12 compared to previous year 2010-11

High School	Middle School
<i>Higher</i>	<i>Higher</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> - 13% • <u>Students</u> - 21% • <u>Teachers</u> - 10% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> - 17% • <u>Students</u> - 48% • <u>Teachers</u> - 10%
<i>Lower</i>	<i>Lower</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> - 38% • <u>Students</u> - 40% • <u>Teachers</u> - 65% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> - 32% • <u>Students</u> - 16% • <u>Teachers</u> - 10%

Themes:

- Largest % of perceptions about grades falls in the “lower” category.
- Average Percentage of students on Honor Roll (Honor Roll and High Honor Roll) 2010-11 to 2011-12:
 - MS - 40.2% (2010-11) → 40.9% (2011-12) (increase of .7%)
 - HS - 35.1% (2010-11) → 28.7% (2011-12) (decrease of 6.4%)
- Perception of “lower” grades is more common at High School than at Middle School.
- The course grade perceptions for this survey (May 2012) are comparable to the previous survey (November 2011). General perceptions about grades remain the same.

II. Top reasons for changes in grades (higher or lower)

<p>High School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting to a new schedule was challenging (50%) • Access to a laptop computer (33%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting to a new schedule was challenging (45%) • Access to a laptop computer (39%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting to a new schedule was challenging (65%) • Access to a laptop computer (55%)
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a laptop computer (38%) • Adapting to a new schedule was challenging (28%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I enjoyed my classes (48%) • Access to a laptop computer (47%) • I worked hard this year (47%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students did not work as hard as last year's students (20%)

Themes:

- *Adapting to a new schedule was challenging* and *Access to a laptop computer* appear consistently as the top reasons for declining student performance as measured by grades at the High School.
- The table reflects a low number of middle school teacher responses because 70% of teachers indicated student grades stayed the same as compared to the previous school year. Only 30% of teachers indicated a change in grades (higher or lower) at the middle school.

III. BENEFITS of having access to a laptop computer

<p>High School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content - students have access to different kinds of up-to-date media (50%) • Sharing - students have the ability to share their work and ideas with others inside and outside the classroom (46%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing - I have the ability to share my work and ideas with others inside and outside the classroom (45%) • Content - I have access to different kinds of up-to-date media (55%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content - students have access to different kinds of up-to-date media (60%) • Location - students are able to learn anywhere (60%)
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content - students have access to different kinds of up-to-date media (65%) • Sharing - students have the ability to share their work and ideas with others inside and outside the classroom (59%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing - I have the ability to share my work and ideas with others inside and outside the classroom (71%) • Time - I am able to learn any time of day (63%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content - students have access to different kinds of up-to-date media (38%) • Sharing - students have the ability to share their work and ideas with others inside and outside the classroom (34%)

Themes:

- Sharing and Access to content are perceived consistently as benefits of having a personal laptop computer.
- Sharing and Access to content are significant because they connect to TL2014 goals. Access is at the heart of each the TL2014 goals. Without access to information through a digital device, the goals could not be reached. Sharing and collaboration is an important 21st century skill reflected in the first goal of TL2014.
- Other benefits that rated high include
 - Time - ability to learn any time of day
 - Location - ability to learn anywhere
 - Individualization - ability to learn at ones own level and in ones own way
 - Engagement - motivated by learning on the computer
 - Pacing - ability to learn at ones own rate
 - Choice - ability to choose how learning is demonstrated.

IV. CHALLENGES of having access to a laptop computer

<p>High School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distraction - having a laptop computer creates distractions that students and teachers find challenging (48%) • Inter-personal skills - the laptop computer reduces students' time to interact face-to-face in class (35%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network - I frequently experienced delays in accessing the Internet/ network (68%) • Restrictions - there are too many restriction on Internet sites useful for learning (65%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distraction - having a laptop computer creates distractions that students and teachers find challenging (90%) • Time learning new technology - the time needed to learn new technology gets in the way of learning course content (35%)
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parents</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distraction - having a laptop computer creates distractions that students and teachers find challenging (38%) • Time learning new technology - the time needed to learn new technology gets in the way of learning course content (18%) • <u>Students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions- there are too many restriction on Internet sites useful for learning (50%) • Network - I frequently experienced delays in accessing the Internet/ network (39%) • <u>Teachers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distraction - having a laptop computer creates distractions that students and teachers find challenging (70%) • Time learning new technology - the time needed to learn new technology gets in the way of learning course content (60%)

Themes:

- *Distraction* is a common theme among adults in the survey (parents and teachers).
- *Network speed and Restrictions* (content filtering) is a common theme among student users.

V. Memorable Learning Experiences

<p>High School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A third of student responses were blank, indicated “none” or a variation of no response. • Students recognized their experiences with particular courses and teachers as memorable (i.e. Brinson, Barna, Kennedy, Flagg, child development, cooking, photography, media studies) • Students’ reference of science labs was very high. • Students and teachers referenced projects utilizing technology tools - iMovie, Keynote, computers in general • Teachers referenced the Apple Training as memorable, particularly Challenge Based Learning and the work to create units of study using new teaching strategies.
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students recognized their experiences with particular teachers as memorable (i.e. Frick, Quigg, Yurconic, DeOliveira, Chladny) • Students recognized special activities and field trips as memorable (Birds of Prey assembly, Bake Oven Knob field trip, Renaissance Faire field trip) • Students and teachers referenced hands-on projects and activities utilizing technology tools - iMovie, Falcon Apps, Mangahigh, Minecraft, Skype, Pages, Keynote, Glogster • Teachers referenced the Apple Training as memorable, particularly Challenge Based Learning and the work to create units of study using new teaching strategies. • The phrase “challenge based learning” was used by two students. • A small group of students recognized Digital Aces as memorable.

Themes:

- Students are most engaged by projects that are hands-on and often include the use of technology.
- Examples on the TL2014.org website reflect the kinds of memorable learning experiences shared by students, teachers and parents.
- All teacher responses cited examples of learning utilizing technology in some way.
- Parent responses were largely positive about their children’s experiences with technology.
- Teaching and learning is changing in the classroom. Between survey data and examples of teaching and learning posted on TL2014.org, the District has a good set of base-line data to compare growth in future school years.

VI. Repair Data

	Total Non-warranty Repairs	#1 Non-Warranty Repair/ Occurrences	#2 Non-Warranty Repair/ Occurrences
High School	49	Cracked LCD - 27	Cracked Top Case - 10
Middle School	89	Cracked LCD - 40	Cracked Top Case - 39

Total amount of insurance premiums paid for 2011-12: \$47,775.

Current amount available in the fund for future repairs (as of May 15): \$27,844.

As of May 15, 48% of the available insurance pool has been used for non-warranty repairs. Once student laptops are collected, there will likely be a decrease in the available funds for 2012-13.

The \$65 insurance premium for 2012-13 is the same as that charged in all Eastern PA 1:1 Consortium schools. However, Salisbury is the only district with a \$50 deductible. (Other districts charge \$100.) The high percentage of premium funds available indicates that students have done a very good job of caring for their laptop computers.

Note: Since our computer technicians are Apple certified, we are able to do our own repairs. When we do a warranty repair, Apple credits us \$33. As of May 15, we have received \$3,031 in credits for completing our own warranty repairs. These funds are credited to the repair account and used to cover the District costs incurred beyond the deductible (\$50) for each non-warranty repairs.

VII. Parent Workshops

Themes:

- The majority of parents responding to the survey did not attend a parent workshop.
- Parents suggested future workshop topics and alterations to the workshop concept:
 - college study skills
 - online safety and security
 - how to monitor student use of laptop computers
 - Falcon Apps
 - MAC basics
 - Skype
 - Copyright
- rename the program “Community Workshops” and invite seniors into the schools to see student learning first hand and engage with students

VIII. Insurance/Technical Support

Themes:

- Nearly all parent responses described insurance/premium fees and payment plans as fair.
- Two responses described the program as a financial burden on the family.
- One response asked to see an accounting of insurance premium/repair funds.
- When shared, parents spoke positively of the technical support provided to their children by the building computer technician.

For 2012-13, it is recommended the board reduce the annual insurance premium from \$65 to \$50. An insurance premium of \$50 provides an insurance pool in excess of amount available for 2011-12. With a \$50 premium, the insurance pool will be sufficient to cover anticipated non-warranty repairs in the 2012-13 school year. It is recommended the deductible remain at \$50 per non-warranty repair for 2012-13.

IX. Other - Quotes from students, teachers and parents

- This year I learned how much potential I have when entering college as an Electronic Media Major.
- Computers helped me with my writing because I feel like I can express my thoughts easier through a computer rather than a paper and pencil.
- This school year the laptops helped my learning experience because I got the chance to look up information I did not know about a subject while doing a project on it.
- I enjoyed having laptops. If I could not understand what the teacher was talking about, I could research it myself. I think this is why some of my class grades went up.
- I like having the computer with me at all times, and if I need to look something up, I can quickly pull up my laptop and do so.
- My most memorable learning experience this year was to realize that I am a visual learner and that the laptops really helped me a lot. I was able to analyze graphs at my own pace and I was able to look over notes at my own pace. Now I know the ways I learn easier and quicker.
- The most memorable learning experience for me this school year was having the computer. It really helped us with studying and doing homework. It was a good experience, too, because it feels like you are in college with having your own laptop going around the campus area and

taking it home. And you don't have to worry about not being able to save your work. You can continue to work on stuff you were doing during school hours.

- My most memorable learning experience was getting a laptop this year. I feel more independent by having the responsibility of having my own laptop.
- I think having the laptops this year made my school year so much easier. It made it easier because we didn't have to carry all the books like previous years and I loved being able to just type up all my notes. I had the ability to save all my notes in a folder and know they're there, instead of losing all the paper in my binder all the time. I learned a lot of new things involving projects and everything like that, which made earning points in class so much easier. I definitely enjoyed most of my classes a lot more because it was easier to follow along in class because I had everything right in front of me on my laptop.
- I believe the laptops have honestly been a great choice to add to our learning experience. The only two things that have been a problem are 1. Restrictions - Way too many. I believe some sites should be unblocked during Falcon Period because often I may not have any homework and nothing else to do. 2. Hardware - The laptops need to be updated, especially at the end of the year. I frequently get the "black screen" and sometimes I lose work. Besides these two issues, laptops have been great. I think teachers just need to find the right balance between laptops and regular paper and pencil. Most have by this time, but some use laptops for the whole class or don't use it at all.
- I do like using my laptop in class...I find them valuable. When a teacher/paper mentions something I am not familiar with, I often Google the phrase to teach myself the meaning. I often learn more and make more connections with the computers in front of me than I would without them.
- While I enjoy the ways in which teachers have adapted their classes to new technology, I do not appreciate what I view as the over-use of technology. I feel, in some classes, I would be learning the same amount or more without the new laptops.
- I have struggled this year with the laptops becoming a distraction both in class and when I try to complete homework at home.
- I really like having a laptop at all times to open homework or classwork files no matter where I am. It is also SO MUCH easier to do work at home having a laptop specifically for school with all of the programs (Garage Band, Keynote, Pages) needed to complete any type of project we are working on in school.
- This school year was easier than last year overall. The laptops really helped, but they were a distraction too. Overall, I think laptops were easier to learn on. For example, in Chem class we had notes on Moodle, so we could access the notes whenever we wanted to just in case we forgot to write something important. I also like reading the daily announcement on Falcon Apps. It was also great communicating with friends on Skype. Even though it was a distraction, it helped me when I didn't understand something.
- The most memorable learning experience this school year was when I got the laptop at the beginning of the year. It was a great time using the laptops. I really liked when we would go on Mangahigh and Study Island. Besides the laptops, I enjoyed collaborating with students in Social Studies. We got to do plays, fun projects. I enjoyed going on field trips such as Bake Oven Knob. I learned a lot of things from that field trip. Those are the most memorable learning experiences this school year.
- I think having the laptops has really been a great experience for school. In this way, I can access programs I am working on in school at home, which I didn't always have before. It's also nice having online textbooks and the ability to easily share information about projects and assignments through Falcon Apps.

- My students' learning experiences have been enriched by the availability of laptops in every way. I thank the school district for the courage to work through the rough spots that go along with making the internet available to every student all the time. My colleagues, however, are often fearful or nervous about using technology in class. The district would benefit from professional development that continues to expose teachers to evidence that technology increases engagement, enhances students' development of thought processes.
- My son uses Skype to work on projects with team members. He also used Skype and the computer to design/develop tickets for a lock-in with another student council member. He frequently uses Skype to work on homework issues with other students. They work on these projects during school breaks, Saturdays, Sundays -- the alternative would have been to work on it during class time. By using their personal time doing something "fun" they are more prepared when they walk into the classroom and don't realize the continued learning opportunities experienced.
- I am grateful to be in a district that offers the laptops. I tell my children they have unlimited access to so many things now and how fortunate they are. If they don't know an answer, they can look it up very easily.