

Elmira City School District



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Seventh Graders at Broadway Academy Pilot a 1:1 Device Program

Images: (see attached)

ELMIRA, NY, October 4, 2017 – How Cool is Your School? Newly introduced 1:1 devices are providing seventh graders at Broadway Academy a leg-up on how technology can innovate their educational experience. As part of a larger district objective to introduce technology as a tool for learning, Elmira City Schools launched a 1:1 device pilot program to all seventh graders at Broadway Academy at the beginning of this academic year and will spend the year training teachers and students on the new technology.

“Our students today will be entering a world where technology is all around them. From doctor’s appointments to receipts at the grocery store, we are surrounded by software systems that make up our world. It is our responsibility to prepare our students for the modern environment they will be entering,” says Kelley Batrowny, Supervisor of School Innovation at the Elmira City School District.

Made by Bak USA in Buffalo, NY, each Broadway Academy student was provided an *Atlas Hybrid Device* (between a laptop and tablet) with Microsoft 365 software installed to supplement their work in the classroom. From team collaboration, to taking classroom notes and drawing, the technology is integrated into their daily experience. Students carry their device throughout the day, from classroom to classroom, and leave it in school until the next day (devices currently do not go home with students). Teachers are able to create mobile laboratories, digitize curricula, and streamline content online and offline while advancing technology skills necessary for their success.

“We believe that collaboration is fundamental for student learning and that everyone deserves a safe and accepting learning environment. Every student is provided a device and this levels the playing field for inclusion of all students. We also believe that the educational experience must prepare students with the skills to be career and college ready,” says Batrowny.

“As educators, our job is to prepare students to be progressive leaders. And that means providing tools that simulate our ever-changing global world. Digital literacy is a necessary skill for success,” continues Batrowny.

“This technology plan not only responds to the demands of our modern world, but also is a lucrative investment for the district. We were able to reallocate resources within the technology budget to replace stand-alone computers with these tablets. It was a major cost savings all the while supporting the needs of our students,” says Bob Bailey, Principal at Broadway Academy.

“Of course, safety of our students is our number one priority whether that be in our brick and mortar schools or a digital educational environment. We have deployed the same security system, with filtered internet and other parameters, which our traditional computers has. We are able to monitor online activity and keep our students on track,” says Bailey.

There are many benefits to the new tool including affirmative assessment, or the ability for a classroom teacher to evaluate student learning in real time during a lesson. Seventh graders in Elmira are among the first to have individual devices and the district plans to assess the initiative and expand to other grades in the coming years.

About the Elmira City School District

The Elmira City School District is a dynamic and innovative learning organization dedicated to developing learners of character who value their educational experience and can compete globally and contribute locally by collaborating with students, families, and community partners to provide meaningful opportunities in a safe and engaging environment for all.

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