Classroom Management in 1:1 Classrooms

Dr. Bruce Spitzer, Dean and Associate Professor of Education Quincy University, School of Education

1:1 and BYOD

- 1:1 one device for every student in the room
 - · Usually school-supplied, uniform, controlled
- BYOD Bring Your Own Device
 - Multitude of possibilities: full-power laptops to smartphones, iPads, iPods, tablets, etc.
 - Student/family-supplied

Digital Divide

- The Have-lots v. the Have-nots
- BYOD: this is a critical issue to address. Some students will bring a top-of-the-line MacBook Pro (\$2,500); others will bring a 10" tablet purchased on eBay for \$3.99 (shipping included!).
- Any discussion of digital divide should also include discussion of broadband Internet access outside the school/inside the home. A device without access is severely weakened.

Defense v. Offense

John Seely Brown (2001) "Learning is a remarkably social process. In truth, it occurs not as a response to teaching, but rather as a result of a social framework that fosters learning."

- The best defense is a great offense . . . that is, what's going on IN the classroom must be more engaging that what's happening ON the Internet
- Your lesson planning/technology integration skills must be at their peak prime!

Before Student Arrive

- Technical support in place . . . what to do WHEN something goes wrong
- Room arrangement to foster learning
- Device location when not in use/where and when battery charging takes place
- · Spares as needed

Technical Support

- · Communication strategies for network outages
- Communication strategies for device spare deployment
- · Communication strategies for repairs

Room Arrangements

- Room set up to foster "work" not "listening"
- Clusters, double-V or double-U
- Lab arrangements to facilitate demonstration and teacher sight lines.
- Rows that can't be rearranged? Teach from back of room.

Charging Stations

- Obviously in new construction, this is an easier fix: lockers with outlets and charging capabilities in classrooms.
- In retro-fitting, look for safety-first power strips (fused, surgeprotected).
- · Many devices can last a whole day without recharging

Spare Devices

- In a school-supplied 1:1 environment, a small set of extras can be available for the inevitable crash
- In BYOD environments, spares are more difficult.
 - The spares should not be 'better' than usual

CRM Software Solutions

- The depth and breadth of applications to assist with managing a lab is deep and wide.
- One resource for discernment: http://www.capterra.com/classroom-management-software/
- Filters for
 - Attendance Management
 - Blank Student Monitors
 - Class Summary
 - Collaboration
 - Grade Book

- Individualized Assessments
- Lesson Plan Management
- · Screen Activity Recording
- Test Building
- View Student Monitors

Fundamental Challenge:

returning off-task learners to task

- develop a "signal" to students to raise both hands in the air;
 those slower to raise hands are checked more carefully
- lower/close lids or devices face down
 - (9" x 12" felt rectangle is \$0.25 if you're worried about scratches)

5 Strategies for Success

1. Set clear expectations

- State the obvious
 - class syllabus
 - letter home to parents
 - first few class sessions
- Training and re-training as needed

2. Recognize problem signs

- You can't expect 100% engagement 100% of the time
- Signs to watch for
 - Screen tipped forward or device on lap
 - Frequent looks to "minimize" corner when you're near or walk by
 - Tell-tale sounds of activity
- Try lots of impromptu partner sharing

3. Be flexible

- There are many ways to accomplish the same task
- There are many times a device might be used
- Develop a system
 - Red Time: No devices needed/allowed
 - Yellow Time: apps as needed
 - Green Time: any apps except games and social media

4. Change roles

- Try hosting an "app" party where students demo personal favorites
- Try a "new skill" lab where students demo skills in known applications they've discovered
- If you see a student doing something innovative, use that teachable moment!

5. Redirect as needed

- It happens, and you have to deal with it
 - Speak with the student after class
 - Speak in class so others see and learn
 - Have student write an email to parents explaining poor choice/inappropriate behavior
 - Close lid/isolate device; suspend Green Time use

5 More Strategies for Success

1. Use a Learning Management System (LMS)

- Schools may already have one (Moodle, PowerSchool, etc.)
- Others are available online for free (Google Classroom, Schoology, Haiku Learning)
- A 24/7 presence available to students and parents.
- A place to store resources

2. Develop a classroom AUP

- Districts and buildings probably have a standard AUP
- What are the rules inside your classroom?
- Allow students input on the rules creation process
- Allow students input on consequences

3. Embrace "The Cloud"

- Anything that can be accomplished with a free web-based app helps bridge the digital divide
- Google Apps for Education is an alternative to MS Office.

4. Be a Life-Long Technology Learner

- Shed the "if I don't know, I won't go" mentality.
- Embrace your technology-neophyte-ness and admit to your students you don't know. Look for opportunities where your students can teach you something.
- Commit to your own personal professional development plan outside of training and development offered by your district.

5. Integrate digital citizenship in your classroom

- If students are to become good citizens of the digital world, we must teach them digital civics.
- Find inspiring messages on YouTube to share.
- Integrate The Do Lectures (www.thedolectures.com) to get students thinking about the world around them and the world outside their own.

And Finally

- The classroom management skills you've developed over years of teaching are not automatically null and void.
- You didn't have to start over when every student in your classroom was given a pencil and a blank sheet of paper.
- The device is just today's new tool.