

HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
Focus on Learning: Using Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning

PURPOSE: The purpose of this report is to inform the Governing Board of some of the ways technology is being used to enhance teaching and learning in our schools.

BACKGROUND: For over a decade, the *Information Economy Initiative (IEI)* and the *Information Economy Initiative—Extended (IEI—E)* have helped provide classrooms and learning spaces with computers, peripherals, software, technical support and professional development. In the Halifax Regional School Board a variety of professional development opportunities have been developed in collaboration with school staff. These centralized and school based approaches facilitate professional development with the aim of using technology to enhance teaching and learning.

CONTENT: This report will highlight how technology based initiatives enhance classroom teaching and learning with a focus on Google for Education.

COST: N/A

FUNDING: Funding for IEI-E is provided by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

TIMELINE: N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the Governing Board accept this Focus on Learning: Using Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning report for information.

COMMUNICATIONS:

AUDIENCE	RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
Governing Board	Alexander MacDougall / Mario Eleftheros / Alison King	March 30, 2016

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To: Governing Board - March 30, 2016



Using Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning

March 30, 2016

Technology Integration Lead Team (TILT)

Members

Mario Eleftheros

Alexander (Sandy) MacDougall



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TILT

Role

Assist teachers as they use technology as one of their many resources to enhance their teaching and their students' learning.



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TILT

Funding

Information Economy Initiative-Extended (IEI-E)

Halifax Regional School Board

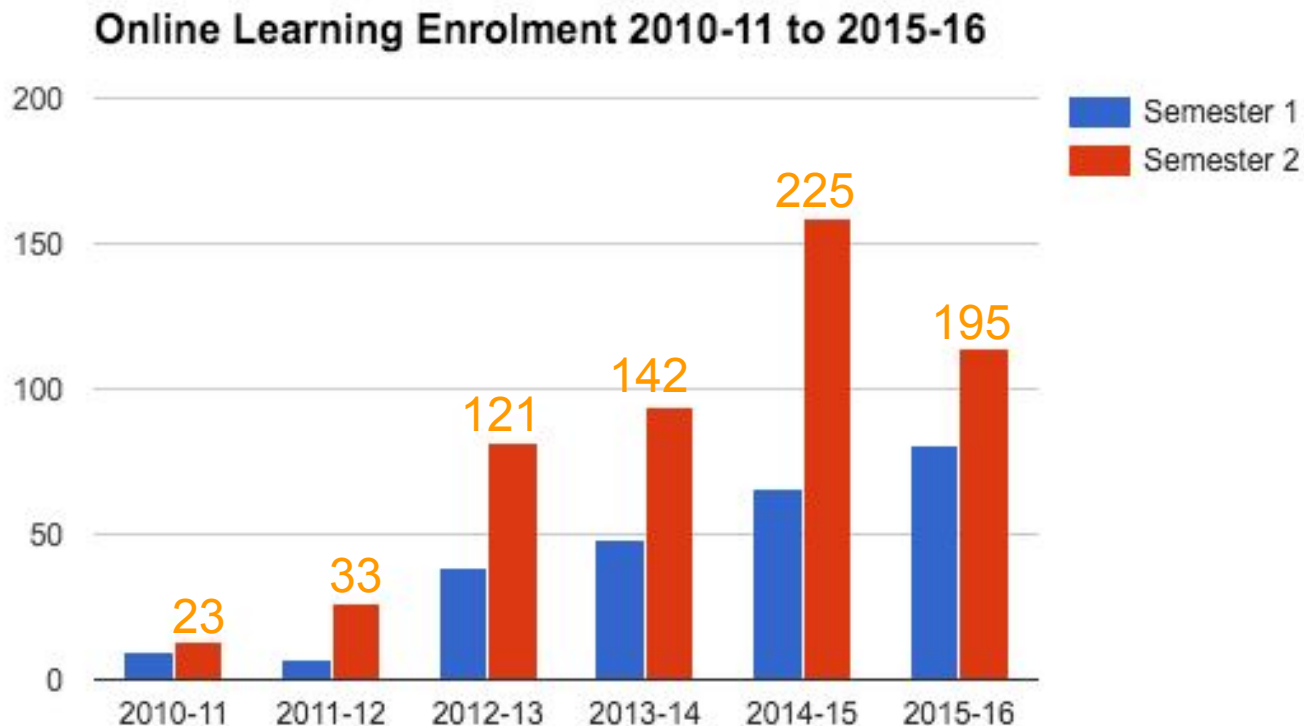


TILT

Support and Initiatives

- PD - One-on-one, Small group, Large group - in-class, pull-out
- Google for Education Lead Team (12 teachers)
- IEI-E Teachers (~90 Junior High Teachers)
- Innovation Day (120 teachers)
- Makerspace Day (45 teachers)
- Other Google Support

Nova Scotia Virtual Schools



Coding and Robotics

- Coding to be introduced as part of the Education Action Plan.
- Hour of Code interest has increased tremendously over the last 3 years
 - Nova Scotia had the 3rd highest participation rate in Canada.
- Coding in schools also includes:
 - Coding Clubs
 - Coding integrated into the curriculum
 - Makerspaces
 - Moving beyond coding websites to robotics such as



Makerspaces

- 5 schools
- Variety of funding
 - Brilliant Labs
 - School
 - Teacher
- Wide variety of materials

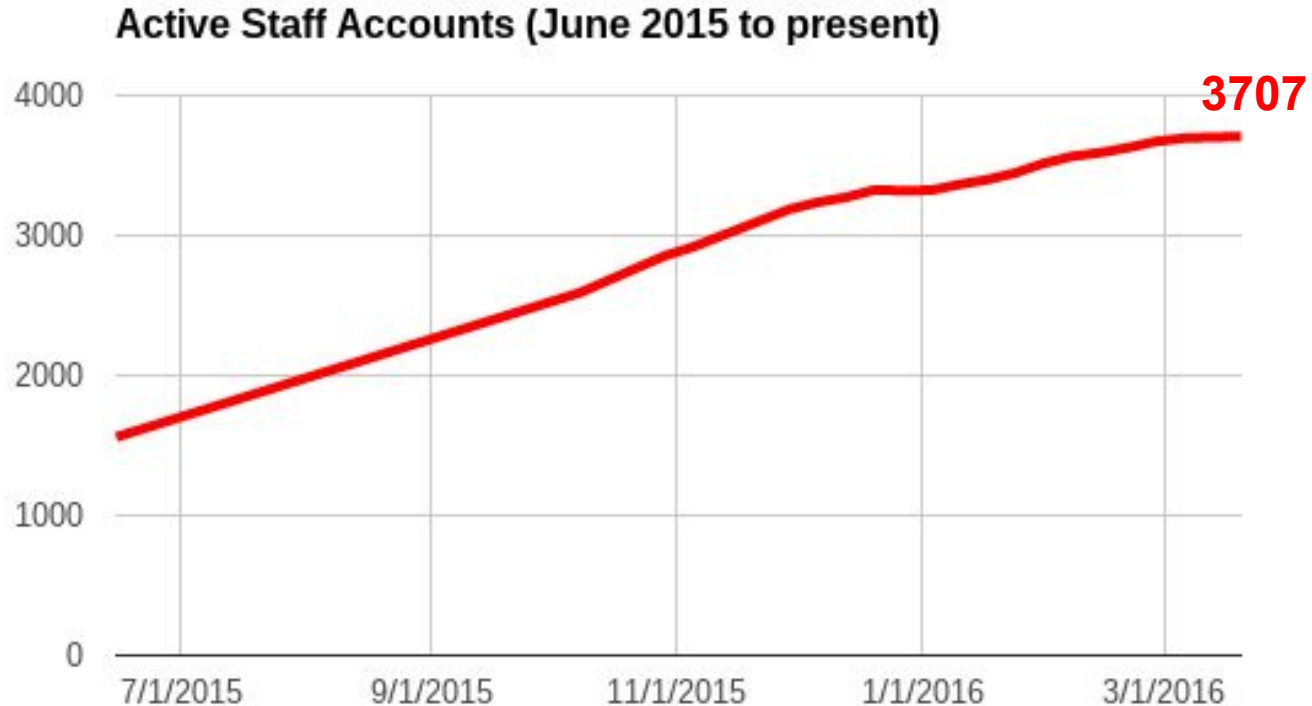
Makerspaces - Evolving & Growing...

- Carts added
- More schools
- Resources available on loan
- Additional funding/support from Brilliant Labs

The image features the Google logo in its signature multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, blue, green, red). Below the logo, the text "for Education" is written in a simple, grey, sans-serif font.

Google
for Education

Google for Education - Staff Accounts



Google for Education - Student Accounts

Active Student Accounts (June 2015 to present)



Google for Education - Benefits

Enhances and increases ability for students to collaborate

“Students give more authentic and meaningful revision suggestions to their classmates in a Google Doc. They feel more comfortable to share their ideas and ‘quality booster’ suggestions in a Comment box than they would in a spoken conversation with their classmates.”

-Jeff Henniger
Hillside Park Elementary School

Google for Education - Benefits

Enables teachers to provide real-time feedback to students

“With a real time view of student work I can give specific, individual feedback as soon as it is needed rather than waiting until work is 'done' and handed in. Final product quality has gone way up!”

-Lael Radkey
Oyster Pond Academy

Google for Education - Benefits

Heightens student engagement; provides a variety of ways to demonstrate learning

“Using Google in the classroom has improved student learning and elevated my learning and technology use in the class. Integrating this within the curriculum was seamless and elevated student’s understanding and ability to demonstrate their learning in multiple ways.”

-Laura Kennedy
Sir Charles Tupper Elementary School

Google for Education - Benefits

Faster turnaround for teacher assessment

“Google Classroom is invaluable in helping me keep up with day to day assessment for 13 classes. I can receive homework and give prompt feedback to the students. Classroom helps the students stay organized. It aids in communication with parents as well.”

-Janet Landrigan
Cunard Junior High



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