

# Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools

## Impact portraits: Success stories with Google for Education

In 2011, Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools (CFEVS) took a big step toward their goal of helping teachers and students cultivate real-world 21st century skills by introducing Google Workspace for Education to the district. While teachers worked towards a goal of becoming 100 percent Google Certified Innovators, students began experimenting with self-directed learning or simply creating their own original work. Combined with support from technology specialists like Nancy Kevern to make teachers comfortable with Google Workspace for Education, and later Chromebooks, Chagrin Falls is now a school district where over 90 percent of students say Google tools improve the quality of their school work.

### District facts (Public school district)



#### Total district enrollment

2,011 Students  
136 Teachers



#### Grades served

K>12



#### Number of schools

4 Total (1 Elementary school, 1 Middle school, 1 Intermediate school, 1 High school)



#### Students grade level

**Grade 3-12:** Take devices home during the school year  
**Grade 6-11:** Take devices home over the summer  
**Grade K-12:** Are using Google Classroom and Google Docs  
**Grade 1-12:** Begin using Google Slides in 1st grade  
**Grade 2-12:** Begin using Google Drive in 2nd grade  
**Grade 4-12:** Begin using Google Calendar in 4th grade  
**Grade 5-12:** Begin creating Google Sites and using Gmail in 5th grade



#### Ethnicity

94% White  
2% Two or more races  
2% Hispanic/Latino  
1% Black/African American  
1% Asian



#### Free/reduced price lunch

9% of students qualify



#### Google tools

2,400 Chromebooks  
3 years using Chromebooks  
4 years using Google Workspace for Education  
100% Students using Google Workspace for Education

### Why Chromebooks

99% of students report that they use their Chromebook to search for information related to their classes at CFEVS.

The district saved 100,000 sheets of paper per year switching to Chromebooks and a paperless system.

Around 75 percent of student time on Chromebooks at CFEVS is spent accessing academic resources.


## Results

After the adoption of Chromebooks, district leaders noticed more original work from students across the district. Teachers made more lessons and projects that required students to collaborate and share outside of their classrooms, and several teachers reported they got new ideas for teaching their subjects with technology from students. Chagrin Falls leveraged Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education to close the digital use divide, the separation between students who use technology to transform learning from those students who use technology to complete similar learning activities with the aid of a digital device. Overall, the skills the district wanted to foster the most, what they call the “Great Techspectsations” of collaboration, adaptation, research, creativity, critical thinking and communication, are more prevalent than ever.

 Collaboration

 Adaptation

 Critical thinking

 Communication

 Creativity

 Research

### In May of 2016, District students were asked about using Google Workspace for Education in their classes

92%

of students say Google tools have had a positive impact on the quality of their schoolwork, with 26% saying the impact is “huge”

89%

of students report Google products have had a positive effect on their ability to collaborate every day, with 38% saying the impact is “huge”

85%

of students report that Google products had a positive impact on the pace at which they are able to move through their lessons, with 31% saying the impact is “huge”

81%

of students say their original work is shared outside of their classroom to a larger audience

79%

of students report that Google tools have helped their teachers to provide them with more meaningful feedback, with 28% saying the impact is “huge”

76%

of students report they create original work (other than presentations) in their classes at least monthly, with 49% reporting they do so at least weekly

72%

of students report they make original presentations at least once a month, with over 34% of saying that they do so at least weekly

68%

of students say they collaborate with other students using Google Workspace for Education weekly, with 30% saying they collaborate every day

99%

of students report that they use their Chromebook to search for information related to their classes

68%

of students regularly submit classwork through Google Classroom or Google Drive

64%

of students use Google Calendar to help them manage their school schedules and assignments



## The power of simple Chromebook deployment

After using Google Workspace for Education for several years and piloting programs with carts of other options including tablets and netbooks, district leaders recognized Chromebooks were the right devices for the future. They could even make the entire district more eco-friendly, eliminating the need to print thousands of documents. “We saved somewhere around 100,000 sheets of paper a year just from that. Teachers told me they haven’t used the copy machine since the first day,” says Mike Daugherty, Director of Technology and Information Systems at Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools.

The District took up the challenge of integrating Google Workspace for Education with Chromebooks, the final piece of the puzzle, in 2013. With the support of 20 volunteers using Google Sheets, they distributed 1,100 Chromebooks with deployment wait times of less than five minutes throughout the day. It sent a powerful message to the entire school community that collaboration with Google Workspace for Education would power the district in the future, working seamlessly with the tools they already had. It also saved time. Despite increasing the number of devices in the district by a factor of more than two, Daugherty spends significantly less of his time managing devices. “I can spend a lot more time on other initiatives, thinking ahead, helping teachers integrate,” he says.



of content accessed is purely educational even while keeping the internet open

## Building a culture of technology

After rolling out Chromebooks 1:1 for their students, Chagrin Falls saw positive (and some unexpected) outcomes across the school. “Parents now fill out Google Forms when a child is sick instead of sending a note. The football teams use Drive to share videos. It’s not how we told them to use it, it’s just how it happened,” says Daugherty. Students took full advantage of increased opportunities for collaboration and authentic learning with their Chromebooks. That’s backed up by the school’s data from GoGuardian, which found that around 75 percent of student time on Chromebooks is spent accessing academic resources. Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education usage foster a community of creators within the Chagrin Falls student base, honing skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. Enthusiasm among the students is up as well. One first grader was so clear in her explanation of how to use the technology, the school recorded her and posted her tutorial for students and parents. One CFEVS parent reported: “We no longer have a nightly battle to do homework. My student comes home, opens up his Chromebook, and does his work. It’s great!”



20 volunteers distributed



1,100 Chromebooks



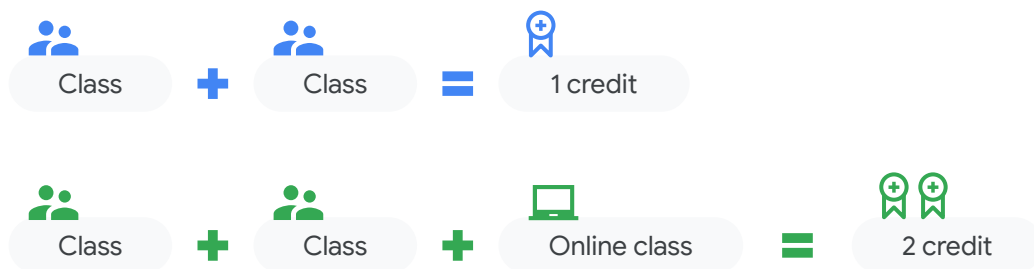
<5 minutes Wait times

## Giving students more

Chagrin Falls used Google Workspace for Education and Chromebooks to expand the existing curriculum for eager pupils. District middle school students take two years of world languages earn one high school credit; because the middle school French and Spanish teachers found Google Classroom to be so intuitive, they created an online class for advanced students. Students can move at their own pace through a third year of Spanish or French in Google Classroom, leaving middle school with two years of world language credits. In other classrooms, students use Soundcloud to record themselves practicing foreign languages or music for regular assessments on their progress.

## Welcoming global students

Using the Translate and Research tools in Google Docs helped the District fully integrate students with limited English proficiency. In 2014, a Syrian refugee enrolled in the seventh-grade. He had limited English proficiency and technology skills. The technology integration coach immediately set the student up with his Chromebook. While neither the student nor the coach spoke the other's language, they were able to communicate right away using the Google Docs Translate feature. Google tools opened up avenues of communication that otherwise would not exist. As Daugherty puts it, "Thanks for making education awesome again. We can see Chromebooks making a difference."



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CFEVS parent

