

Situbondo District provides equal access to education with technology



About Situbondo

Situbondo District is located in East Java Province, Indonesia. Geographically, this district is divided into three zones: west, central, and east. The Bureau of Education (BOE) of Situbondo is in charge of 1.348 schools and 115.914 students from public kindergartens, elementary, and junior high schools in Situbondo.

Background

Situbondo District has a goal to create equal access to education with technology and prepare high-quality talents for the future. In 2017, with full support from the Regent, the BOE of Situbondo gradually implemented the Smart School program by adopting digital technology to enhance teaching and learning process.

Challenge

Schools in Situbondo are spread across cities and villages. From the BOE's perspective, creating equal access to education for all students was challenging because some schools had limited facilities and some areas had minimum infrastructure. For some students, it is difficult to go to school. In addition to that, another challenge faced by the BOE was teachers' capability to innovate and motivate students through engaging lessons, since teachers were used to the traditional teaching method.



Solution

To create better access to education, in 2017, the Regent together with the BOE started to equip selected schools with devices and platforms that support the learning process. [Chromebooks](#) were distributed to selected schools, and [Google Workspace for Education](#) accounts were assigned to all students and teachers. In addition, the BOE held a series of training sessions, starting at the district level and trickled-down to school level, to improve teachers' familiarity with these new tools.

Enhancing digital learning with Chromebook and Google Workspace for Education

The BOE selected three state middle schools as pilot schools that adopted digital learning. In total, more than 500 Chromebooks were distributed to SMPN 3 Besuki in the West Zone, SMPN 1 Situbondo in the Central Zone, and SMPN 1 Asembagus in the East Zone.

Chromebook is provided to each student at SMPN 1 Situbondo so that students can access high-quality and innovative learning resources. Using Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education, students can easily collaborate, learn independently, and adopt new digital skills.

For instance, when seventh-grade students at SMPN 1 Situbondo were assigned a project about democracy, they work in a team using [Google Slides](#), [Google Docs](#), and [Google Sites](#) to present their concepts and understanding as a team. These tools motivate students by providing engaging learning experiences. They learn quickly and develop hard and soft skills through designing websites and working in groups.

Teachers also take the advantage of Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education features to get their work done faster and easier. The Deputy Head Teacher for Curriculum Affairs, Budi Supriyanto, explained how Google Workspace for Education tools have changed the way teachers work. For instance, teachers can now work more efficiently and collaboratively when creating the lesson plans using Google Docs.

Empowering educators to deliver engaging lessons

The BOE has been working to improve teachers' digital competency by conducting training in stages, from the district to the school level.

Siti Aisyah, Head of the BOE, explained that teaching competence improved after teachers got used to



using Google Workspace for Education, "Learning becomes more fun and innovative now that video and audio can be used. It becomes more engaging and less tedious."

Technology has brought great impacts on students. "Since the learning process became more and more interactive, students found that learning can be enjoyable," added Siti Aisyah.

Making distance learning more visible and impactful

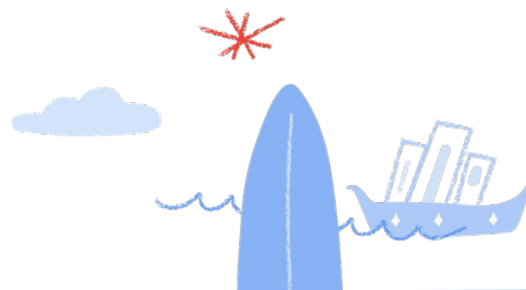
During the pandemic, students could easily learn from home as they are already familiar with these digital tools. Maintaining student achievement is feasible.

The BOE is able to monitor and evaluate students' activities and performance with centralized data control through the [Google Admin Console](#) during Distance Learning, for instance, the number of students accessing Google Classroom. Even though the schools are spread in urban and rural areas, all learning activities are able to be monitored and evaluated to establish plans and policies to improve and create equal education.



Summary

The BOE of Situbondo has progressed towards equal education through digital transformation. Through collaborative efforts with the schools, they will strive to create innovative and high quality education to prepare students for the future.



We will always strive to provide equal access to education through technology and develop skillful, future-ready talents.”

Siti Aisyah,
Head of the Situbondo BOE



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