Create, Connect & Engage

iPads in Middle School

Wausau School District

Educating for the future, one child at a time.

The Team

Middle School Administration Team

Horace Mann Principal

Dr. Robin Phelps

John Muir Principal

Angela Rodgers

John Muir Associate Principals

Hope Cameron

Angela Diener

Horace Mann Associate Principal

Robert Grzadzielewski

District Administration Team

Assistant Superintendent of Academics

Dr. Katie Colwell

Interim Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Elizabeth Channel

Director of Technology & Media Services

Ralph Williams

Director of Secondary Education

Jon Tomski

K-12+ Instructional Technology Integration Team

Aaron Katzmarek

Abby Mattek

Melissa Piette

Stephanie Zingler

Accessibility Advocate

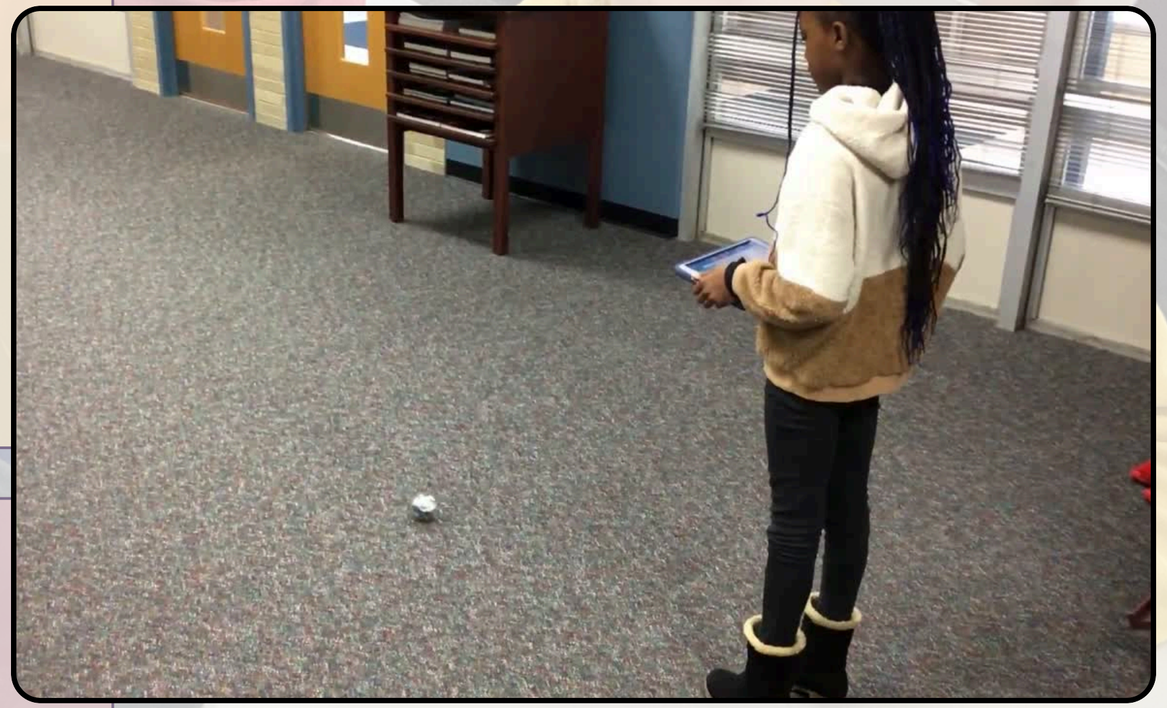
Jeremy Jaeger

WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE, ONE CHILD AT A TIME.

Teachers exploring and asking about iPads:

- Creativity
- Engagement
- Collaboration
- Student Feedback



Added Bonus:

- Security
- Breakages

“Digital” Know?

*iPads support growth with **ALL** 6-8th grade students by…*

- ***Integrating*** *District/State Curricular Resources*
- ***Igniting*** *Active Engagement*
- ***Cultivating*** *Creative Expression and personal preferences*
- ***Fostering*** *Access, Engagement and Belonging*
- ***Building*** *Foundational, Essential & Lifelong Technology Skills*

Not all “screen-time” is created equal.

*The importance of facilitating **Active** **vs** **Passive** **screen-time** is a common conversation with our building teachers & integrationists.*

The Goal

Operational Foundation

- iPad Durability
- Apple School Manager
- Security
- Apple Classroom

The Student Experience

Instructional Innovation

- Active Engagement
- Multi-modal learning
- Universal Tools for Access
- Student Choice

Intentionality

Connections

Organization, Written Communication, Learning & Teaching Workflows

	Chromebook	iPad
✍️ Annotation	Finger on Trackpad	On Screen - Direct (Finger or Stylus)
⌨️ Keyboarding Options:	Onscreen Through Trackpad	Onscreen, Split, Drag
🤳 Record a Selfie Reflection Video	***Yes	Yes
📹 Record a Back Facing Video	No	Yes
⌨️ Typing	Yes	Yes
🔊 Built in Ambient Music & Background Sounds	No	Yes
✍️ Sketch-noting ability	No	Yes

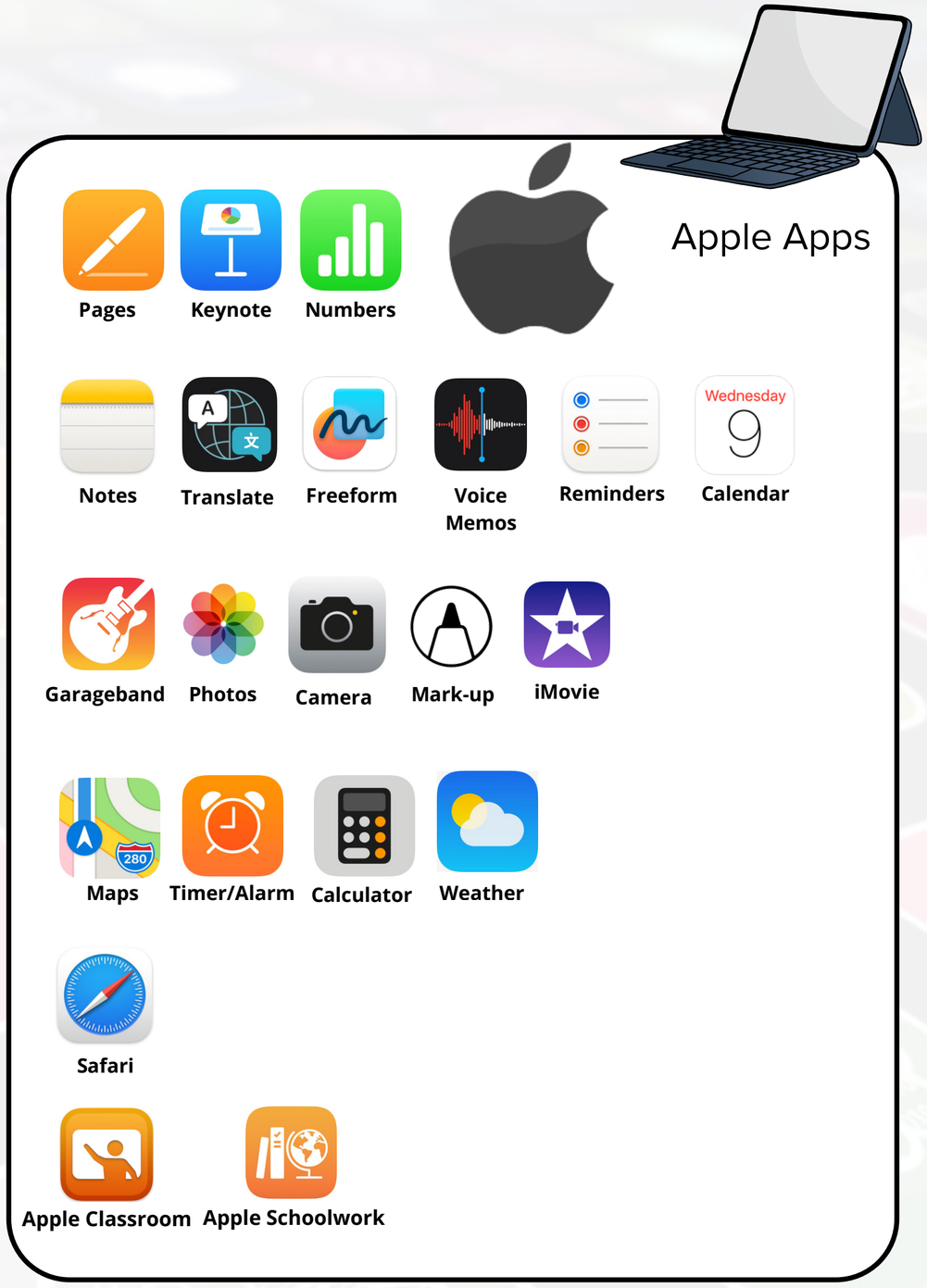
Creation & Learning Showcase Options

	Chromebook	iPad
✍️ Drawing	No	Yes
🎙️ Record a Podcast	No	Yes
🎼 Compose & Record Music	No	Yes
🤳 Video Reflection	Yes	Yes
📹 Forward and Selfie Videoing	No	Yes
🔊 Record Audio	Yes	Yes
📸 Screenshot	Yes	Yes

Universal Access, Executive Functioning & Accessibility Features

	Chromebook	iPad
🧠 *Cognitive Supports: Individualized to Device	No	Yes
🦽 **Physical Supports: Individualized to Device	No	Yes
🔘 Switch Control	Yes	Yes
👁️ Eye Control	Yes	Yes
🗣️ Voice Control	No	Yes
💻 Built in Screenreader	Yes - ChromeVox	Yes- VoiceOver
🔍 Zoom	No	
🌈 Color Filters	Yes	Yes
⚙️ Per App Settings	NA	Yes
Live Captioning with Transcript	Yes	Yes
Scan a Paper Document and Digitally Fill	No	Yes
Scan a Paper Document & Use Text To Speech to Read	No	Yes
Scan a Paper Document	No	Yes

Bridging Ecosystems



iPad Cost Analysis

iPad 11

iPad Cost of Ownership Per Unit Overview			
Item	**Category**	**Description**	**Amount**
iPad 11	Base Item	1:1 Device	$324.00
Keyboard Case	Base Item	1:1 Device	$82.71
MDM - Mobile Device Management	Base Item	Filewave Per Device per year is 4.88	$19.52
		TOTAL	***$426.23***
(4 Year) Buy Back	Buy Back	This is an estimate based on our experiences and JAMF & Diamond Asset's Data.	$145.00
		Total Cost of Ownership	***$281.23***

Chromebook Cost Analysis

Chromebook: CR1100

Chromebook Cost of Ownership Per Unit Overview			
Item	**Category**	**Description**	**Amount**
Chromebook	Base Item	1:1 Device	$304.00
Protective Case	Base Item	1:1 Device	$28.45
Google Management	Base Item	Google Device Management- Per Device Good For 10 Years	$29.55
		TOTAL	***$362.00***
(4 year) Buy Back	Buy Back	We part out Chromebooks at the end. Estimated return is based on JAMF & Diamond Assets Data	$0.00
		Total Cost of Ownership	***$362.00***

Investment Comparison

Chromebook vs iPad 4 year Cost of Ownership Overview			
Item	**Category**	**Description**	**Amount**
Chromebook	Base Item	1:1 Device	**$362.00**
iPad	Base Item	1:1 Device	**$281.23**
		Per Student iPad Savings over Chromebook	***$80.77***
		Total Net Savings: iPad vs. Chromebook	***$121,155.00***

Like the iPad refresh, we are suggesting to use the 2022 referendum funds designated for technology to purchase 1500 iPads ($486,000)and cases($124,065) for a total cost of $610,065

WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Staff Survey

Middle School staff were surveyed regarding the potential switch from Chromebooks to iPads

122 Certified Staff Took the Survey

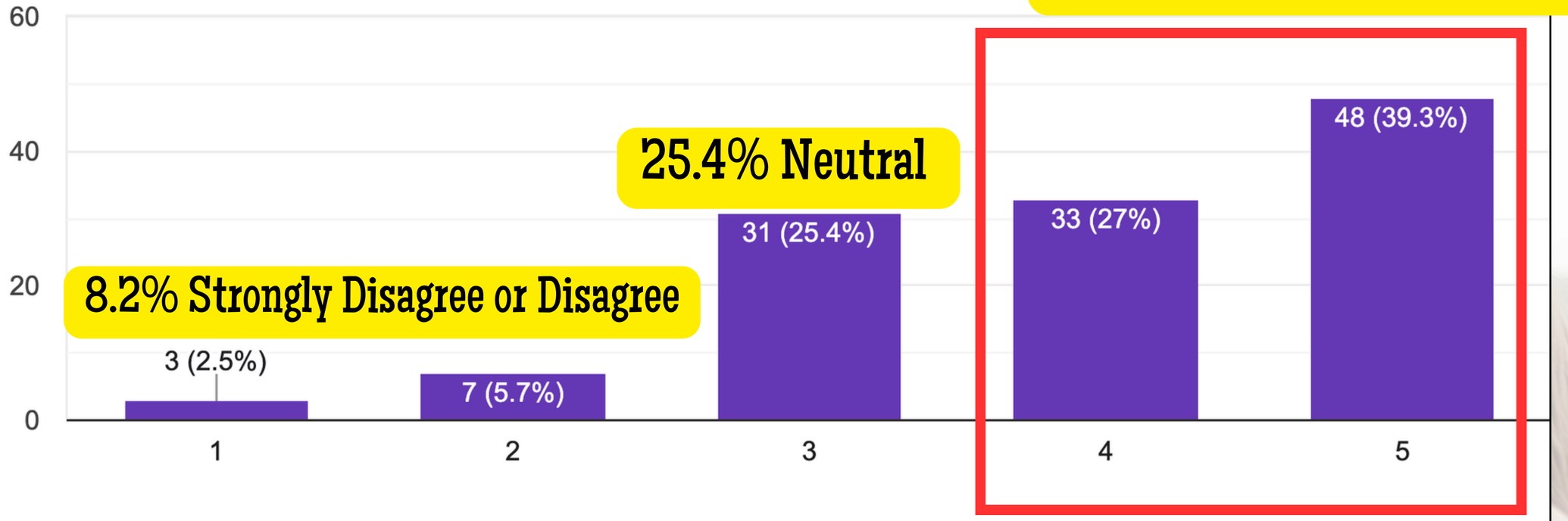
Big 3 Takeaways

- **High Engagement**
- **Ready to Grow**
- **Commitment to Professional Learning**

Teacher Survey Results

I support shifting from Chromebooks to iPads as the one-to-one device issued to middle school students.

122 responses



66.3% Strongly Agree or Agree

25.4% Neutral

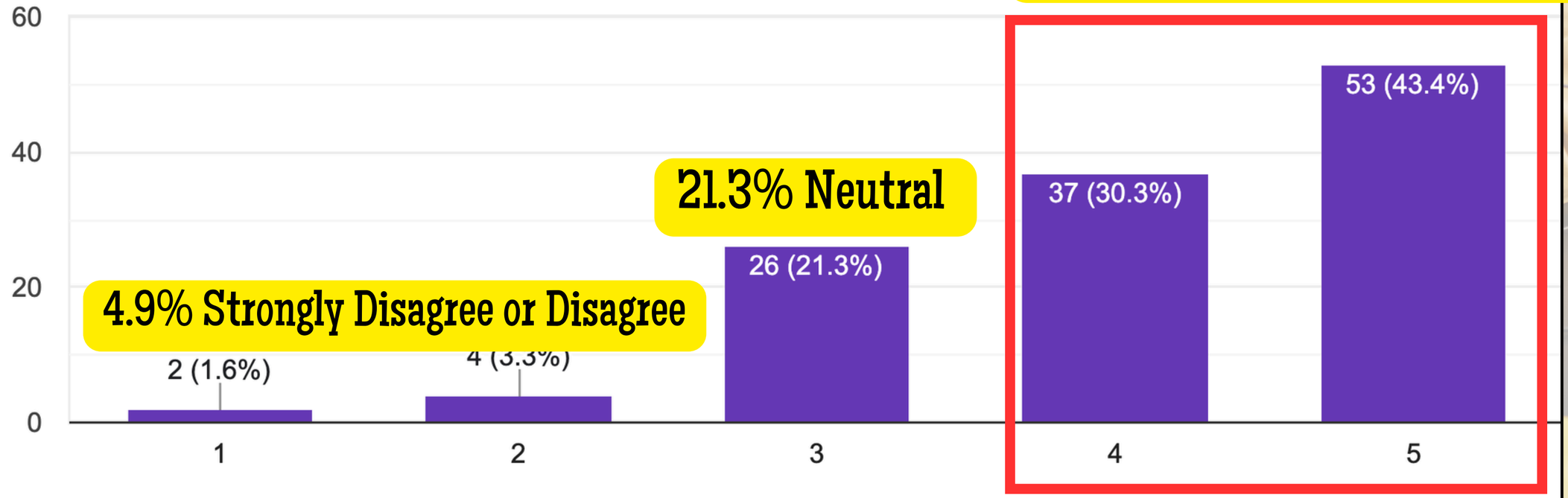
8.2% Strongly Disagree or Disagree

Agency

I feel ready to explore the new ways an iPad can enhance student learning.

122 responses

73.7% Strongly Agree or Agree



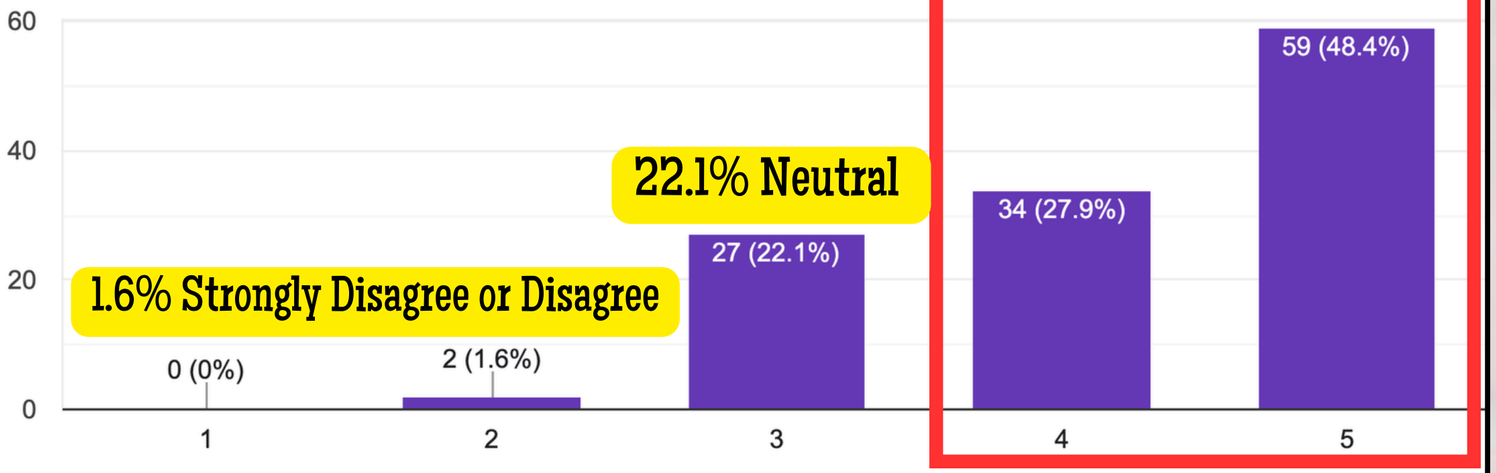
21.3% Neutral

4.9% Strongly Disagree or Disagree

Commitment to Training

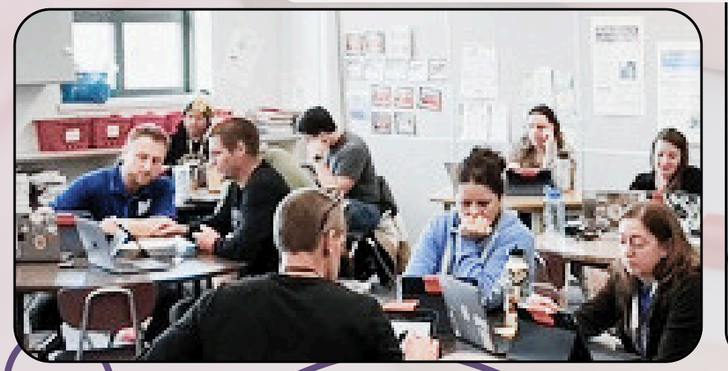
I understand this shift would require dedicated professional learning, and I would be ready to use this training to inform and adjust my teaching practice.

122 responses



Officer Kutchenriter learning about Pages and Keynote

Collaboration in Action: Teachers as learners

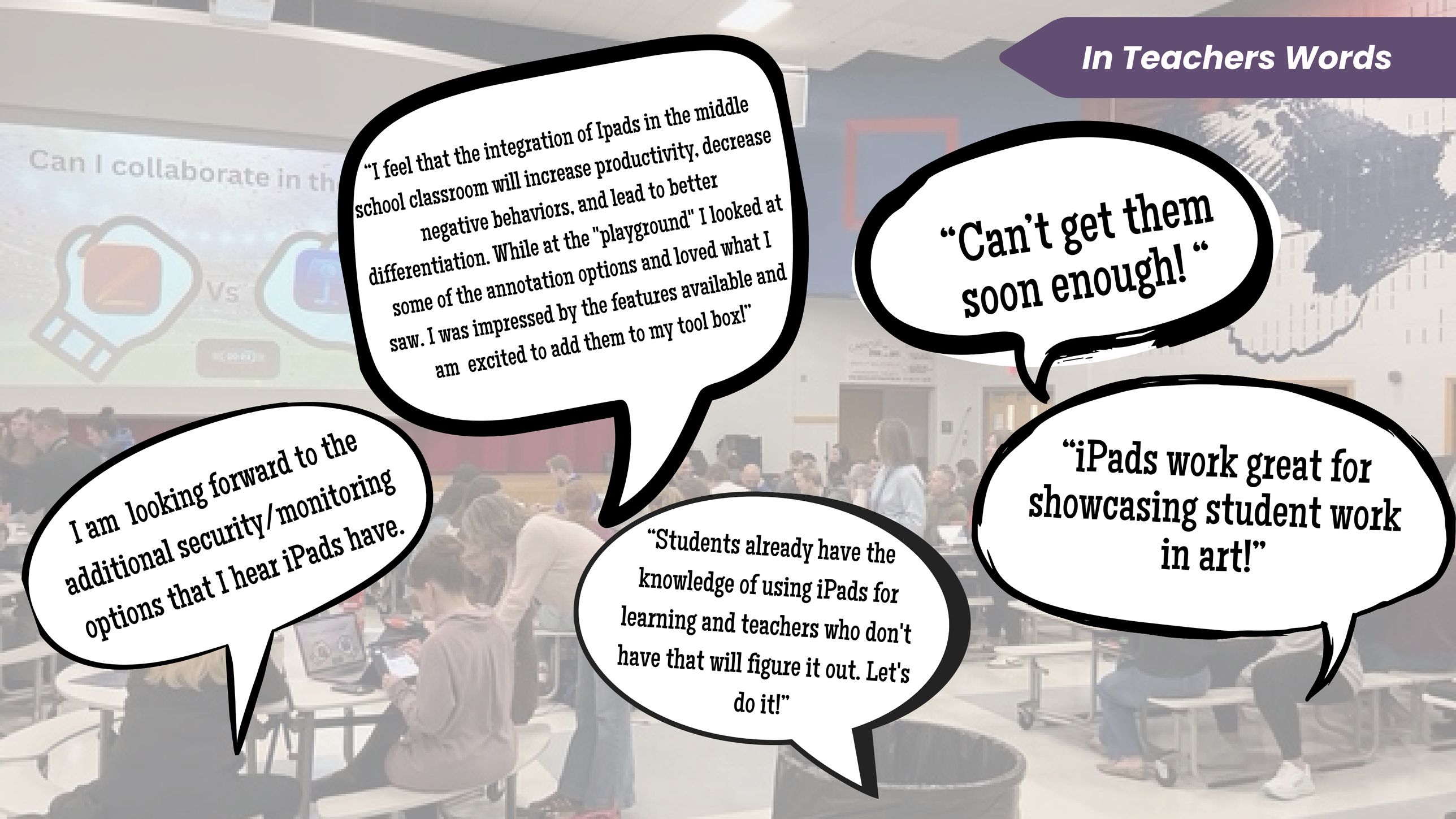


Shared Experience

Timeline & Topics of Our Learning

Date	Topics	Status
Jan 2026	Framing UP, Vision & Timeline! Foundations with iPad - Jigsaw iPad Badge	Completed
Feb 2026	iWork Accessibility Deep Dive Pages Badge & Sketchnoting	In progress
Feb 2026	Structure & Multimedia - Learning Journals Keynote Badge & Animations	In progress
Apr 2026	Multi-step task Organization & Show Me the Data! Numbers Badge & Annotation	Not started
May 2026	Creation! Audio! Video! Garageband, iMovie Badges	Not started
Aug 2026	Apple Classroom, Schoolwork and Canvas Student/Teacher Apps	Not started

In Teachers Words



"I feel that the integration of Ipads in the middle school classroom will increase productivity, decrease negative behaviors, and lead to better differentiation. While at the "playground" I looked at some of the annotation options and loved what I saw. I was impressed by the features available and am excited to add them to my tool box!"

"Can't get them soon enough! "

I am looking forward to the additional security/monitoring options that I hear iPads have.

"Students already have the knowledge of using iPads for learning and teachers who don't have that will figure it out. Let's do it!"

"iPads work great for showcasing student work in art!"

We are seeking a motion to approve the use of $610,065 from the 2022 referendum funds to purchase iPads for Horace Mann and John Muir Middle Schools.