



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

970 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302 www.op97.org ph: 708.524.3000 fax: 708.524.3019

**TO: Members, Board of Education
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

**FROM: Duane R. Meighan, Ed.D.,
Curriculum Coordinator for Elementary Schools**

RE: Kindergarten iPad Initiative

DATE: October 14, 2011

This report highlights the progress of the district's new Kindergarten iPad Initiative.

Attachments: Educational Applications and number of schools/carts

OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97
Oak Park, Illinois

October 12, 2011

Kindergarten iPad Initiative Update

Background

District 97 is currently implementing the second year of the technology plan. We continuously conduct research on the best ways to integrate technology into the curriculum to enhance instruction for all students. In the spring of 2011, it was determined that the district would implement the Kindergarten iPad initiative for all kindergarten students in an effort to enhance learning opportunities. The Kindergarten iPad initiative is seen by educators across the country as a “revolution in education.” The district continues to focus on 21st century readiness for every student as our students are operating in a new global economy that requires innovation. 21st century readiness skills include critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity and innovation.

Goals of the Kindergarten iPad Initiative include:

1. Advancing student literacy skills
2. Broadening student inquiry
3. Increasing technology skills and understanding

End Results/Outcome

All kindergarten students in District 97 will have access to proven and research based applications in an effort to accelerate learning at all academic levels. Teachers will integrate the iPads into instruction with high fidelity and receive ongoing support and professional development to continue to enhance their repertoire of teaching strategies.

Early Intervention focus for early grades (K-2)

Early Intervention is one of the critical key RtI (Response to Intervention) concepts that have been a major focus in District 97. The research is clear that the earlier that school systems intervene, the probability of students “falling through the cracks” in the later grades are remote. The primary focus of early intervention is to provide focused and immediate intervention to avert a cycle of academic failure as student’s transition to the intermediate grades (3-5). The implementation of the new district’s iPad initiative is one of many early intervention strategies that the district is implementing in an effort to advance student learning. RtI can also be managed more effectively in various ways from specific interventions to data collection.

Professional Development for Kindergarten Teachers

During the 2011-12 academic school year, Kindergarten teachers in District 97 will receive ongoing professional development as we move forward with the iPad initiative. Teachers will receive professional development in the following ways:

- Small group professional development with kindergarten grade level teams supported by the Elementary Technology Teacher Leader
- Grade Level Common planning time visits agreed on by schools and the Elementary Technology Teacher Leader
- Technology Teacher Leader will push into classrooms and model for teachers during literacy centers
- Conducting Classroom and school “learning visits” to observe how the iPads are being implemented during the literacy block

Measuring the effectiveness of the iPad Initiative

As we continue to implement the iPad initiative for all kindergarten students in District 97, it is critical that we measure the progress that students are actually making. Over the course of the academic school year, we will measure the effectiveness of this learning tool in the following ways:

- Applications tied to the common core standards that are repeated three times over the course of the school year, which will be used to assess student growth and areas for improvement. i.e. Doodle Buddy About Me
- Ongoing Progress Monitoring
- Review of districts benchmark assessments—Dibels (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills)—Initial Sound Fluency, Letter Naming Fluency, Phoneme Segmentation Fluency and Nonsense Word Fluency
- Direct Observation by the classroom teacher

Attachments: Educational Applications and Number of schools/carts

Educational Applications

The applications are organized by folders and will be used to support the Balanced Literacy Framework, Science, Social Studies and Mathematics. Applications are also connected to the new Common Core Standards.

Applications Installed –91 – Many of which will be used across curriculum

Curriculum Area	Highlighted Applications	App Folder/Page Locations
Reading Process	Word Wizard Words 1-100	ABCs, Sight Words, LA Skills, Creativity, Books, Web Mapping, Dock
Writing Process	iWrite Words IntroToLetters	ABCs, Sight Words, LA Skills, Creativity, StoryKit, Web Mapping, Dock
Science	Science360	Science, Dock, Photography, Web Mapping
Mathematics	Intro to Math Find Sums Number Find	Numbers, Addition, Creativity, Time, Art and Music, Videos, Money
World Language	iSabi	Espanol

The chart below highlights the number of schools and classrooms that will receive iPads for their kindergarten students.

Kindergarten iPad Initiative Numbers October 6, 2011

School	Classrooms	Students	Carts of iPads
Beye	3	47	1 cart of 20
Hatch	3	54	1 cart of 22
Holmes	4	77	1 cart of 30
Irving	4	80	1 cart of 30 + 1 extra
Lincoln	4	80	1 cart of 20, 1 cart of 12
Longfellow	5	92	1 cart of 20, 1 cart of 11
Mann	4	71	1 cart of 29
Whittier	8	63	2 carts of 20
Totals	11 carts, 240 iPads 1 iPad for every 3 Kindergarten students		

