Technology Update

Steve Ouellette
Director of Technology, Learning, and Innovation

1-1 Timeline

2013-14: Introduced 1-1 at high school

— 2014-15

— 2015-16: Piloted 1-1 in grade 8

— 2016-17: Added grades 7 and 8

2017-18: Added grades 5 and 6

2018-19: Planning to add grades 3 and 4

Note: Take home program in grades 6 - 12. In-school program in elementary.

- Shift from teacher-centered to student-centered
- Authentic learning experiences
- Personalized learning (blended learning)
- Productivity and organization
- Availability of online textbooks/resources
- Spontaneity
- College/career expectations
- Readiness of staff and students
- Inevitability

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Westwood's Vision for Instructional Technology

Technology facilitates learning that is challenging, engaging, and effective.

Westwood's Mission Statement for Instructional Technology

Westwood Public Schools envisions and effectively supports an environment where technology is integrated throughout the curriculum to facilitate student-centered, engaging, collaborative learning. All Westwood educators possess the mindset and skills – technological and pedagogical – necessary to facilitate student use of technology for critical thinking, responsible use, problem solving, and inquiry. Educators and students demonstrate initiative, independence, innovation, and persistence in their pursuit of the skills and competencies necessary to adapt to and thrive in an ever-changing society.

District policies and procedures reflect a solid understanding of the essential role of technology in the education of all students. The district ensures that technology-based tools, resources, and supports are equitably available for all students and staff and that the district's technology infrastructure is driven by the teaching and learning needs of the district's students and staff. The infrastructure is designed and implemented and continually assessed to serve the needs of individuals for flexible, powerful, and user-friendly technology tools, systems, and resources.

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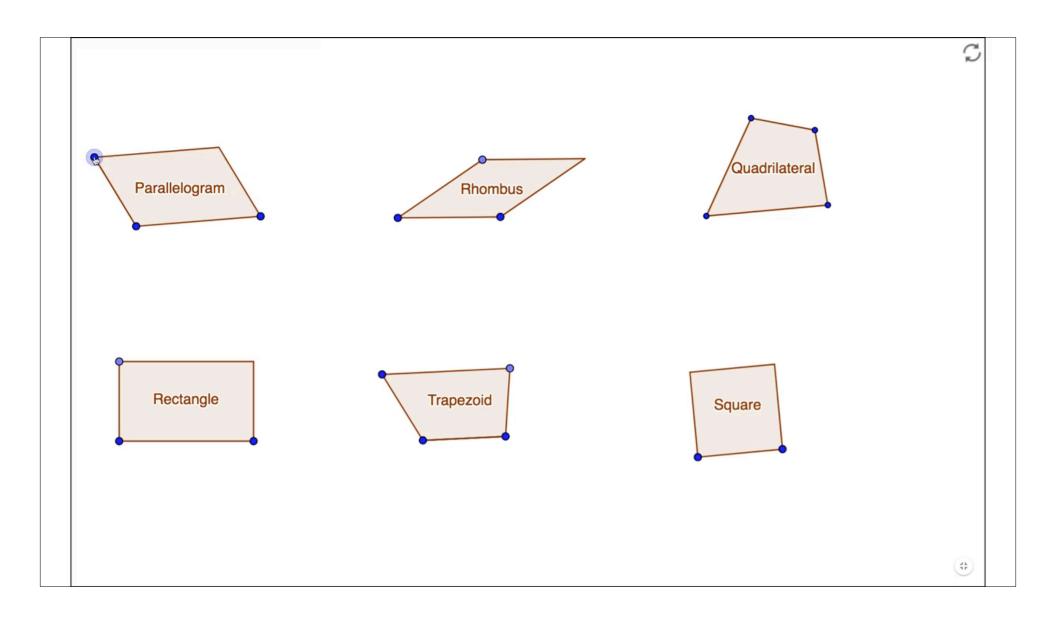
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Shift from teacher-centered to student-centered

<u>Traditional Instruction</u>: The teacher finds, packages, and delivers content to students.

<u>Contemporary Instruction</u>: Students are asked a question and use available resources to research, define, and construct knowledge.

- Fosters student agency/independence
- Much higher retention rates
- Promotes critical thinking, problem solving skills

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Responsible Use for All Students

- 2nd Grade
 - Internet safety education
- 5th Grade
 - In development
- 6th Grade
 - Currently part of health and wellness
 - Plan to expand and make part of X-Block/Advisory next year
- Freshman Seminar
 - Once per 8-day cycle during the fall semester

Parent Engagement

- 1-1 Orientation for parents at Thurston Middle School
- Evening presentations/panel discussions
- Parent access to Securly, our Chromebook filtering solution

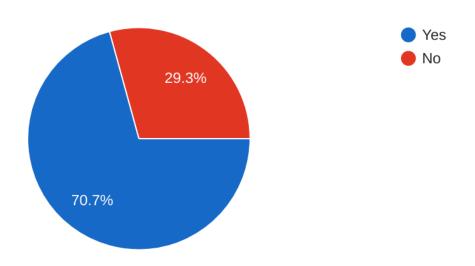
securly://

Parents receive weekly email reports about their child's at-home browsing activity

Access to the Securly portal to generate custom reports & manage restrictions at home

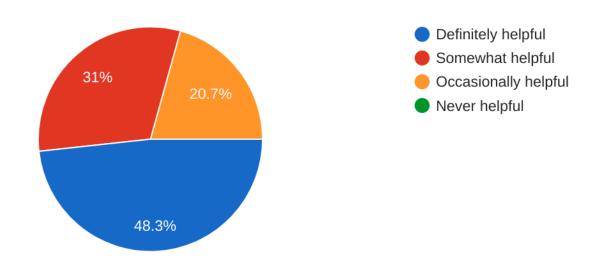
Parent Securly Survey - Email Reports

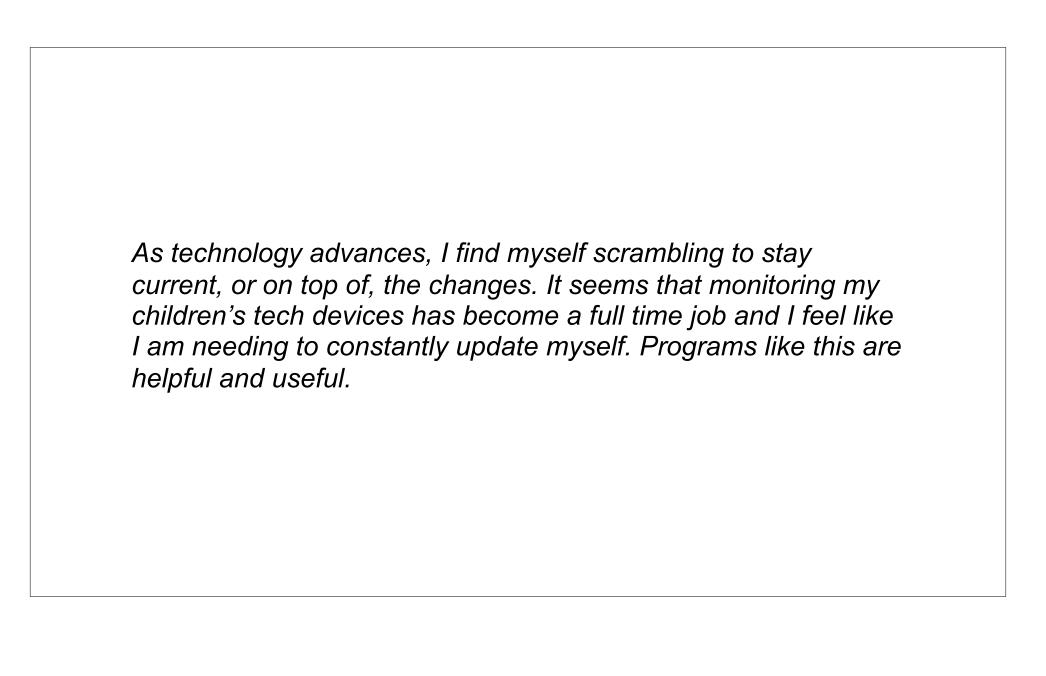
Have you had conversations with your child as a result of using the Securly for parents product?



Parent Securly Survey - Email Reports

If you said 'yes' to the previous question, have you found those conversations to be helpful in establishing safer and more responsible internet use by your child?





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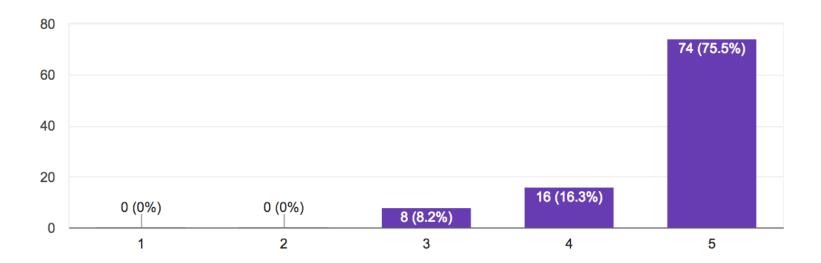


Year 1 Implementation

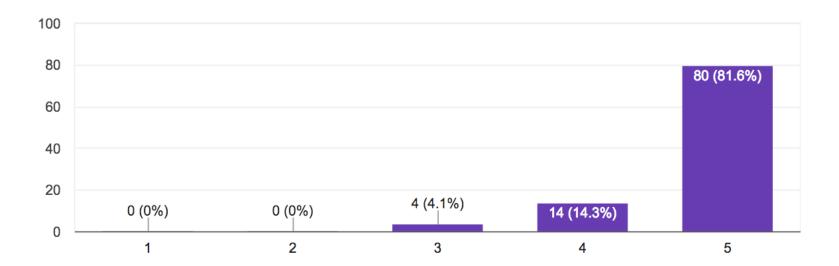
- All students in grade 3 attend a *Coding Special* once per week, taught by elementary Instructional Technology Coaches (ITC's).
- Authentic & student-centered Includes a mix of computer science (coding) and robotics
- Aligned with the Massachusetts Digital Literacy
 & Computer Science Standards
- Plan to build on success in year 2 and evaluate options for other grades



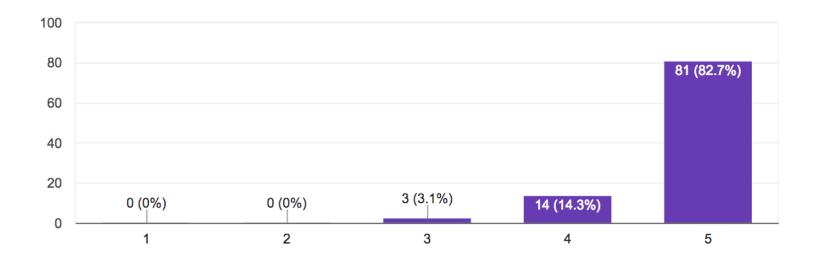
My child has a favorable opinion of the 3rd grade coding special.



As a parent, I have a favorable opinion of the 3rd grade coding special.



I would support the expansion of the 3rd grade coding special to other grades in elementary.



My 3rd grader knows more about computers than me! :) The more she is taught, the better prepared she'll be, so I think it's been wonderful to have. Thank you so much!

My daughter absolutely loves the day she has this on her agenda and keeps asking for more time on it! Thank you for your efforts!!

My son absolutely LOVED having coding this year. He has been very excited to tell us about the projects and show us some of the sites. We wholeheartedly support the students learning the basics of coding and love that your goals also include teamwork and working through problem solving, especially sticking with it if it doesn't work the first time. Lifelong skills in our mind! Thank you!

As a professional in the software industry myself, I strongly encourage the expansion of this program. There is a strong demand for STEM related jobs, but, not enough workers to fill them, it's great to see our kids being exposed to coding or critical thinking this early.

Coding is the future and I feel strongly that we should continue and expand this program to ensure our kids have the tools they need to be successful.