Tackling Tech in the Classroom
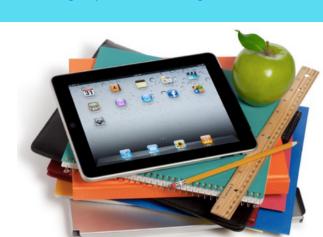
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TECH IN THE CLASSROOM

- Article says: tech is a powerful tool = negative distractions
- tried to reduce distractions with clear boxes/pouches at front of room
- I say: As we lives in a technological world, need to embrace and promote the use of technology with our students
- Need a growth mindset towards tech
- My experiences with tech: beneficial with IEPs, differentiated learning & positive learning environment

PERSPECTIVES ON TECH IN THE CLASSROOM

- Article says: Canada schools/boards adopted their own rules about tech in the classroom.
- Doug Ford suggests an outright ban of cellphones in school to "maximize learning time".
- France government banned on school grounds 'detox' law
- I say: Tech is NOT a distraction, if implemented in the classroom expectations
- Allows for a more personalized learning experience, student preference and engagement

THE YONDR

- Article says: allowed phones at their desks, but tucked in specialized pouch that locks, blocks wifi and social media apps & can only be unlocked by the base
- Similar to ink tags to deter shop lifting
- I say: Great for younger grades to remove the possibility of a distraction
- Removes one of the significant barriers – social media in the classroom

THE RESISTOR CASE

- Article says: it is a DIY pouch using vinyl, Velcro and duct tape
- designed to hold the students' devices at their desk for the duration of the class
- case does not lock, loud sound of velcro is designed to make students think twice
- I say: Great way to use tech and accountability
- Provides students with self-regulation but they do not feel controlled by teachers

IS IT EFFECTIVE?

- Article says: With the Yondr cases, class average was 8% higher than normal and students got more done
- Yondr and the resistor case have been proven to be more effective at curbing cellphone use
- I say: students will get more out of restricted time with cell phones rather than not using them at all – we live in a technological world
- Students feel loss without their cell phones and could cause a 'cellular rebellion'

WHAT 'I SAY' ABOUT TECH IN THE CLASSROOM

- Need to be limitations on cell usage but not all all out ban that limits students
- Technology is all around us, and changing all the time – we shouldn't ignore it but rather embrace it especially in a learning environment
- In my own practicum, students respected the classroom rules/expectations and devices were only used when allowed or else the privilege was taken away
- Students were more focused knowing they had their phone than without it
- Tech is an educational tool which enhances the learning experience