

Chromebooks and Digital Learning

Coach: Leya Belmonte
Fesler Junior High School
Santa Maria-Bonita School District
Grade(s): 7-8
Cross-curricular

Description

The basic strategy is to engage students in learning through the use of technology. Our students have a different expectation than we did for education. Through the use of Google classroom, students can complete assignments online, engage in instant, digital team collaboration and use the tools of the Internet to enhance their learning.

Team members will learn about how they can take their classes on virtual field trips, have them create maps, pamphlets, and posters, and even assign activities where students publish their work digitally for all to experience.

Team members will have a customized learning experience tailored to their own interests and needs in using classroom technology. Members will need a Google account, and a device (iPad, Chromebook, computer, etc.) to conduct lessons.

The Students first essay of the year was hand written and independent. The second was done collaboratively, interacting with students and teacher through Classroom. The second essay yielded much better quality writing, since they were able to utilize more helpful resources.

Strategy Team Meetings

Team meetings are structured in three parts:

1. Leya shares the topic meetings through emails.
2. Leya will ask the team to compile a list of questions, concerns and/or input regarding topic.
3. Based on responses from the team Leya creates an agenda.

The meetings will be hands on learning. Leya will share what she has done, give the team time to set up something that they will be able to share with their class(es) and use immediately.

About the Coach

Leya is in her eighth year of teaching English, Leya has been appointed as a technology mentor for her school site where she supports staff with the implementation of new technology and helps navigate questions about “old” technology. Leya has been very successful in leadership roles.

Leya is on her school's leadership team, representing the English department; she has also been a representative to help support the implementation of Smarter Balanced Consortium testing.