

InFocus



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Mondopad:

A Classroom's Window to the World

K-12 schools in the U.S. are facing a bevy of challenges that put increasing pressure on administrators, teachers and students to do more with less. Technology can address these greater demands, but finding the right mix of tools to engage, empower and enlighten students is critical to achieving positive outcomes. The InFocus Mondopad brings together multiple technologies into one powerful, cost-effective tool for teachers to engage their students and prepare them for the demanding world of the 21st century.

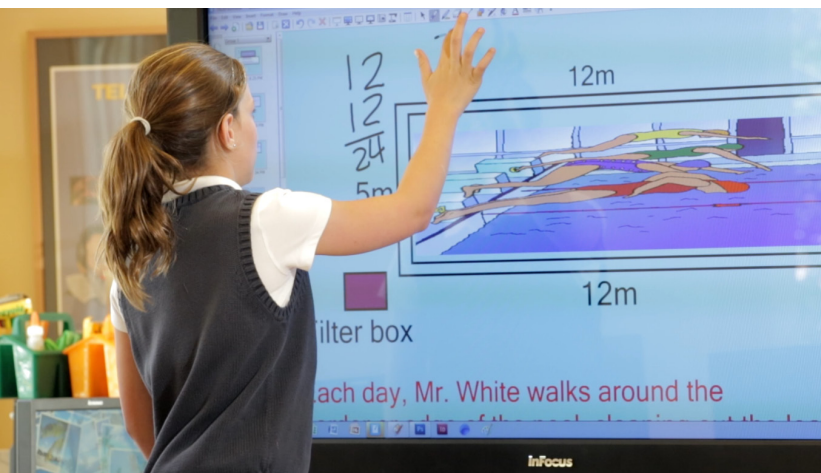
K-12 Education under Pressure

State tax revenues took their largest dive ever, reaching bottom in 2010. Many states were forced to slash public services, including education, to cope with budget shortfalls. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, at least 34 states and the District of Columbia made deep cuts in spending on K-12 or early education between 2008 and 2011. At the same time, the center notes, demand will be increasing: schools are expected to educate 350,000 more K-12 students in 2012-13 than they did in 2007-08.

Growing Presence of Technology in the Classroom

Providing K-12 students with information technology instruction has been widely accepted as necessary to keep the U.S. competitive on a global scale, particularly in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. In fact, the Obama Administration's National Education Technology Plan from 2010 calls for embracing innovation and "applying the advanced technologies used in our daily personal and professional lives to our entire educational system to improve student learning."

Schools have been integrating technological tools into the curriculum, from PCs and tablets to interactive white boards, with compelling results. The U.S. Army Research Institute conducted a survey of more than 200 studies on the impact of computer technology on student learning. They concluded that appropriate computer-based instruction can have a positive effect: improved test scores, more cooperative learning, increased collaboration, and better problem solving, as well as more interaction between students and teachers and among peers. Plus, students with access to classroom computers tended to feel more empowered about their education, and "increased student motivation and decreased discipline problems are common in technology-rich classrooms."



Many school districts around the country have raised class sizes and failed to keep salaries high enough to retain the best teachers. As a result, fewer educators are coping with larger workloads and continued pressures to improve test scores and academic outcomes. Students are challenged to focus in more crowded classrooms and compete for individual attention. Administrators have fewer available resources and must consider spending decisions carefully, weighing benefits against the costs.

Educators Understand the Value of Technology

A majority of teachers believe that technology increases student motivation, reinforces and expands on lesson content, and responds to a variety of learning styles. In early 2012, a PBS LearningMedia national survey of K-12 teachers found that although 91 percent of participants have computer access in their rooms, only 22 percent feel they have the right level of technology available. Interactive whiteboards are a clear favorite, as 93 percent of teachers feel they enrich classroom education, but less than two-thirds had access to one.

Mondopad Enriches the Classroom Experience

Today, schools have a new option: the InFocus Mondopad. The Mondopad combines the power and flexibility of a PC with a 55-inch multi-touch LCD display, generating a true “window to the world” experience. The Mondopad is a centerpiece for child-to-child collaboration. It engages students as a group, providing the backdrop for children to work together and solve problems.

Mondopad’s touch display enables students and teachers to manipulate content and lessons together. Whether reviewing and annotating student documents and projects or illustrating mathematical concepts on an interactive whiteboard, the Mondopad is always on – providing students with greater opportunity to engage with one another and learn the increasingly important skill of collaboration.

Mondopad brings the world into the classroom – allowing teachers to access

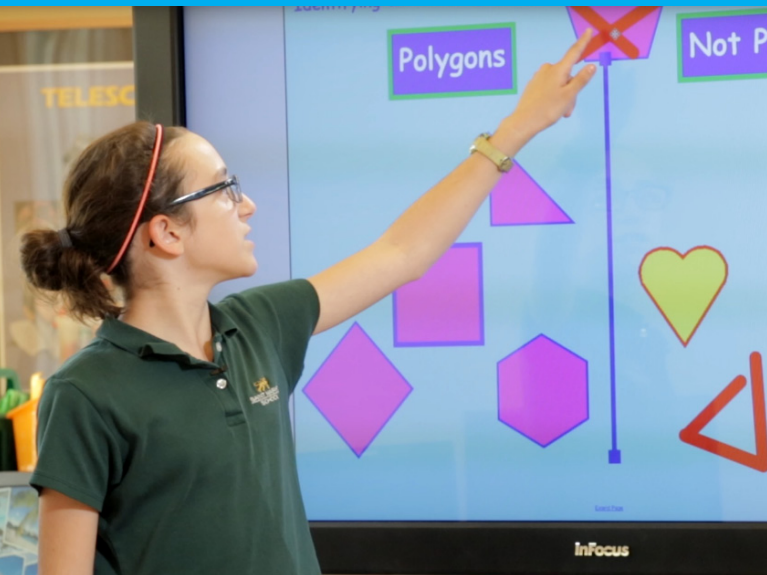


and share resources with students beyond those available in the classroom, school or even district. For instance, instructors can bring noted experts into the classroom through video conferencing instead of spending valuable time and effort on field trips. Furthermore, teachers aren’t limited to specialists in their area, but can draw from a world of possibilities to enrich their lessons and make stronger, more meaningful connections for students.

Technology like the Mondopad can play a growing role in reaching all styles of learners, from visual and auditory to tactile. Instructors can offer students more opportunities for hands-on participation, whether it’s through manipulating content on the screen or by using compatible voting and polling devices to gather and assess classroom input. Mondopad can also serve as a complementary tool of school curriculums, providing visual reinforcement of lessons.

Mondopad in Practice at St. Mark’s School

The Mondopad is being adopted in many schools and universities around the country. At St. Mark’s School in Altadena, Calif., teachers have transitioned seamlessly from an interactive whiteboard to the Mondopad, which required no specialized training. Instructors access and share their existing



curriculum files with ease and additional apps are highly intuitive. The Mondopad is rolled into the room and is ready to go, no adjustments or alignments needed.

Implemented in first and fifth grade classrooms, the Mondopad has already made an impact on how students learn, work and play together. First grade students use it on a daily basis, which is sized just right for even these young students, to make use of the entire surface without interrupting momentum to seek assistance. In the fifth grade, the Mondopad supports project-based learning: students prepared digital science reports and presented them using the giant tablet, coalescing various skill sets.

According to the school's director of technology, Rick Harris, "There are so many capabilities for us. It's like a white board on steroids, and we will be able to do all sorts of things we couldn't do before with a white board." A dream scenario for the school would be to introduce a Mondopad or two in each room, creating global classrooms; the goal would be to connect with students in countries around the world, expanding students' world views and understanding of different cultures.

Harris believes that the Mondopad may prove helpful in resolving unique classroom issues. It's video capabilities may allow parents and counselors to observe a child discreetly in the classroom to help pinpoint behavior or learning issues. In addition, as homeschooling becomes more prevalent, parents can provide children opportunities to participate in classes via video conferencing. Or, children isolated from the classroom, such as those traveling or recovering from illness, can access or participate in lessons remotely.

Improving Engagement at West Navarre Primary School

At West Navarre Primary School in Florida, students in Kim Kayser's second grade classroom have embraced the Mondopad since it arrived and are frequently incorporating it into their learning. "They love technology," says Kayser. "The clarity of the picture is incredible, and the ease of touch screen is excellent, especially for the kids who are using it. It's really accessible for them and for me."



Kayser uses the Mondopad to reinforce her lessons. The intuitive nature of the product and compatibility with her other software has saved time in the classroom. Now, students can interact with her cache of Web-based resources independently, freeing up Kayser to work with other groups around the classroom. In addition, students welcome the idea of working together on interactive websites and on the electronic whiteboard to follow up on lessons.

“Engagement is definitely higher. Students hate worksheets, but they’re necessary for assessment,” explained Kayser. “Now, I can do my assessments in an interactive way.”

Unlike whiteboard equipment previously used in Kayser’s classroom, the Mondopad is quickly becoming a source of inspiration. “I still feel like I’ve just opened up the box. Next year, I can see a whole realm of possibilities. We have a camera included, and the video conferencing is amazing. I haven’t even explored the possibility of virtual field trips, but I can’t think of a better product that could do that.”

The Flexible Tool for Learning

Schools will need to implement new tools to adapt and prepare a workforce for the future, especially as technological advancements continue at their rapid pace. The challenge will be to introduce flexible tools that help teachers engage more students, bring robust experiences into the classroom, support various learning and teaching styles, and leverage existing technology investments. With the Mondopad, teachers have a powerful tool in their arsenal that enables them to be extraordinary, while students gain a window to the world that opens up a new way of learning, interacting and succeeding.



The InFocus Mondopad supports an interactive and immersive classroom experience, fostering teacher and student communication and collaborative learning.

Key features include:

- 55-inch multi-touch LCD display
- HD video conferencing
- Interactive whiteboard
- Web browser
- Multiple inputs for DVD player, document camera, etc.
- Compatible with industry-leading education software
- Integrated Intel® Core™ i5 PC running Windows® 7 Pro
- Full version of Microsoft Office

For more product details, please visit www.infocus.com/mondopad.

