

Research

According to the One to One Institute, research is clear that to ensure one to one learning success, education must move from a teacher centered classroom to a student centered classroom. One to one learning programs create the opportunity for authentic learning for each student. With access to a personal device students learn at their own pace, at their individual ability level, and take advantage of the resources anytime, anywhere. Teachers are the facilitators using technology to enhance the curriculum and instruction. One to one learning programs are no longer the future of education. It is the way schools are doing business today. The one to one learning program will transform our high school and junior high school preparing our students to succeed in a global marketplace. The One to One Institute found that schools that successfully implemented one to one learning programs experienced a dropout reduction of 42%; a 29% reduction in disciplinary incidents; and a 25% increase in high stakes testing.

A study by Bebell, et.al, at the Lynch College of Education at Boston College (2009) on the impact of one to one learning found that increased teacher and student use of technology across the curriculum, increased student engagement and motivation, and improved teacher-student interactions. In addition, participating teachers reported improvements in student achievement and students' ability to retain content material.

It is generally acknowledged that effective leadership is crucial to the success of a one to one program. Research indicates that building and district administrators are highly influential participants who drive the vision for one to one 21st Century learning programs. NCREL and the National School Board Association both identify the need for clear objectives and expectations in the program.

When examining the demographic numbers of Wayne County it is evident that this initiative is essential for the economic health of our community. Wayne County has a graduation rate over 86%, yet only 58% of these students are moving on to higher education. Our county has one of the highest unemployment rates in the regional area based on STATS Indiana 2011 data. It is essential for schools to move to a program that prepares students for the 21st Century workplace. Based on the 2011 United States Census only 24.2% of the workers in Wayne County have an Associate's Degree or higher. These low college success numbers significantly affect the economic development of our community because of the lack of availability of highly skilled, college educated workers.