

A Gaggle of Uses for Google Apps



Please go to tinyurl.com/curts13 to find helpful resources for this session.

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Introduction

Eric Curts

- Technology Director for North Canton City Schools - www.northcantonschools.org
- Husband, father (4 kids from pre-school to pre-med), geek
- Apps User Group website to assist schools with Google Apps - www.appsusergroup.org
- The State of Tech Podcast - bi-weekly Ed-Tech podcast - www.thestateoftech.org
- Personal blog - www.holygeeks.org
- Everything else - www.ericcurts.com

Schedule of Topics

- What is Google Apps?
- Why Google Apps
- Example Uses
 - Gmail
 - Google Calendar
 - Google Documents
 - Google Spreadsheet
 - Google Presentations
 - Google Forms
 - Google Sites
- Resources



What is Google Apps?

- Google Apps for Education is a **free suite** of **web-based tools** for schools.
- It includes such services as **Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Google Chat, Google Sites, Google Video**, and much more.
- The Google Apps services **replace** some tools (Outlook) and **supplement** others (Office).

Why Google Apps?

- **Access Anywhere and Anytime** - All of the Google Apps services can be accessed from anywhere you have an Internet connection (school, home, smart phone, etc.) This reduces the need for flash drives and remote access to network resources.
- **Compatibility** - Since Google Apps is the same everywhere there is no issue with having one version of a program at home and a different version at school.
- **Modular** - You can use as much or as little of the apps as you want to fit your specific needs.

Why Google Apps?

- **Frequent Updates** - Since Google Apps is web-based they are constantly adding new features, without us having to purchase and upgrade to a new version to get something new.
- **Easy but Powerful** - Google Apps programs are simple to learn and use, but have many options and features to do powerful tasks.
- **Free** - Google Apps is free for schools!

Why Google Apps?



One of the biggest benefits of Google Apps is the ability to **share documents and data with others**.

- You can **collaborate with colleagues** on the same document (group grant writing, team newsletter, etc).
- Students can work together on **group projects**.
- You can **share handouts and forms** with students and parents.
- Students can fill out **electronic surveys and quizzes** and all the data is collected for you.
- Students can digitally **turn in documents** to you which you can grade and comment on for them to see.

Google Apps

And now on to the apps...

Gmail



- Easy email communication with large groups of staff, students, and parents. ([link](#))
- Chat options (text, voice, and video) with Google Voice and Video Chat for quick meetings, calls to parents, after school homework help for students.

Google Calendar



- School calendars for district, buildings, classes, teams, and more ([link](#))
- Sign-up for shared resources, labs, and such ([link](#))
- Homework hotline ([link](#))
- Scheduling Parent/Teacher Conferences ([link](#))
- More organized meetings

Google Documents



- Collaborative lesson planning
- Collaborative brainstorming
- Grant writing as a team
- Shared resource repositories ([link](#), [link](#))
- Improve student writing revision process ([link](#))
- Collaborative student note taking ([link](#))
- More efficient meetings
- Tag-team story writing

Google Spreadsheets



- Collect and analyze subject specific data ([link](#))
- Create graphs and charts, draw conclusions, make predictions
- Manage your gradebook
- Track inventory (books, supplies, equipment) ([link](#))
- Floorplans ([link](#))
- Share student account information
- Collect data (scores, recs, etc.) from staff
- Play Snakes! ([link](#))

Google Presentations



- Create instructional material
- Collaborative student multimedia presentations
- Student book talks ([link](#))

Google Forms



- Parent and staff surveys ([link](#), [link](#), [link](#))
- Routine forms ([link](#), [link](#), [link](#))
- Student registration ([link](#))
- Sign up for lab usage ([link](#))
- Collect data for science experiments ([link](#))
- Online quizzes and tests for students ([link](#))
- Brainstorming and word clouds

Google Sites



- Web site for district, school, class, activities ([link](#))
- Collaborative student project
- Student portfolio ([link](#))
- Online learning activities, webquests ([link](#))
- Online curriculum collection and map ([link](#))

Resources

- Apps User Group
<http://www.appsusergroup.org>
- Great Lakes K-12 User Group
<http://k12greatlakes.appsusersgroup.com/>
- North Canton City Schools Technology Site
<http://www.northcantonschools.org/tech/>

Conclusion

Question, comments, discussion

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