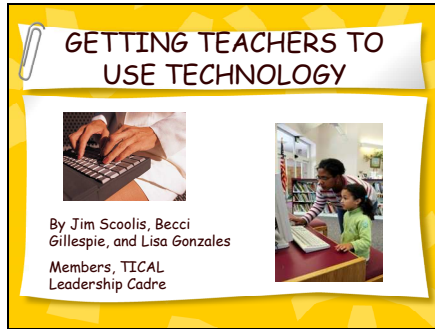
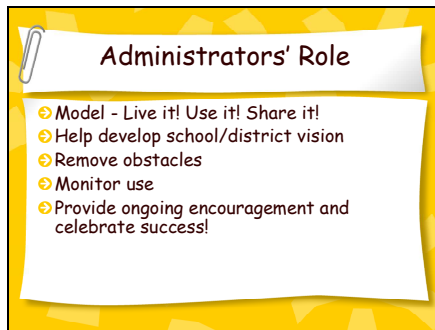


Slide 1



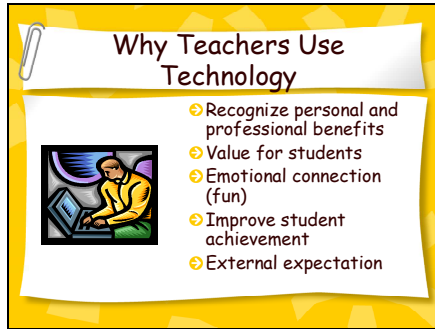
Are you looking for ways to organize your thinking about getting teachers to use technology? Getting teachers to use technology is a hot topic for administrators, and one that requires careful thought, planning, and follow through. I'm Jim Scoolis. My TICAL colleagues Becci Gillespie, Lisa Gonzales, and I have put together this short presentation to help you jump start your efforts at spreading consistent use of technology throughout your school.

Slide 2



Above all, it is key for administrators themselves to model the use of technology. *You* have to be a technology user yourself. It is critical to support those already using technology, while continuing to encourage the reluctant ones. Create a clear school community vision of what technology could be like in three to five years. Do all you can to remove the obstacles that teachers face, especially those relating to hardware, training, funding, and tech support. Your quick response to tech problems teachers face will show that you are serious about helping them to use technology. Also show your seriousness by actively monitoring technology use. Remember, if it's not monitored, it's optional. Finally, keep technology on the forefront by playing the cheerleader role. One way to do this is to celebrate achievements as members of your school community move forward towards your collaboratively created vision. Throw big fat parties anytime someone accomplishes something!

Slide 3

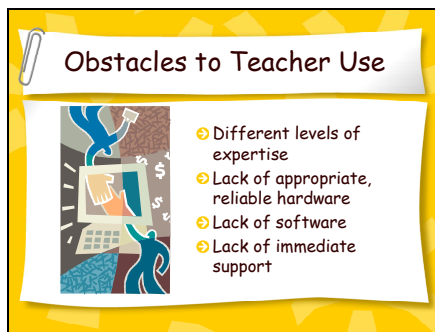


Why Teachers Use Technology

- Recognize personal and professional benefits
- Value for students
- Emotional connection (fun)
- Improve student achievement
- External expectation

Teachers need to have reasons to use technology. First, there needs to be value added to their professional and personal life. As they use technology personally, and can recognize the advantages of its use, they will feel more comfortable with it and be more open to the benefits of using it with their students. We all know that people learn best when they have an emotional connection to their subject, so make technology use *fun*. Use scavenger hunts, team teachers up, make it interactive, be creative! You also have to provide training that will support student achievement, including software exposure that can be linked to improved performance. Teachers usually respond very favorably to materials that will improve student engagement and achievement. If all else fails, as it may for a certain teacher, you may need to “pull rank”; make your expectations clear and remind the person that working to support your school’s technology plan is *not optional*.

Slide 4



Obstacles to Teacher Use

- Different levels of expertise
- Lack of appropriate, reliable hardware
- Lack of software
- Lack of immediate support

Earlier, we talked about obstacles to teacher’s use of technology. Here are common ones you’ll need to deal with. First, there will always be differing levels of expertise. Take that into account in your expectations and try to provide professional development tailored to individual needs.

Make sure teachers have the hardware they need to support your plan, and that it works! There is nothing more frustrating than getting excited in a workshop setting and then not having the equipment necessary to implement the new skills. Similarly, be sure

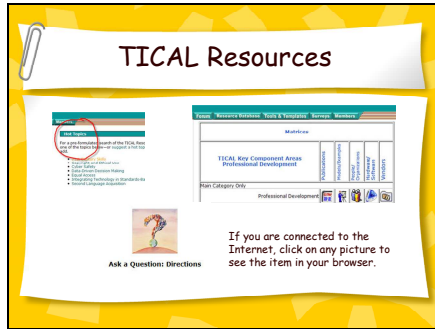
you have the software and other applications necessary to support your technology plan. Finally, build a system of “tiered” technical support. Start by making sure everyone receives training in basic troubleshooting. Identify a few tech-savvy teachers and provide a way for them to help colleagues without it becoming a serious drain on their own time. Establish a formal system for requesting help with those problems that require an expert’s attention. You may also want to consider involving students in your technical support plan.

Slide 5



But the role of the administrator doesn’t stop there. We have ongoing responsibilities in order to keep teachers using and using and using technology. Having the funds to maintain and advance technology is critical, including updated software and licenses for all to access. Continued analysis of the training and support needed will help meet the needs of the staff, especially if turnover is an issue. Keep in mind that everyone in your school community is in this together. Be sure to include technology within your professional learning community. Checking back with the school’s technology vision and updating it as the technology changes is also required.

Slide 6



TICAL's resource database offers a great selection of resources on this topic that have been pre-screened and annotated by administrators like yourself. For a short list, click Encourage Use in the Hot Topic list. For a broader set of resources, use the Professional Development Matrix. And to follow up with an individual concern, use TICAL's Ask a Question feature for a personal response. Thank you for taking time to view our presentation; we hope it was helpful.