



Teacher:
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Mission Statement

Stoller Middle School is committed to promoting a safe, supportive learning community that fosters high academic achievement and lifelong learning.

District Goal for 2010-15:

All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

Class Description for Technology

2015-2016 School Year

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year here at Stoller Middle School and welcome to **Technology**. I hope you will find this class syllabus helpful in understanding what we will be learning and how your child's academic progress will be determined and reported, both academically and behaviorally. Technology is a semester, Encore course that meets on A/B days for 45-minutes each.

About Technology: Today's connected world affords us with opportunities to learn anytime, anywhere. It is an exciting time to be a student and a life-long learner, where infinite amounts of information can be accessed in the palms of our hands. And at the same time, it is a challenging time to be a learner, where students need digital media literacy skills to access and vet information, participate safely and respectfully in online spaces, and harness a variety of tools to create, collaborate, and communicate. In Technology class, we will hone our digital media literacy skills.

Stoller Middle School Technology Curricular Themes:

- **Digital Citizenship:** Digital footprint, netiquette, online safety, intellectual property
- **Tools for Learning:** Variety of web-based tools appropriate for the classroom that supports students in learning how to collaborate and communicate, while demonstrating digital citizenship and professionalism; tools that support student learning across core subjects in middle school and beyond
- **Digital Media Literacy:** Search for information, evaluate and compare sources, organize information, cite information, interpret media, and recognize bias
- **Digital Storytelling:** Multimedia production through the lens of "story" may include podcasting (Garageband); movie Production (iMovie); variety of other applications appropriate for creating multimedia artifacts
- **Digital Photography:** Image manipulation and editing
- **Coding:** Experimenting with a variety of coding applications

Academic Learning Targets (ALT) for Middle School Technology

The academic learning targets determine the skills instruction of the thematic units listed above. In addition, the academic learning targets determine how your student's progress will be evaluated, and they are consistent across the Beaverton School District.

I can respect myself, other users, and digital property.

- I can practice and advocate safe, responsible use of information, technological equipment, and software.
- I can identify, explain and analyze potential security issues and consequences of technology misuse.
- I can demonstrate respect for other users' passwords, photos, and assignments and practice strategies for getting help when necessary.
- I can demonstrate respect for existing desktop configurations and system preferences.

I can demonstrate the use of academic honesty as it relates to technology.

- I can adhere to copyright, licensing, and fair use laws, including providing accurate citations when referencing information from outside sources.
- I can recognize the societal and personal consequences of unethical use of information.

I can use creativity and critical thinking skills to solve problems, using appropriate technology.

- I can choose and justify use of available resources to make informed decisions.
- I can develop and follow a project plan to manage tasks related to project completion.
- I can use technology as a means of solving problems and developing innovative products that reflect originality and self-expression.

I can communicate and collaborate effectively in a variety of settings.

- I can collaborate locally and globally, using a variety of communication tools to gather information, share ideas, and respond to questions.
- I can create a multimedia presentation that is appropriate in design and content for the target audience.

I can locate, organize, analyze, and cite information from a variety of sources and media.

- I can apply advanced search strategies when using online library resources and public search engines to gain information on a topic.
- I can cite all sources using correct bibliographic formats.
- I can critically evaluate validity of resources, including identification of bias.

I can effectively understand and operate systems and applications.

- I can apply acquired skills to new technology, hardware, and applications.
- I can transfer work across platforms and applications.
- I can identify, store, and access documents in different formats from various locations for specific purposes.
- I can identify and apply strategies to solve common hardware, software, and network problems.

Rubrics

This is one tool we use to assess student progress on the learning targets and provide feedback to students on what must be done to improve their proficiency or mastery of the learning. Please see the rubrics associated with the learning targets for this class. You can access the rubrics through ParentVue or the district website at:

<https://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/depts/tchlrn/lts/Pages/Browse-Learning-Targets.aspx>

Behavior Learning Targets (BLT)

We believe that the following behaviors are critical to academic success. I will teach and give feedback on some of the behaviors listed below during this school year.

- ***I can manage my responsibilities as a student.***
- ***I can self-direct my learning.***
- ***I can communicate and work effectively within a team or group.***

Headphones: Students are **HIGHLY encouraged** to bring their own headsets to class. Learning is student-directed through our class wiki and through assignments in Google Classroom. Students will be expected to listen to short video clips, sound files, and screencasts as part of their daily learning. We have some headsets in the computer lab, but they are mostly used for voice recording and are shared with all technology classes.

Homework Expectations: Daily homework will not be assigned in this class. Occasionally, students may be expected to look for a resource needed in class or complete an assignment outside of class.

Project-Based Learning: This class focuses on learning THROUGH tools, rather on teaching software in isolation, which reflects national educational standards and leading trends in learning today. For instance, students may use the software program Garageband to create a podcast, but the focus of the learning will be on the process and how to use a digital tool to creatively express ideas and create a polished, published product.

Class Wiki: We will use a class wiki to “discover,” “play,” and “create” learning artifacts in Technology class. Students may access this wiki at: **discoverplaycreate.wikispaces.com**. This wiki is semi-public, meaning anyone can view it, but only class members may edit and post. We will use this platform as an opportunity for practicing and modeling habits of digital citizens, and for collaborating, creating, and communicating. Students will have a unique login to this wiki, where they will keep a digital portfolio of their work and demonstrate habits of digital citizens.

Grading: The summary judgments of all Academic Learning Targets will be averaged and the following scale will be used to determine the grade:

A: 3.4 - 4.0

B: 2.7 - 3.3

C: 2.0 - 2.6

D: 1.6 - 1.9

F: <1.6

Our best line of communication is through your child. Middle school is a time when students learn a variety of skills for organization and ways to advocate for their own learning. Check our class wiki (discoverplaycreate.wikispaces.com) to explore the units of learning and celebrate student work samples. If there are further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.