

Laptops Opening Statement

Question: Why should laptops be used in the classroom instead of tablets?

Although this is fairly simple, the answer to that question depends on many factors.

Laptops are going to provide advanced performance in comparison to tablets, simply due to the fact that their larger cases can pack in more hardware. The benefits to using laptops in the classroom include (1) the overall display, (2) performance, and (3) the ability to facilitate student learning.

First, laptops are going to offer a bigger picture. You won't be able to beat the feel of a full-sized keyboard and although some tablets are capable of supporting mice, laptops lend themselves to such a setup much more easily. Also, laptops have multiple ports, such as USB ports for thumb drives, which makes information more accessible.

Next, in terms of performance, laptops will always have better specs than tablets. That doesn't mean tablets will run slowly or won't offer a smooth user experience, it simply means that laptops are equipped for more intense and meaningful tasks. With a laptop, you'll still be able to use certain apps, but using a web browser will provide a much more accessible experience than doing the same on a tablet. Yes, that means you don't have to clutter up your hard drive and desktop with small programs that only allow access to one online service. If you like to keep things simple and have one program to access all your online content, a laptop is the best option.

Finally, laptops better facilitate student learning. Laptops can facilitate group work, research assignments, and provides more options for writing. Students need to learn how to type,

use basic computer functions, and use programs such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Once the students learn to use these programs, they can demonstrate their understanding in Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies, and Science with the use of these programs.

Furthermore, laptops should be used in the classroom instead of tablets. The overall display, performance, and the ability to facilitate student learning beats the benefits of using tablets in the classroom. The laptop remains safe, fun and effective. Therefore, laptops win!

COUNTER POINTS:

Students NEED Computer Skills

- Students that learn to type efficiently
- Learn to use basic computer functions such as word processing, email and web browsing have a significant advantage over students that have no knowledge of computers
- Reinforces computer skills
- Allow students to have contact with computers without having them take a class geared specifically toward learning computer skills
- Purpose of note taking can be very beneficial (since a strong typist can record notes much faster than writing by hand, which can force students to learn to type quickly and accurately)
- Technical support, software and peripherals are readily available.
- Laptops are literally the computing standard.
- Enhanced computing power that comes with a laptop
- Help students stay organized and remember school work.

It is FUN!

- More fun for students than simply sitting at a desk and listening to a lecture with a pad of paper and a pen. Students that have fun in the classroom are more likely to come to school.
- Students can look things up during lectures and discussion, and share what they've found with the class
- More effective in-class learning activities, especially for small group work and other collaborative exercises
- Allow students to engage differently in the material, which might help them learn better.

- Provide a high level of interactivity between students, teachers and subject matter.

MANY Benefits:

- Keyboard is faster and more accurate than a tablet's touchscreen
- Screen is bigger: Better for multi-tasking and watching video
- A laptop's screen is typically 12 to 17 inches, compared to a tablet's 7- to 10-inch screen.
- Multiple ports, which make it easy to get info on and off the computer. This includes USB ports for thumb drives and external hard drives, as well as SD card slots. Many laptops (but only some tablets) have a HDMI port to connect to a TV, monitor or projector.
- Laptops offer more storage than a tablet; most laptops start at 500 gigabytes (GB), compared to an average of 32GB on a tablet.
- The clamshell design protects the screen when not in use.
- Because they've been around longer than the two largest tablet platforms (Apple's iOS and Google's Android), Windows and Macs both offer a ton of software, including programs recommended by educators. Many laptops have an optical disk drive for those who want one for DVDs and CD-ROMs.

From:

<http://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/4048840-back-to-school-tech-laptop-vs-tablet/>

· **Laptops** are portable, durable, and easy to integrate into a desktop setup via a docking station on your desk (or better, just have a monitor, keyboard, and mouse that are ready to plug in whenever you're on your desk). Additionally, most laptops have full desktop operating systems (unlike most tablets), and Windows 8 laptops generally have touch capability, which is huge.

from :

<http://school4schools.com/blog/best-computers-college-desktop-laptop-tablet-pc-mac/>

Battery Life & Durability:

1. Battery life of the laptop is far better than tablet.
2. Laptops are steadily improving in the longevity department.
3. 10 hours is the average reported battery life for laptop.
4. Laptops have a more sturdy build overall.
5. Laptops are less sensitive to the way they are handled compared to tablets (especially with a touch display).

6. In my personal experience, I observed several classes in WMU and I noticed that students did not need to use tablets because they were divided into groups and worked cooperatively. Also, when the students work in groups that will engage them to be more communicated with each other than using tablets individually. So, the laptop is better to use in the classroom than the tablet.

http://www.pcworld.com/article/247387/5_ways_tablets_are_better_than_laptops_or_smartphones.html

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/2602917/laptop-vs-tablets-how-they-compare-for-true-productivity.html>

- Students can use the laptop in the classroom which can store information on their own computers, and carry it with them anywhere and modify them or use them. Of course, it is possible to obtain this feature through the use of flash momere, but through using the laptops, students can save the information better.
- Laptops can carry them easily from class to class. Also, they carry more information than a text books.
- They let students move forward with lessons, or review, at any time.

The benefits of Laptops in classrooms

More and more schools are starting to adapt with the changes around us because technology revolution. It is great way to incorporate laptops into classrooms. Using laptop in school improves cognitive skills such as critical thinking and analysis. There are several advantages of laptop in classrooms.

- **Facilitates Group Work**

Working as a group is integral to student success. Through using laptops learners can exchange the information easy. They can benefit from student's feedback. It will develop interpersonal skills like teamwork and communication. Also, their communication skills will become much stronger as a result of group work.

- **Accessibility and Connectivity**

One of the biggest advantages of laptops is that they allow students to access information wherever they can get an Internet connection. It increases the greater access to notes and

educational aids like education programs and websites which will improve student performance in the classroom.

- More Options for Writing and Editing

Through using laptops will help students write papers more easily. The tools in word processing software make it easier for students to edit their work. Also, it is easy to edit their works and make it to be better organized. The students can work anytime anywhere.

- Ipad is not compatible with most printers.
- Security software cost less for laptop than IPADs.
- Ipad requires more updates.
- Easy to organize files on a lap lop. Much more difficult to organize files on a IPAD.
- Easier to upgrade a laptop.

(Counter argument concerning security costs)

<http://education.seattlepi.com/benefits-laptops-students-3053.html>

Students can more easily complete writing assignments using laptops for example. As another example students can complete math projects by using excel.

Could your smartphone or tablet give you SKIN CANCER? Screens 'reflect UV rays and may indirectly trigger the disease

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-3222252/Could-smartphone-tablet-SKIN-CANCER-Screens-reflect-UV-rays-indirectly-trigger-disease.html>

Argument: Laptops are a better option for schools than tablets.

Premise #1 Students need to learn computer skills to become academically and professionally competitive. Students do not gain these skills by using tablets.	Supporting Skills include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Typing· Using Microsoft office· Laptops, not I pads used in most professional environments
Premise #2 Learning to write is one of the most fundamental cross curricular, cross grade level skills that students must practice in primary and secondary education. Tablets are not an effective tool for teaching literacy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· You cannot type a paper and edit it using a tablet.· Cannot print hardcopies for submission or display in the classroom
Premise #3 Laptops are a more durable, reliable, dynamic products than tablets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Batteries last longer on average laptop· Laptops easier to repair· Can be used with other components such as printers, projectors and speakers· Have much more storage space· Compatible with much larger variety of software· Most newer laptops have touch screens which undermines one of the supposed advantages of a tablet· Have much more storage

	<p>space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Easier to transfer information from device to another with laptop using components such as a USB
<p>Permise #4 Laptops allow for more complex tasks. “App” is a diminutive term that refers to a tool used for reliably completing simple tasks. Technology should give students the power to CREATE, not just consume. Tablets ok for reading textbooks or testing, but not for creation.</p>	<p>Laptops give students the opportunities to learn computer programing, webpage creation, audio engineering, robotics, and many other skills that you cannot learn from using a tablet.</p>
<p>Permise #5 Many schools are buying tablets for students to use, but it is an impulsive decision in most cases. It is not based upon a vision, but instead a fad.</p>	<p>Tablets bring technology to the classroom, but do not fundamentally instructional delivery and design. Do not revolutionize curriculum.</p> <p>Add hysterical Web filtering, social media bans, and locked-down devices incapable of installing software, and the tablet becomes a tool of compliance, not empowerment.</p>

Overall cost savings using laptops over tablets: one of the main reasons schools have Chromebooks or tablets is cost. If the idea of putting in a little more investment at the beginning and keep the product longer, with less down time and obviously less money the school or district has to put into any hardware/software.

<http://www.trustedreviews.com/opinions/tablet-vs-laptop>