

“Technically Teaching” Podcast Script:

By: Lakeisha Bergeron & Katrina Riviere

Prompt for Discussion: Based on your current teaching practices, how strongly do you feel your students are prepared for the 21st century? How strongly do you feel that *you* are prepared for the 21st century?

Podcast Link: <https://zencastr.com/z/Tj54yAwI>

Podcast Topic - Classrooms of the Future: Exploring the Effects of Covid-19 on 21st Century Educational Technology and Best Practices

Episodes/ Scenes	Narration	Music	Sound Effects	Transition Effects	Timing
1 - Introduction & Discussion Topic #1	Lakeisha: <u>Technology in the Classroom</u> - How are teachers feeling about the use of technology in the classroom? Is it beneficial or a distraction?	Intro Music	N/A	N/A	0:00 - 0:58
2 - Response & Discussion Topic # 2	Katrina: <u>Technology Use</u> - Has the rate of technology use increased among teachers? How often do elementary teachers incorporate technology?	Background Music	N/A	N/A	1:00 - 2:08
3 - Response &	Lakeisha:	Background	N/A	N/A	2:13 - 4:00

Discussion Topic #3	<u>Technology Preparedness</u> - How strongly do you feel your students are prepared for the 21st century? How strongly do you feel that <i>you</i> are prepared for the 21st century?	Music			
4 - Response & Discussion Topic #4	<u>Katrina: Technology Issues</u> - Have you experienced any issues with the current technology we are using in the classroom? Do you foresee any issues in the future?	Background Music	N/A	N/A	4:04 - 6:08
5 - Final Response	<u>Lakeisha:</u> Final Response	Background Music	N/A	N/A	6:12 - 8:01
6 - Closing	<u>Katrina & Lakeisha:</u> Closing Remarks	Outro Music	N/A	N/A	8:02 -8:47

“Technically Teaching” Detailed Podcast Script:

By: Lakeisha Bergeron & Katrina Riviore

Podcast Topic: Classrooms of the Future: The Effects of Covid-19 on 21st Century Educational Technology and Best Practices

Summary:

Introduction

Discussion Topic 1 - Technology in the Classroom - How are teachers feeling about the use of technology in the classroom? Is it beneficial or a distraction?

Discussion Topic 2 - Technology Use - Has the rate of technology use increased among teachers? How often do elementary teachers incorporate technology?

Discussion Topic 3 - Technology Preparedness - How strongly do you feel your students are prepared for the 21st century? How strongly do you feel that you are prepared for the 21st century?

Discussion Topic 4 - Technology Issues - Have you experienced any issues with the current technology we are using in the classroom? Do you foresee any issues in the future?

Closing

Lakeisha:

1 - Introduction & Discussion Topic #1: Welcome to episode 1 of “Technically Teaching” where we discuss teaching with technology! I’m Lakeisha and I’m here with my co-host Katrina. Today's episode is entitled “**Classrooms of the Future**”, where we will be discussing the rise in the use of educational technology prompted by the Covid-19 pandemic and how it has affected teachers and students. We will also discuss the effects of educational technology on current teaching practices, and whether or not its use is adequately preparing students for the 21st century and beyond. **So, Katrina...what do you**

think about all of the educational technology teachers are using in their classrooms since the start of the pandemic? Do you think it's beneficial or a distraction?

Katrina:

2 - Response & Discussion Topic #2: Honestly, Lakeisha, the dynamics of today's classroom have drastically changed between the first onset of Covid and now. Due to the mandated government shutdown, many teachers were pushed from their comfort zone into the primary use of technology. The forced migration to a more technology-based class was a somewhat difficult one made for instance, by our veteran teachers and teachers teaching in impoverished school districts that lacked funds to accommodate teachers with the most straightforward means of technology adequately. Now when we speak on the subject of whether or not it is beneficial or a distraction, it can really go both ways. It is almost like a catch 22 if you can say. The influx of technology is great, but one has to be mindful of the responsibility and the discipline one must maintain during its use. **Lakeisha, how have you seen the use of technology now in comparison to pre-covid? Also, in speaking on the primary grade levels, have teachers been more inclined to incorporate more technology into their every day lessons?**

Lakeisha:

3 - Response & Discussion Topic #3: Well Katrina, the use of technology has *definitely* increased compared to before the pandemic. Pre-covid, teachers always incorporated *some* technology into their lessons, but certainly not at the rate that we are now. As you mentioned, the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic pushed a lot of educators way outside of their comfort zones, which isn't necessarily a bad thing, but can still be challenging...especially with such short notice. As you know, the pandemic left many

teachers and students scrambling to learn how to use video conferencing tools such as Zoom and Google Meet and how to communicate and interact via webcam. We all remember the daily dreaded reminder to “mute your microphones!” I can attest to that in regard to my own experience teaching first grade and trying to incorporate technology both before and during the pandemic. The level of technology has increased significantly. Before covid my team and I would use YouTube to show learning videos and use our document cameras to model writing assignments. We had about 5 or 6 desktop computers, a mounted projector, and a few second generation iPads. That’s about it! Now, since the start of the pandemic, we are using all kinds of educational technology on a daily basis such as Google slides, Acer tablets, and Smartboards. Our school is now 1:1 with Chromebooks that are equipped with a variety of learning apps that can be used for practice and to track student performance. So, even lower grade teachers like myself are definitely more inclined to incorporate technology everyday. **With that being said Katrina, since technology is clearly going to be around as part of our everyday lives as educators going forward, how strongly do you feel your students are prepared for the 21st century? How strongly do you feel you are prepared?**

Katrina:

4 - Response & Discussion Topic #4: The students that we are gifted to be educating today were basically born with some sort of electronic device in their hands. The use of technology is second nature to them. With every invention or with every advancement, this generation has soaked up the information like a sponge. Within the past three years, our students have made leaps and bounds in their ability to use different avenues of technology to aid in their understanding of the assigned curriculum. Technology has not just become a means of entertainment but also used for the enhancement of learning. It has basically

molded the minds with the process of inquiry and being able to think outside of the box. It has aided them in the process of multitasking. It's as if their minds can function as computers with different tabs running at one time. I do believe they are well prepared for the 21st century. As for myself, I have pushed myself to step outside of my comfort zone and trust the journey. I may not understand everything there is about technology but I am not afraid of the process. I am open to learning and I am open to integrating it into my lessons not just for myself, but for my students. The great part about it is that with each new generation we have children that are being born with technology being a notion of something that just is. Not something that is new and scary, but something that has been here since the beginning for them. So there's no apprehension or fears about learning to use it. It is something that just is. It is something that is becoming second nature to each new generation. **Well Lakeisha, since we know that technology in the classroom is here to stay, are there any issues you have experienced with the current technology we are using in the classroom? Do you foresee any issues in the future?**

Lakeisha:

5 - Response: Katrina, those are great questions! Of course with any type of technology, especially in a school setting, there are always issues that can arise. Some of the issues I have personally encountered are concerns regarding the privacy of my students personal information like birth dates and demographics *and* issues with browsing and regulating access to online content. For example, my colleagues and I noticed that some of the online learning apps that we are required to use by our district were collecting sensitive data about our students without any way to determine who has access to that information. That is potentially problematic since sensitive data in the wrong hands could be dangerous and detrimental to my students wellbeing. Another issue stems from students' ability to access

online content through the schools' WiFi network. While we have certain programs like GoGuardian that are designed to monitor students' online activity, it's virtually impossible to completely filter everything at all times. You run the risk of spending too much time policing their internet access that it could jeopardize your use of instructional time. Overall, the bottom line is that there are pros and cons to any technology whether it's used for educational purposes or for recreation. The important thing to remember is that technology is and will continue to be a part of teaching and learning going forward. To prevent more issues down the road, we have to establish clear guidelines for protecting our students without stifling their access to valuable information and meaningful technology-rich learning experiences.

6 - Closing:

Katrina: Well guys, that's it for this episode! Stay tuned for our next podcast where we'll discuss tips for successfully implementing technology tools in your classroom.

Lakeisha: We'll also explore some helpful resources that will help you foster an engaging, tech-rich learning environment and will strengthen your technology best practices. Thanks for joining us! Bye!