Details

Tech Tips for Giving Students Feedback [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] - 154
In this episode, I spotlight a section of my book, EdTech Essentials, all about providing feedback to students in digital spaces. You'll also hear some favorite EdTech tools for efficient and effective teacher feedback plus tips for peer feedback, too!

Link to live show notes: https://classtechtips.com/2022/03/15/feedback-154/

Introduction

Hello there and welcome to today's episode of the Easy EdTech Podcast! If we haven't met before, my name is Monica Burns. I'm a former NYC public school teacher and I've been out of the classroom for a few years leading professional development for teachers, and writing about all things EdTech on my blog ClassTechTips.com

A quick reminder — head to my website classtechtips.com/podcast for all of the show notes and resources from today's episode, and if you're listening to this episode on a podcast player like Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or Google Podcasts, you should see a link in the description that you can click on as you listen today with the show notes and all the resources mentioned in today's episode.

When you go to the podcast page on my website, ClassTechTips.com, don't forget to check out the "Free Stuff" section full of graphic organizers, ebooks, and more goodies you can download instantly.

Promotion/Reminder

This episode is sponsored by VIZOR for Chromebooks. Does your School District have a Chromebook 1:1 program, are you struggling to manage your district's IT assets in a spreadsheet? If you're tasked with managing hundreds of Chromebooks or other IT assets like projectors and Smartboards, you'll want to listen to this. VIZOR is a Chromebook and IT Asset management solution designed specifically for School Districts. VIZOR seamlessly integrates with the Google Admin Console and your Student information system, like PowerSchool. With VIZOR you can easily see which Student has which Chromebook, manage repairs and even automate disabling lost or stolen devices while notifying parents, all in one click. To find out more visit vizor.cloud/classtechtips, that's V I Z O R dot cloud slash classtechtips or click the link in the show notes.
Show notes URL for link

Today's Intro

This week's episode is titled: *Tech Tips for Giving Students Feedback [EdTech Essentials Spotlight].*

Regular listeners of the podcast might remember that I had a few spotlights from my book *EdTech Essentials: The Top 10 Technology Strategies for All Learning Environments*, earlier this school year. These were episodes:

- How to Help Students Better Navigate Digital Spaces [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] - 129
- 5 Tips for Picking the Best Resources for Your Students [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] - 132
- Exploring the World With Virtual Field Trips [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] - 138
- 3 Types of Audience for Student Work [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] - 148

In today's episode, I'm spotlighting a section of my book, *EdTech Essentials,* all about the topic of feedback, focusing on how to give feedback to students in digital spaces. I'll also share some favorite EdTech tools educators can use to efficiently and effectively provide feedback to students as well as for students to give peer feedback in an impactful way. We'll unpack the different strategies and tools for giving feedback online or in a digital space.

Let's dive into today's episode!

Episode Transcript

In online spaces like Google Classroom or Flipgrid, for example, it's especially important to focus on the tone of our comments and responses when providing feedback on student work. We've all experienced getting a text message from a family member or friend where we had trouble figuring out the sender's tone. We may have wondered whether the person was frustrated, upset, or joking.

Even with the people closest to us, text-only messages can be difficult to decipher. Now imagine a similar scenario for a student who's read a comment on their work from a classmate or teacher and is not quite sure of the tone. If they weren't very confident when they submitted their work or were having a tough day, they may misinterpret a text-only comment. In cases like this, an audio or video comment may be more effective.

Audio and video responses address several goals related to student feedback. First, audio and video feedback help communicate the tone of the comment. Students can hear and see their classmate's or teacher's energy and encouragement in the response. These elements may be lost in a text-only message. This type of feedback can help students feel heard and supported and provide a way to communicate a suggestion, a piece of advice, or an action item alongside the enthusiasm of the person giving feedback.

Audio and video feedback can be easier and more efficient for both teachers and students. Whether it is a teacher giving feedback to a student or a student giving feedback to a classmate, audio and video responses can simply be a quicker way of communicating. By providing feedback to students more quickly teachers are saving time that can be reallocated to designing supports and interventions based on formative assessment data you might collect in the process of observing student peer feedback loops.

Some of my favorite Tools for Audio and Video Feedback are:
• Flipgrid—Flipgrid is an app that allows video responses in a collaborative space
• Mote—Mote is a Google Docs and Slides add-on enabling voice comments
• Padlet—Padlet is a digital tool with options for adding voice notes to a shared space
• Seesaw—Seesaw is a classroom app allowing comments on posts to be given in text and audio format
• Vocaroo—Vocaroo is a web browser-based tool for voice recordings that users can share as a link

Don't forget, I've linked all of the resources mentioned in today's episode in the shownotes!

When it comes to peer feedback in digital spaces, teachers can offer guidelines and support to students to encourage a productive feedback routine. Here are some tips teachers can share with their students. Remind students to:
• Reread your comment before submitting to make sure the tone is clear (or use an audio recording instead).
• Include an action item or a question to help your classmate think about a next step.
• Put yourself in your classmate's shoes and decide if this comment is helpful.
• Include an emoji along with your comment, such as a thumbs-up or a smiley face to show your support.

There's a whole chapter in *EdTech Essentials* that talks about developing structures to give students the ability to collaborate but this has just been a quick spotlight. I'll add a link to the book in the episode show notes in case you want to check it out.

As you think about feedback in digital spaces this year, I hope providing students with opportunities to collaborate will stay front of mind. You can start modeling feedback best practices as soon as you introduce your feedback tool with students. This can help establish routines for their online interactions and collaboration from day one!

So let's make this EdTech easy...

First, choose a feedback tool to try.

Next, try audio and video responses.

Then, use emojis to convey tone.

Finally, model and give students guidelines.

Remember, you can find the shownotes and the full list of resources from this episode on classtechtips.com/podcast and finding today's episode #154!

Promotion/Reminder

Again a big thank you to our sponsor for this episode, VIZOR for Chromebooks. If your School District has a Chromebook 1:1 program or you're struggling to keep track of repairs and who has which device, you need VIZOR. To find out more visit vizor.cloud/classtechtips, that's V I Z O R dot cloud slash classtechtips or click the link in the show notes.

Outro

If you have a moment to leave a review I would super appreciate it! I read every single review that comes through on the different podcast platforms. I keep my eyes peeled for any questions that come in there, too. So if you have a moment please leave a star rating or type in a quick review. Not only do I appreciate it so much, but it also helps boost the podcast in search engines meaning other educators will find it when they search for EdTech tips.

Episode Resources

- EdTech Books by Monica Burns
- Vocaroo
- Flipgrid Shorts (Video discussion tool)
- Flipgrid (Video discussion tool)
- Padlet (Online discussion tool)
- Mote (Voice note & feedback tool)
- Seesaw (Student-driven Digital Portfolios & ParentCommunication)
- How to Help Students Better Navigate Digital Spaces [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] (Podcast Episode)

- 5 Tips for Picking the Best Resources for Your Students [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] (Podcast Episode)
- Exploring the World With Virtual Field Trips [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] (Podcast Episode)
- 3 Types of Audience for Student Work [EdTech Essentials Spotlight] (Podcast Episode)
- 4 Tips for Assessing Online Learning and Feedback (Podcast Episode)
- Digital Tips for Quick and Thoughtful Peer Feedback (Podcast Episode)
- Quick, Creative Reading Responses with Capstone Connect and Flipgrid (Blog Post)
- The Educator's Guide to Flipgrid
- Microsoft Teams for Collaboration and Feedback (Blog Post)
- How to Use Flipgrid for Book Clubs (Blog Post)
- Spark Post + Flipgrid Shorts = An Epic Combo (Blog Post)