



Overcoming Common Challenges in Technology Integration

Technology has become a central part of today's classrooms. Over the past few decades, it has dramatically enhanced the learning experience—but it has also introduced its own pitfalls and challenges.

In recent years, students have become more accustomed to technology being integrated into their day-to-day lives. There are many benefits of technology integration, including helping increase engagement, facilitating personalized learning and preparing students for future careers, especially as research has shown that 92% of job postings require digital skills.¹ Schools must plan carefully to overcome budget, infrastructure and security challenges.

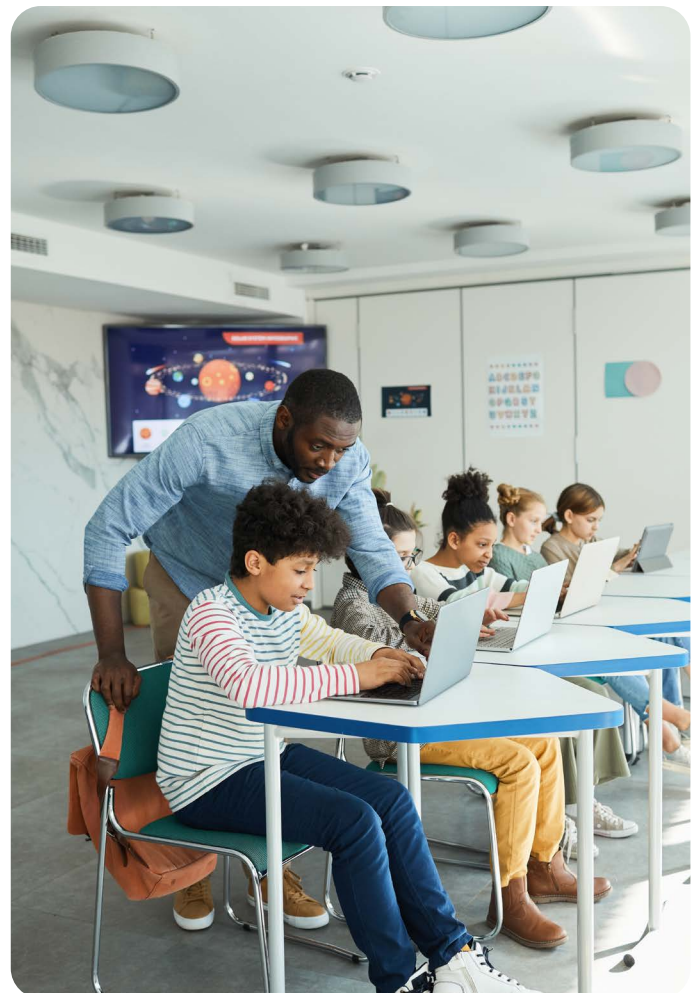
Budgeting and funding challenges

Unfortunately, budget constraints can hold back some schools from best supporting students when technology is too expensive. This can limit accessibility, but there are ways schools can identify high-impact, low-cost technologies that work into the curriculum to adequately support students' learning. Thoughtful use of these devices and apps can support more personalized learning, help close equity gaps and build skills students can use in the future. Schools can also explore grants and partnership opportunities to help bridge the gap between technology cost and student needs.²

Overcoming dated infrastructure and connectivity

Even the best technology tools can fall short if classrooms lack reliable internet access, sufficient bandwidth or updated hardware.³ Conducting regular technology audits can assist districts in identifying gaps in Wi-Fi coverage, network performance and device availability so they can target upgrades where they are needed most.

One option is to invest in scalable network solutions and cloud-based platforms helping systems grow as student populations, AI tools, and device numbers increase. When possible, districts may consider designing infrastructure with redundancy and accessibility in mind so learning is not disrupted by outages or single points of failure.



Devices, data privacy and security

As more laptops, tablets and learning apps are deployed, cybersecurity solutions are important to help protect data and sensitive information. With tech development rapidly improving, districts face evolving threats such as phishing, ransomware and unauthorized access to student information, which can disrupt learning and erode community trust.⁴ In fact, 80% of pre-K-12 providers and 79% of higher education institutions have experienced ransom attacks costing millions of dollars in recovery costs.⁵

Technology integration works best when students and staff both understand how to use tools safely and responsibly. Ongoing training on digital privacy and best use cases can help students better know how to protect their information, evaluate online content and behave responsibly online.⁶ Clear guidelines for device use, screen time and online communication can be embedded into student handbooks and reinforced in classrooms.

Here are some **tips** to overcome these common challenges of classroom technology integration:

Align with learning goals

Effective technology integration starts with understanding learning goals, not the tools themselves. First identify students' knowledge levels, then select digital resources that support those objectives such as simulations, adaptive practice tools or multimedia content.

Encourage Collaboration

Technology can also strengthen collaboration by enabling shared documents, discussion boards and group projects that connect students within and beyond the classroom. Blended approaches that combine hands-on activities with digital experiences can help maintain a healthy balance and keep students actively engaged rather than passively consuming content.

Evaluate Effectiveness

Evaluating tools regularly can help districts continue to meet instructional and equity goals. Teachers and administrators can gather feedback from students, review usage data and adjust strategies that are not delivering value. This can help free up time and budget for more impactful options in the classroom.

Collaboration and integration are more important now in preparing today's students for future careers and schooling. ODP Business Solutions® is here for your technological needs. Our technology group helps schools seamlessly identify and implement cost-effective technology solutions for even the toughest IT questions.



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¹<https://nationalskillscoalition.org/news/press-releases/new-report-92-of-jobs-require-digital-skills-one-third-of-workers-have-low-or-no-digital-skills-due-to-historic-underinvestment-structural-inequities/>

²<https://progresslearning.com/news-blog/find-tech-grants-for-schools-districts/>

³<https://moreland.edu/resources/blog-insights/integrating-technology-into-the-classroom-tools-and-tips-for-the-2025-2026-school-year>

⁴<https://www.powerschool.com/blog/cybersecurity-in-schools/>

⁵<https://assets.sophos.com/X24WTUEQ/at/j74v496cfwh4qsvqghs4pmw/sophos-state-ofransomware-education-2023-wp.pdf>

⁶<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/ensuring-digital-accessibility-in-k-12-schools-in-a-technology-driven-era/>