



Chromebooks at SCCS

A Virtuous Pilot

“In fact, the Church is not only called upon to use the mass media to spread the Gospel, but today more than ever, to integrate the message of salvation into the ‘new culture’ that these powerful means of communication create and amplify.

It tells us that the use of the techniques and the technologies of contemporary communications is an integral part of its mission in the third millennium.”

~ Pope St. John Paul II



Philosophy of Technology at SCCS

Education develops what is most human in students: the capacity for wisdom and love which requires insightful reading, depth of thought, and the autonomy that comes from virtuous self-discipline. These, in turn, require disciplined habits of patience, attentiveness, memory and concentration and a desire for what is truly good and beautiful.

The role of computers and information technologies should be assessed in light of these goals, and prudence should govern their use in instruction and the completion of assignments.

Philosophy of Technology at SCCS



These technologies are both a fact of contemporary life and a wonderful resource, providing access to sources of knowledge otherwise unavailable. They should be utilized when appropriate and students should be taught to use them responsibly.

However, premature or excessive use of these technologies may undermine the very qualities and skills education seeks to cultivate. It may also hamper the transmission of tradition by subtly communicating the pervasive thought that new equals better. Furthermore, it has the potential to isolate students from one another.



Philosophy of Technology at SCCS

Therefore, careful prudence on the part of the teacher and administration will determine the technologies introduced and used for the benefit of the learning process, which seeks to form the whole child: mind, body, and spirit.



Careful Implementation

- Research with Tierney for past 2-3 years
- Trial sessions with different devices at different grade levels
- Staff commitment

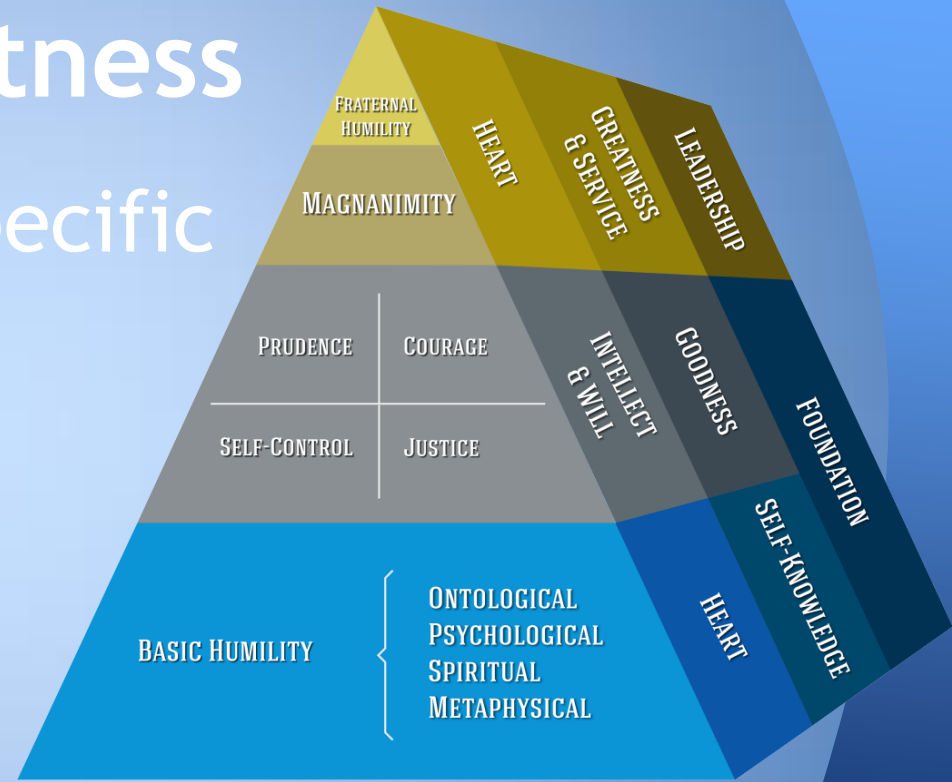


Created for Greatness

- Each child is capable of achieving greatness!
- Leadership formation program for 3 years

Created for Greatness

- Targeting virtues specific to each grade level
- Designed with the understanding that technology is an opportunity to practice specific virtues



THE VIRTUOUS LEADERSHIP PYRAMID



The Grant

- Schulze Family Foundation
- Desire to support leadership/entrepreneurial opportunities
- Combining technology, leadership and virtue was a new concept and is sorely needed

Student Preparations

- Place technology within the framework of SCCS philosophy of education and philosophy of technology
- Think through possible positive and negative consequences of technology being added to help develop prudence

7 Keys for Media Use

Balance

Awareness of attitudes

Promotes the dignity of the human person

Truth filled

Inspired to the true, the good, and the beautiful

Skillfully developed

Motivated by the human experience



Pilot Mechanics

- 42 Total Chromebooks Divided Between Two Classrooms.
- Chromebook Carts Provide Storage and Charging Stations.
- Other Content-area Teachers and Students Will Have Access to Chromebooks
- Ongoing Google Apps Student and Teacher Training Through Pilot Phase.
- Performance Series Testing Will Utilize Chromebooks to Speed Testing Cycle.
- Pilot Phase will Provide Instructional Input for full 1-1 Roll-out in 2015.

Walled Garden of Safety



Student Contract:

- “The use of school-supplied Chromebooks at St Croix Catholic Middle School is a privilege that comes with responsibility. The device is at all times property of St Croix Catholic School and not a student’s personal device.”

Email:

- Each Student will have their own stccschool.com gmail account to be used for inter-domain school work communication between teachers and students only.
- Personal GMail accounts blocked from student use
- Email filters and quarantines
- Student Council recommendations: Email, History Checks



Walled Garden of Safety

Use of the Internet:

- Google Safe Search filters out explicit content
- Chrome Adblock blocks annoying ads
- Teachers sharing YouTube videos will use SafeShare.TV
- Teachers will have visibility to each Chromebook being used within a classroom

Chromebook Apps:

- Chrome Web Store closed
- Teachers choose apps students may use
- Google Hangout, an instant messaging and video chat platform is currently closed to students but open to teachers.

Why Chromebooks?

