HOW WE DID IT

Peter Robinson
Core Beliefs

- Technology increasingly ubiquitous and personal
- Challenges traditional approach to deployment
- Students, teachers need to be empowered
- It shouldn’t be about playing “goalie”
A Little History

- Very short timeline
- School Committee Approval: Early April 2011
- First 5 Exploration Classrooms (~100 iPads) May 2011
- First half of entire Kindergarten grade: September 2011
Questions to be answered

1. How should we set up iPads pre-deployment?
2. How will teachers manage them after deployment?
3. How will we store the iPads?
4. How will we charge them?
5. What cases shall we buy? Screen protectors?
Pre-Deployment Setup

* Not at all like handling 1-to-1 laptops
* Cannot simply build and deploy an image
* If we pre-sync apps, teacher cannot then sync to iTunes in the classroom
* iPads must be “unbricked” and inventoried
Exploration Classrooms

- Very rapid deployment
- No Cases
- No MDM solution
- Not really clear on Apple IDs, sync strategies, profiles
- That's why it was "exploration"
Middle School students assisted with unpacking, unbrickning, and inventory collection.
Five classroom sets of iPads readied for delivery.
Classroom deliveries

Teachers had selected apps (sometimes HUNDREDS!)

Sync the first iPad with just the apps they wanted

Restore a backup to the rest of the set
Ongoing Management

* Teachers bought apps through VPP on their laptop
* Each teacher was a program facilitator
* Synced all their iPads in turn
Lessons Learned from Exploration

- Less is More!!!
  - A smaller number of good apps is better than a huge number of mediocre ones!
- Easier to manage
- Easier for students to navigate
- More cost-effective and efficient to buy apps centrally
- Created a need to easily deploy VPP codes
- Overnight storage not necessarily in daytime use
Summer!!!

Time to breathe, relax, reflect....

Not so
Getting Ready for the Full Rollout!

- JAMF CasperSuite purchased and installed
- iPads now set up with enrollment profile for MDM
- Profile name indicates classroom
- Trident Kraken Cases
Apple IDs

* K students cannot have their own
* Teachers use institutional Apple IDs to buy apps
* Apps stay in the classroom where they were bought
Separate iTunes Libraries

* One for teacher
* One for students
* Some apps in both
  * No need to worry about “Angry Birds,” “facebook” ending up on student devices!
Syncing approaches

Or should it be “sinking?”
MDM approach, MK 1

- Codes would be deployed to Self-Service Portal
- Teachers would redeem code on each iPad
- Accurate tracking of code usage
Not well received!!
MDM Mk II

* Codes redeemed on 1 iPad
* Synced to teacher’s laptop
* Remaining iPads synced in turn
October 4, 2011
(iOS 5 announced)

- Sounded like the PERFECT solution for us
- Apps would auto-download on all iPads signed into the same Apple ID
- Teachers would be freed from tethered syncing
- Initial trials appeared to be working
The Devil’s in the Details

- Wireless download unreliable for anything more than the smallest apps
- The (mythical) 10-device limit
Back to wired syncing

- USB hubs seem like the best option
- Not all hubs are equal!
Questions

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