Data / Productivity Programs

PowerSchool Teacher (Attendance / Gradebooks / Longitudinal Data Systems)
PowerSchool is a Student Information System (SIS) that allows teachers to input and track student attendance and grades. It is used by administration to enroll students and create schedules. Teachers and administration have access to demographic and contact information. Parents, teachers, students, and administration can view grades and attendance information.
- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Administration

Google Workspace (Cloud Storage and Tools / Email / Calendar)
Google workspace allows teachers to organize,save, and share information, lessons, and assignments. The collaborative possibilities and ease of use makes Google an integral part of our school system. It can also be used for assessment purposes.
Google Drive
Google Sheets
Google Classroom
Google Docs
Google Contacts
Google Calendar
Google Slides
Google Forms
Gmail
- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Administration

GoFormative (Test and Worksheet Generators)
GoFormative is software used for testing. It allows teachers to take any digital or scannable text and create an online editable test. GoFormative allows for real time assessment. It records the scores and allows the teacher to easily reassign when appropriate.
- Teachers
- Students

GoGuardian (Monitoring / (Classroom Management Systems)
GoGuardian is a monitoring tool that allows teachers and administrators to monitor students' computer usage. Teachers can message and communicate

with students as well as close tabs and disable software being used inappropriately. GoGuardian can be used remotely so it is a valuable tool if the teacher or administrator is off campus.

- Teachers
- Students
- Administration

IXL Learning (Test and Worksheet Generators)

IXL Learning is a software program that aligns with common core and state standards in math, language arts, science, social studies, and spanish. It provides online lessons and evaluative tests to levelize students mastery of skills. Teachers are easily able to assign practice that aligns with specific standards and assess student mastery.

- Teachers
- Students

RedRover (Substitute Finders)

RedRover is used by Calhoun County to coordinate substitutes for absences. Teachers can log in and schedule an absence and contact a specific substitute or open the position for anyone verified and available. Administrators are informed of the arrangement. Because it is automated, arrangements can be made in advance or at the last minute incase of an unexpected emergency.

- Teachers
- Administration

Clever (APP Organization)

Clever is a secure platform used to connect software applications provided by the school system to teachers and students. It organizes applications and makes it easy for teachers, parents, and students to access and navigate.

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents

Renaissance STAR (Test and Worksheet Generators)

Renaissance STAR (Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading) has been expanded to include math and early literacy skills. Renaissance is an individualized testing platform that levelizes student performance based on the common core or state standards. Teachers can access the data collected by renaissance and use it for instructional purposes as well as for tracking progress for response to intervention plans. The data is sharable with parents and is trackable over the course of the students' education.

- Teachers
- Students

- Parents

Schoology (Learning Management Systems)

Schoology is a learning management system used during covid when students had the option to remain home. It is currently only used by our system at the highschool level. It functions in the same way as Canvas to provide a centralized way to present assignments and monitor student work.

- Teachers
- Students

Zoom (Videoconferencing)

Zoom was used primarily during covid to provide video conferencing between teachers and students. It was also used by teachers for collaborative purposes. It is still currently used by teachers and administrators for training sessions and as a remote option with parents when they can not be present for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meeting.

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Administration

Remind (APPS / Parent Communication)

Remind is a messaging application that is used to communicate with parents. It is secure and facilitates mass messaging without providing personal information.

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents

WeVideo (Videoconferencing)

WeVideo is video editing software that allows students and teachers to make and edit videos. It can be used for direct instruction or for a flipped classroom model. It allows videos to be stored on the cloud, to be downloaded, or shared.

- Teachers
- Students

Class Dojo (Classroom Management Systems / Parent Communication)

Class Dojo is an application that allows teachers to monitor and record student behavior with points. Students can see and hear the positive or negative reinforcement. Teachers can set the program to communicate with parents the student's behavior.

- Students
- Parents

PowerSchool Special Programs (Special Education)

PowerSchool Special Programs is used by special education teachers and administration to write IEPs and 504 plans. Special Programs allows for communication with teachers, parents, schools, and school systems, if necessary. Special Programs is used as a record keeping tool.

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Administration

PowerSchool Professional Learning (Learning Management Systems)

PowerSchool Professional Learning is used for professional development. It records professional learning completed by educators and is used as documentation for teacher certification.

- Teachers
- Administration

ALSDE Identity Management (AIM) (Teacher Effectiveness Platforms)

AIM is a platform that sets expectations for teacher effectiveness. It is used by administrators and the state department to evaluate teacher effectiveness. The Alabama Teacher Observation Tool is available through the ALSDE website.

- Teachers
- Administration

Bouncy Balls (Classroom Management Systems)

Bouncy Balls is a classroom application that allows teachers to visually show students their noise level. This allows teachers to set expectations and involve students in self regulation of their behavior.

- Teachers
- Students

SeeSaw (APPS / Parent Communication)

SeeSaw is used by teachers in early elementary grades to communicate with parents and to share completed work. It is a secure platform that allows for individual communication or mass communication when applicable.

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents

ScreenCastify (Videoconferencing)

Screencastify is screen recording software that allows students and teachers to record and share what is on their screen. It can be used to make and edit videos.

It can be used for direct instruction or for a flipped classroom model. It allows videos to be stored on the cloud, to be downloaded, or shared.
- Teachers
- Students

Wakelet (Classroom Management Systems / Parent Communication)

Wakelet is an organizational tool that allows teachers to share and save ideas, images, links, videos, or PDFs. It can be shared publicly or kept private. It can be used as a means of commutation with parents and colleagues. It can also be used for a flipped classroom model.
- Teachers
- Students
- Parents

Reflection:

I definitely use the Google applications daily in my classroom with my students and to plan and collaborate. I especially find Google Classroom useful in posting assignments and in providing resources. Recently I started using the Topic option to help organize the resources I post to the students. I just recently started using Wakelet to help organize links, information, videos etc. The Clever platform is useful in helping to organize applications that both I and the students use. It feels like there are so many available software applications that keeping them organized allows for efficient use. Google Slides is how I often present my whole group lessons. I also use GoGuardian daily. With every student having access to a chromebook, it is a necessary tool to monitor appropriate use and productivity. IXL, GoFormative, and Renaissance are tools that I use almost weekly. They not only facilitate my teaching but also provide valuable data that is used to guide my instruction. Honestly, PowerSchool is a powerful tool that is essential to education. However, it is so embedded in everything we do, I often take it for granted.

Another aspect of teaching is communication with parents. We currently use Remind, gmail, and a closed Facebook page. When using gmail, I first start by creating a label in Google contacts. I was previously Google Certified. To stay current, I need to recertify with Google and become level II certified. As much as I use Google, I am always discovering new things. Sometimes small upgrades can make a huge difference in efficiency. My grade-level has recently been collaborating on ways to better communicate behavior both positive and negative with parents. Paper communication is not always efficient with today's lifestyles. I think that Class Dojo has the potential to offer a workable solution. I previously considered it an application only used for younger grades but I think I need to explore the potential especially since it can be viewed by parents and students. I want to find out if it is an option to add the application to our Clever platform. I think allowing the students to independently monitor their behavioral goals would be beneficial to classroom management.

The direction I think I need to become more comfortable with is emerging AI. I am aware of the potential shortfalls in education; however, I think there are potential applications that can increase productivity and, oddly enough, creative expression. I did an activity last year with the students to use AI art generators. I was amazed at the students' enthusiasm and more importantly their conversations. I think that using AI to express their interpretations of thoughts about stories is interesting. I also think that it offers the potential for deeper conversations. Can AI be used to effectively teach using the flipped classroom model without teaching students to rely on AI to cheat and avoid work? There is a difference between productivity and circumventing work. Is it possible to teach the difference to upper elementary age students? I don't know the answer but I do think it is worth exploring.