

1:1 Blended Learning Classroom Snapshot:

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Blackboard®

1:1 Learning/One-to-One Learning

noun: \ˈwən-tü-wən ˈlɜrn-ɪŋ \

An education initiative in which a school or district provides each teacher and student with a laptop, notebook, or tablet PC for use at home and at school to enable blended learning.

Student-Centric Learning

Piedmont City School District teacher, Leighann Ford, trusts her students. That's because "They know how they learn best," she says. Since each student has his or her own laptop, iPod, or iPad, they have the tools to decide when and how they learn.

Piedmont adopted 1:1 learning in 2009 and has since built a successful blended learning program. A veteran teacher of 16 years, Ford says her students are more engaged and motivated than ever before. Not to mention she's more energized, too.

Using Blackboard, Ford has transformed pedagogy in her classroom. At first, she continued her traditional teaching methods while simply transitioning to a paperless classroom. But over time, she slowly

changed her pedagogy. She built folders with information students might need to learn a lesson. A folder might include videos, links, vocabulary, assignments, quizzes, and surveys. Then, she created clearly defined learning activities and projects to gauge learning using blogs and quizzes. Now, she gives students the standards they need to learn and her students tell her how they want to learn it by demonstrating what they learn in creative project based learning activities.

"Our students have the freedom to choose how and when they learn, but the what hasn't changed," she says.

A 1:1 classroom gives students ...

- Freedom
- Choice
- Motivation
- Passion

Increased Parent Communication

The combination of a 1:1 classroom and Blackboard technology allows parents to:

- Log on to Blackboard
- See current grade reports in all subjects
- View content for each class
- Use messaging tool to communicate with teachers

Motivation Maker

Piedmont High School online class students with a B or better can stay home during first period Monday through Thursday and attend class only on Fridays. This structure gives them the freedom to choose when they learn—at night, on the weekends, or during other free time.

Moving to a Student Centric Classroom

“At the beginning, it was very teacher centric. Over the years, I learned how to relinquish control and turn it over to the students. They know how they learn best.” LEIGHANN FORD

Best Practices for Successful 1:1 Learning

- 1 BE FLEXIBLE** —Give yourself time to learn the technology and shift your pedagogy.
- 2 STAY ORGANIZED** —Align content folders to common core standards by filling them with information students can use to learn the topic.
- 3 RELINQUISH CONTROL** —Remember, your students know how they learn best. Let them choose how and when they learn, you give them the what.
- 4 CHECK TEMPERATURE** —Gauge learning through blogs, quizzes, and discussion forums in Blackboard.
- 5 CONSTANTLY IMPROVE** —Take surveys to find out what’s working and what’s not. Use messages to communicate with students and parents.

Blackboard Favorites

Leighann Ford uses Blackboard and 1:1 technology to deliver learning in ways that make her students excited about their education:

- Mashups (YouTube, Flickr, Slideshare)
- Discussion forums
- Messaging
- Standards alignments
- Assignments
- Assessments
- Surveys

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See how Piedmont’s 1:1 initiative is empowering their teachers to implement blended learning. [Watch Now.](#)

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