



Keeneyville Elementary School District 20 First to Earn Google for Education Reference District Distinction in DuPage County

Keeneyville Elementary School District 20 is proud to announce that it has earned the elite distinction of being named a Google for Education Reference District. District 20 is the first in DuPage County and one of only six Illinois districts to earn this honor. The program, sponsored by Google, invited schools and districts to enter based on their ability to demonstrate vision and thought leadership through their strong adoption of Google for Education technology to drive positive learning outcomes.

“Your organization is doing exemplary things with Google tools, and you’re joining a select group of innovative districts and independent schools,” read a statement released by Google. “We know you must have a strong vision and stories of how you’re transforming education with technology. We would love to share your experience and expertise with others.”

Schools and districts with this distinction are considered educational innovators and asked by the Google for Education program to share their experiences, learnings, and best practices with others.

“This is so exciting to receive recognition for the hard work that our teachers have done. For the cool things are kids have done,” stated Emmie Pawlak, Director of Teaching and Learning for District 20.

District 20 received the invitation to apply in March based on their strong usage of G Suite for Education tools and Chromebooks.

In 2015, based on research conducted in their strategic plan process, District 20 launched a 1:1 pilot program with 150 devices in four classrooms. To date, the district has over 800 devices with 1:1 programming in third and fifth through eighth grade classrooms. For the 2017 - 2018 school year, every District 20 student in grades two through eight will have access to a Chromebook laptop computer. The 1:1 program is paid for with district dollars and Title 1 funding. Students pay only a \$45 yearly technology fee.

“This is a wonderful honor and opportunity for District 20,” said Superintendent, Dr. Michael Connolly. “This is amazing to have accomplished so much in such a short period of time.”

As part of the application process, District 20 was required to create a presentation showcasing stories of impact which addressed the topics of Vision, Culture and Professional Development.

“The presentation demonstrates that we are not just implementing a 1:1 technology program in District 20,” explained Pawlak. “We are seeking to fundamentally alter the culture of our District and create a professional learning community where effective communication, collaboration, and innovation in learning becomes the bedrock norm for all.”

To learn more about the daily activities in District 20, search for the hashtag #esd20learns on Twitter.

Igniting the power and potential of each student!

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