

Technology in the Classroom Report

BELTON ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 20, 2026



Purpose

Purpose: To review current classroom device footprints, screen-time data, and student practices to identify current strengths and next steps.

In support of BISD strategic plan strategy 1.4.2: Implement instructional practices that balance digital tool use with tactile, inquiry-based learning and practical life skills.

Device Distribution

Pre-K

5 iPads per Classroom

Kindergarten

5 iPads & 5 Chromebooks per
Classroom

1st - 2nd

12 Chromebooks per Classroom

3th - 5th

Chromebooks Full Class Sets - 1:1 at
School

Secondary

Chromebooks 1:1 - Take Home

Assessment

Preparing Students for Digital Assessments



Why Students Practice Digitally

- STAAR is administered online
- College Board assessments online (PSAT, SAT, & AP)
- ACT transitioning to digital administration
- TSIA is administered online
- Students must build confidence with online testing tools, typing, and composing extended responses



Why Paper & Pencil Still Matter

- Outline essays and organize evidence
- Solve and show mathematical work
- Annotate text and record thinking
- Draft ideas, take notes, sketch models, and support deeper thinking

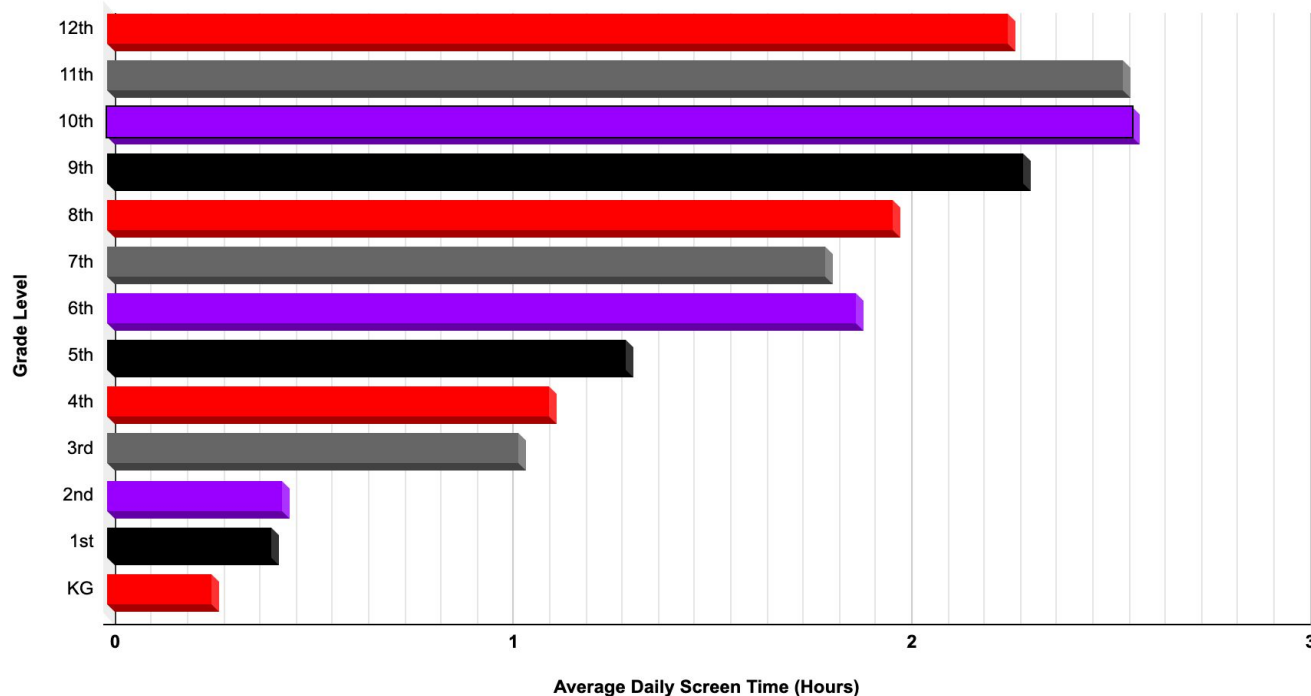


Balanced Approach

Belton ISD intentionally provides students with regular opportunities to practice online assessments while continuing to teach effective paper and pencil strategies that support critical thinking.

Usage Data During the School Day

Average Daily Screen Time (Hours) by Grade Level



Policy and Guideline Changes

TX House Bill 1481 (2025)

State law mandates a strict written policy prohibiting all personal communication devices on campus during the instructional day.

**Board Policy FNCE(LOCAL)
BISD Parent & Student Handbook**

TX House Bill 2849 (2025)

State law mandates schools cannot use technology as a substitute for physical recess.

**Board Policy EHAB(LOCAL)
BISD Wellness Plan**

TX Senate Bill 569 (2025)

State law authorizes full local control over virtual and hybrid learning, repealing the centralized state network and guaranteeing equal funding for online programs.

**Board Policy EHDE(LOCAL)
BISD Program & Course Guidelines**

Strengths

Technology Across the District



DATA TO ACTION

Students are able to connect baseline Star Renaissance data to specific Freckle lessons to address individual needs.



COLLEGEBOARD TUTORIALS

CollegeBoard is being utilized as a resource for tutorials and test preparation to support college and career readiness.



RESEARCH SKILLS AT THE ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Elementary students are learning to use an online platform to research topics, build knowledge, and develop digital citizenship skills.



AI FOR FEEDBACK AT THE SECONDARY LEVEL

Secondary students are learning to utilize AI tools to provide feedback on their work and refine their thinking as writers and problem solvers.

Next Steps



CONSISTENCY

Reduce variability in effective use of technology across classrooms and campuses.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Increase offerings of professional development on high quality use of technology in instruction.



BALANCED INSTRUCTION

Promote a balanced approach that intentionally combines technology with paper-and-pencil strategies to strengthen learning.



MONITOR & REFINE

Use classroom observations, teacher feedback, and student data to monitor implementation and refine practices.

Discussion

