



## Overview

Since 2003, the Speak Up National Research Project has collected and shared the ideas and views about education and technology from over 1.5 million K-12 students, teachers, parents and administrators. This dataset provides national education leaders and policymakers with the largest collection of authentic, unfiltered stakeholder feedback to inform annual policy, programs and funding. However, the most significant impact is for the schools and districts that regularly use Speak Up as a guide for planning technology use, investments and implementation strategies within their community. This year, with the historic education stimulus funding, the ideas and views of our K-12 students, parents, and educators and the use of the Speak Up data is more important than ever before.

## What do classroom teachers think about the use of technology in their school?

- Almost 80% agree that the effective implementation of technology is crucial to their core mission in their district or school. And 40% of teachers say that their schools are doing a good job preparing students for the jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Besides not having enough time in the day, the primary obstacles to using technology at school continue to be access to computers and the Internet, according to one-third of the teacher respondents. School filters and firewalls continue to block access to the websites report two-fifths of the classroom teachers.

Speak Up 2008:  
29,644 teachers  
84% classroom teachers

## “Powering Up” schools to create tomorrow’s innovators

### ➤ What do teachers think about using mobile devices in schools?

- Almost one-half of teachers report the primary benefit of using mobile devices is increased student engagement and learning. One-third of the teachers also report that using mobile devices prepares students for the world of work. Incorporating mobile devices into learning helps students develop critical thinking, problem solving, communications, collaboration and teamwork skills, according to one in five teachers.
- One in four teachers see the potential for mobile devices to personalize student learning and one-third say the devices can be used to extend the school day.

### ➤ Teachers perceptions about online textbooks and online classes

- Teachers say online textbooks (33 percent) and online learning (21 percent) have the potential to improve student achievement. One-third of classroom teacher respondents have taken an online class for professional development. Teachers would like their professional learning communities infused with online courses, collaboration tools and a centralized repository of teaching resources, according to one-third of the teachers.

### ➤ What technologies do teachers say will have the greatest impact on student achievement?

- About one-third of responding teachers say the technology tools which have the greatest positive impact on student learning are: tools to facilitate organization, communications and collaboration, digital media tools and resources, and online textbooks.

Aside from laptop computers, interactive whiteboards and computer projection devices are teachers top hardware picks.