



TECH SAVVY in the Choral Music Classroom

USING THE TOOLS WITHOUT LOSING THE CONTENT

ABOUT ME

BM. Music Ed
Mansfield University
2012

PreK-12 Choral Music
Edmeston Central School, NY
(2013-2014)

M. Educational Technology
Eduspire/Wilson College
May 2019

7-12 Choral Music
Director of Musical Theater
Troy Area Schools, PA
(2014-present)



HOW ABOUT YOU?

Scan the QR code at left
to link to an audience
survey created in Google
Forms.

WHY USE
TECHNOLOGY?



WHY USE TECHNOLOGY?

We are engaging and educating a new age of learners.

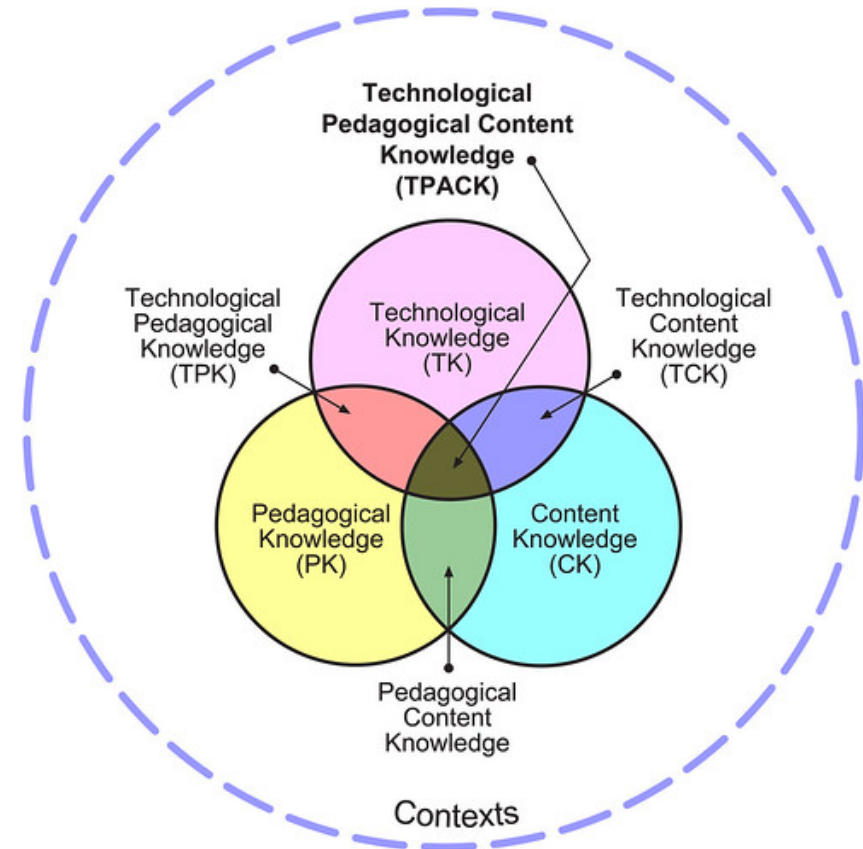
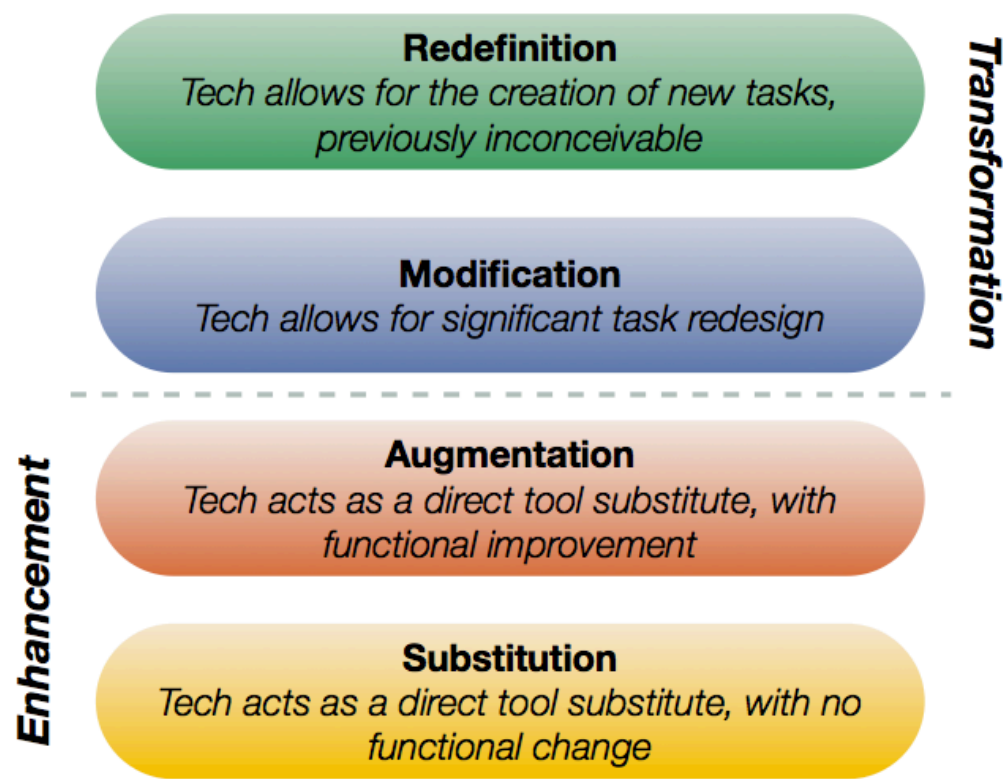
Technology can allow for learning and creativity that has never before been possible.

Education is not a static profession.

TECHNOLOGY-BASED PEDAGOGIES

SAMR

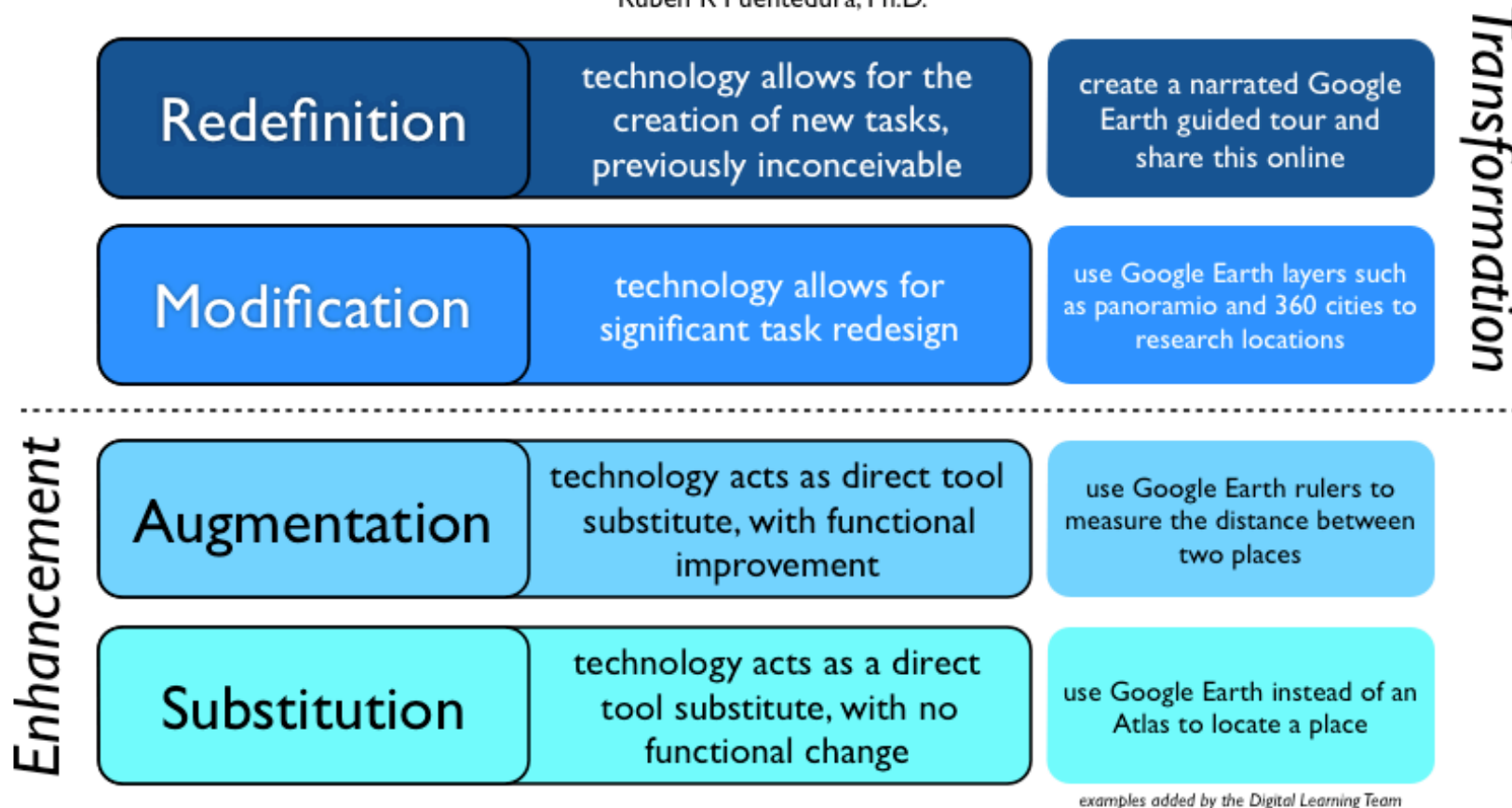
TPACK



The SAMR Model

enhancing technology integration

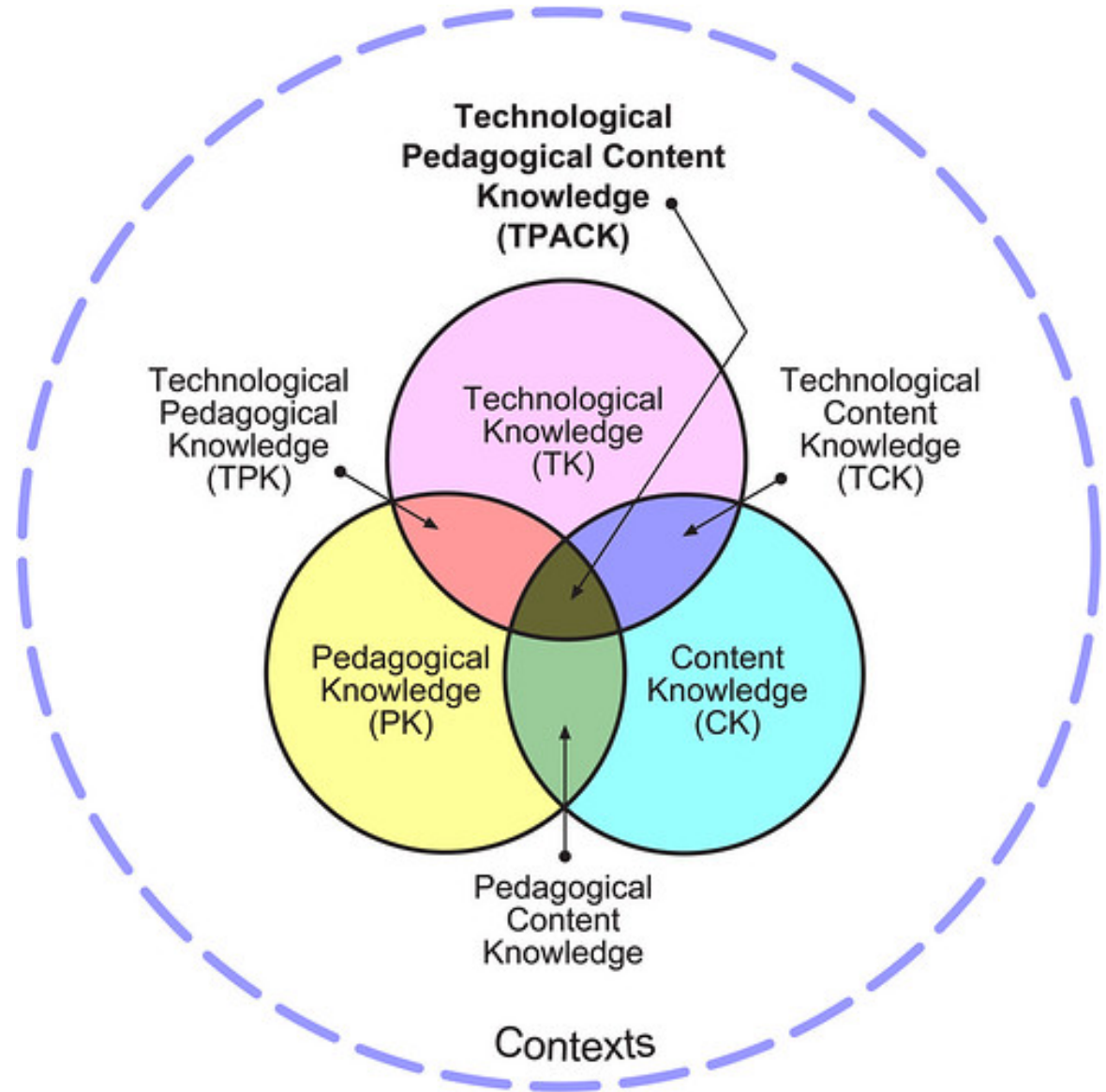
Ruben R Puentedura, Ph.D.



examples added by the Digital Learning Team

<http://www.hippasus.com/rrpweblog/>

THE TPACK MODEL



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TECHNOLOGY-BASED MUSIC INSTRUCTION

“[As music educators] We must understand that technology is not just a set of toys, nor is it just a set of teaching tools. Rather, technology is an important means by which we can teach **MUSIC** — introduce its concepts, reinforce them, provide experience, provide practice, assess and evaluate achievement, structure aesthetic interactions, and do all of the educational activities that make learning music a distinct, **artful** pursuit.”

- Jay Dorfman, Theory and Practice of Technology-Based Music Instruction, 2013.

TECHNOLOGY IN TROY



EATL (Everywhere, All the Time Learning) - 1:1 iPads since 2015

- “The EATL program is defined as a flexible and personalized educational program that integrates new instructional strategies and a mixture of technology tools with the goal of transforming classrooms from teacher-centered to **student-centered personalized learning environments** which focus on high academics and the integration of the 21st century skills: **Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking**. The EATL program is occurring as a result of the District’s strategic plan, which included a goal to integrate 21st Century Learning Skills by utilizing computers as instructional tools.” (TASD EATL Handbook 18-19)
- All students have 1:1 iPads available 3-12 with take-home privileges 7-12. iPad carts available for K-2.
- Technology use is not mandated for curriculum, but encouraged.
- Office365 School
- Additional Tech programs: Tech Squad, VR

MY TECH TOOLS



MacBook Air



iPad 2017 (2)



Apple TV



HUE Document
Camera



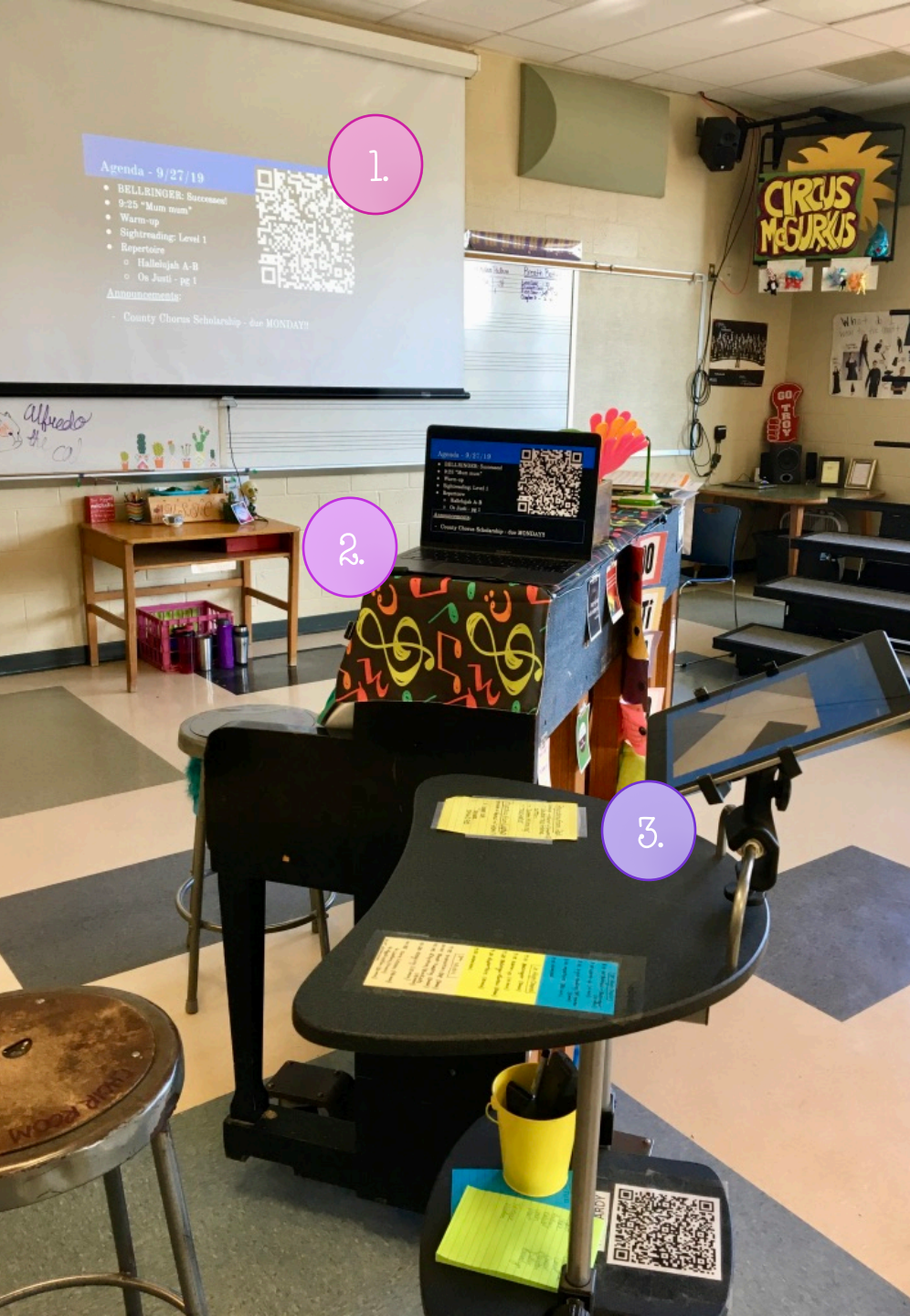
Blue Yeti USB
Microphone



GoPro Hero5



Samsung Gear
360 Camera



MY SETUP

1. Projector Screen utilizing Apple TV

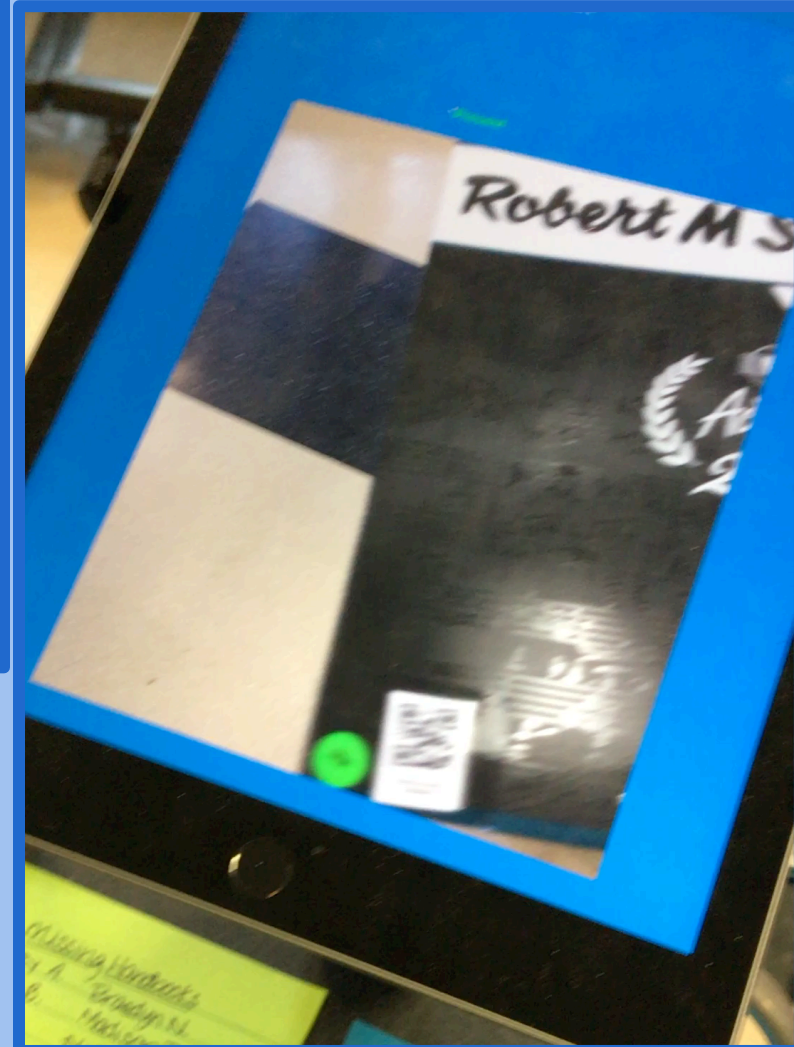
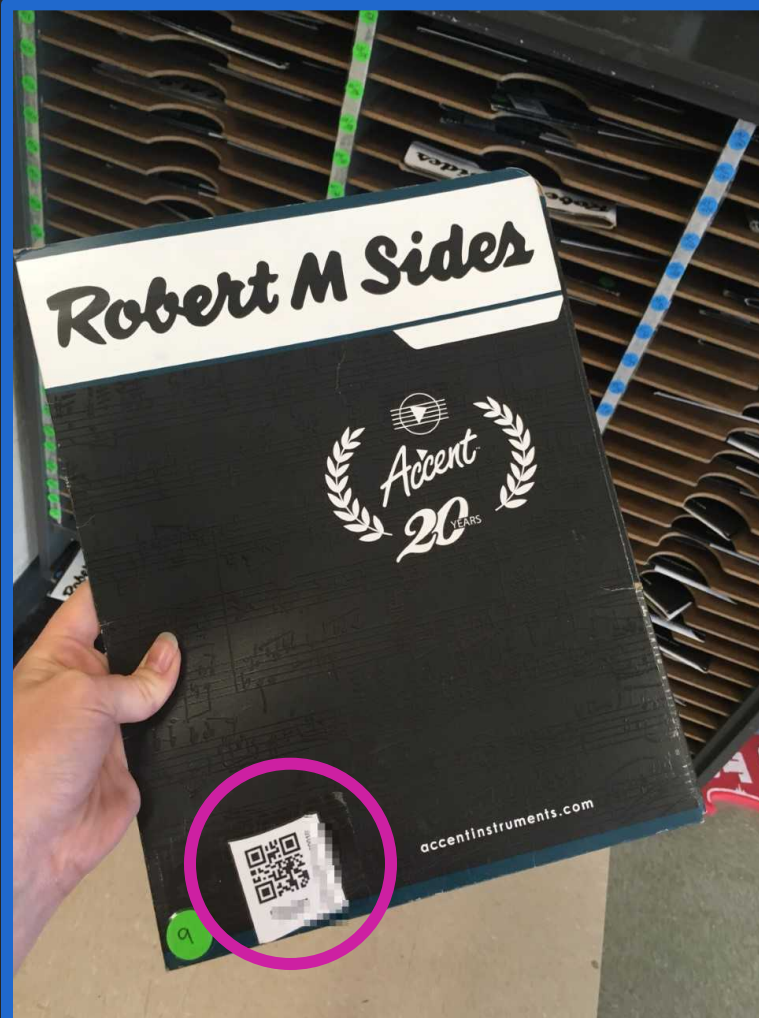
2. MacBook Air - projections

3. iPad - attendance

TECH IN CHOIR: DAILY ROUTINE

Attendance —

Individually-generated QR
codes on choir folders
using the [Attendance2](#) app
on teacher iPad.



TECH IN CHOIR: DAILY ROUTINE

- Agendas - Google Slides
 - Agenda
 - Bellringer
 - QR codes to Google Forms
 - QR codes to web links
 - Directions to go to LMS
- Announcements
- “Today You Need”

CHOIR

Agenda - 10/2/18

- BELLRINGER: Goals!
- 8:25 - Warm up
- Sight reading: Level 3
- Rep:
 - Choosing New Rep (con.)
 - Seize the Day



Announcements: SRF #1 OVERDUE

County Chorus Scholarship due TODAY 10/2 by NOON

7TH GRADE MUSIC

Agenda 9/30/19 - Day 2

- Beat Keeping
- Syllabus (due Friday!)
 - Correct one posted!
- “Forbidden Rhythm”
- Alma Mater intro
- Yousician setup

BELLRINGER:

- Find the Canvas discussion titled “What are you excited to learn/do in Music this year?”
Post your reply.

Today you need:



TECH IN CHOIR: DAILY ROUTINE

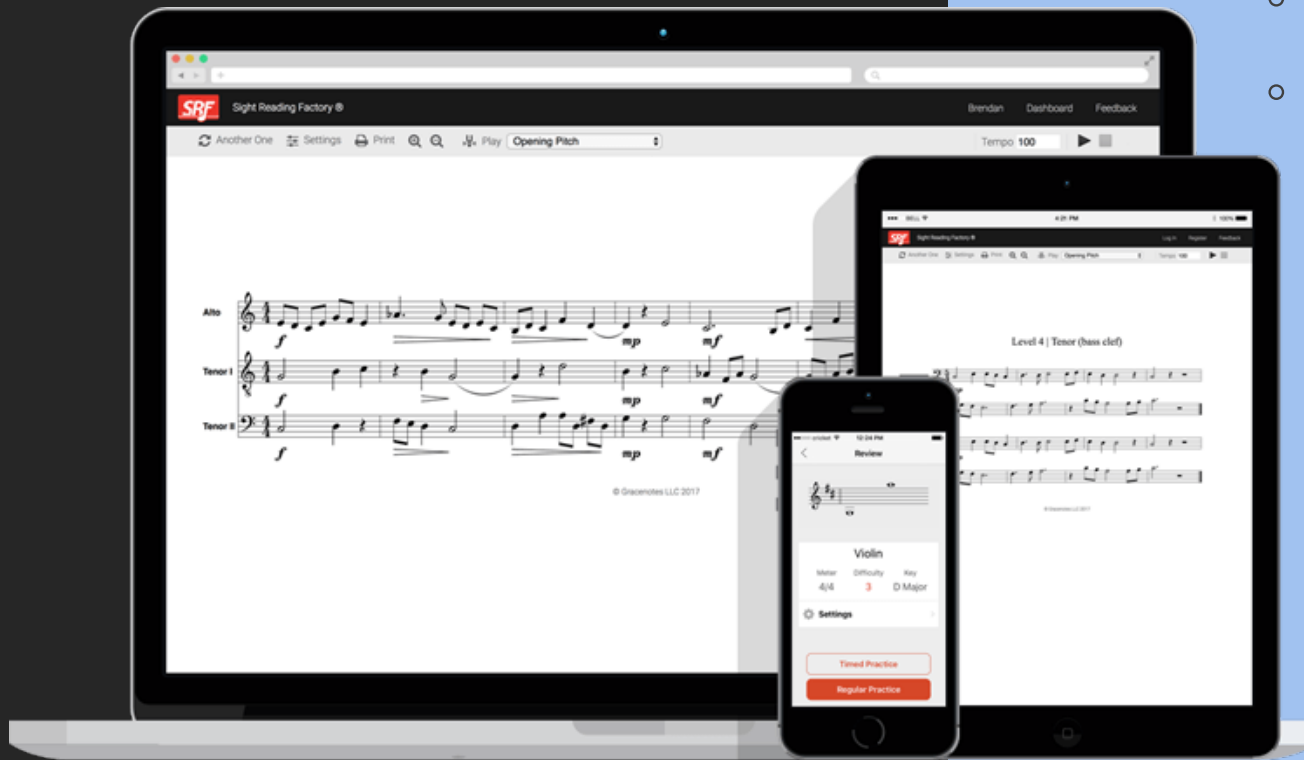
Sight Reading Factory

- District-purchased subscriptions (as low as \$2/student)
- Every generated excerpt is completely unique
- Works for every instrument and voice part (including multi-part choral)
- Allows for assignment creation and grading
- Students record their sight-reading to submit
- Free app available

Every day practice as a group

Written assignments 2x/week

Recorded assignments every other week

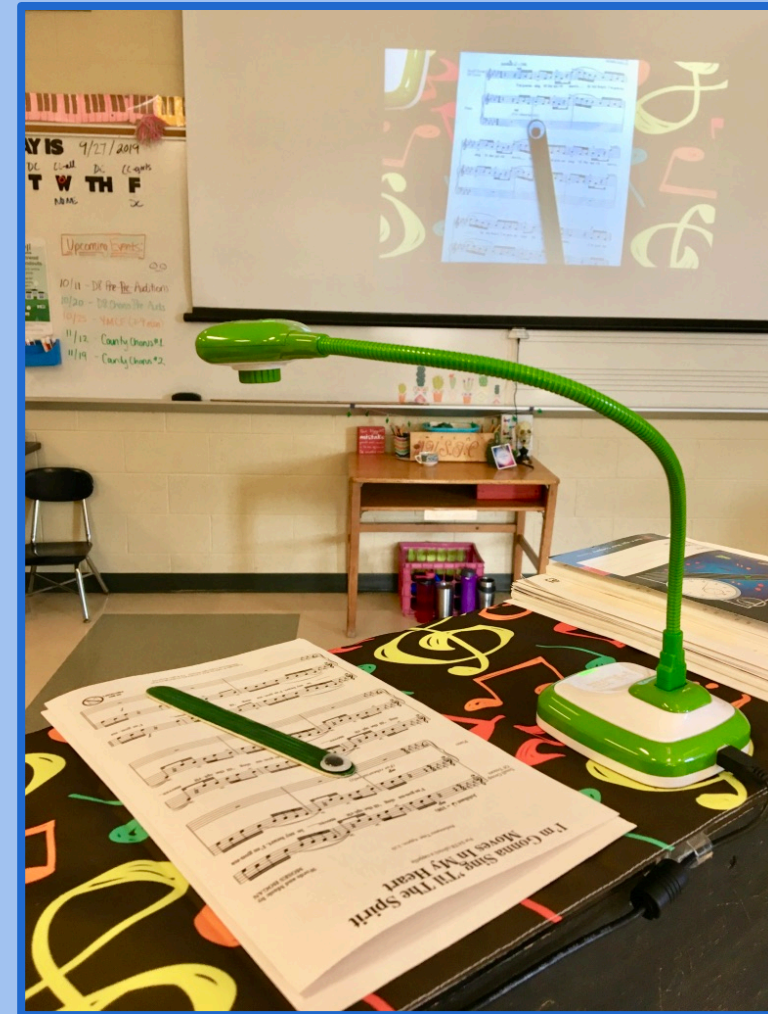


RESEARCH USING SIGHT READING FACTORY

- Action research for Masters Thesis – 3 month testing period
- Measured student music reading achievement and perceptions of sight singing using SRF
- Pre-assessment, treatment period, post-assessment
- FINDINGS:
 - 84% of students showed achievement growth in student literacy
 - Student perceptions survey indicated growth in comfort and reduction of anxiety while sight singing

TECH IN CHOIR: DAILY ROUTINE

- HUE document camera
 - Using high-tech to enhance low-tech
 - Visual check in for score-reading
 - Popsicle-stick-eyeball pointer shows us where to put our eyeballs in the music.





Canvas LMS

(learning management
system)



Sight Reading
Factory

(sight reading)



piaScore

(digital score reader)

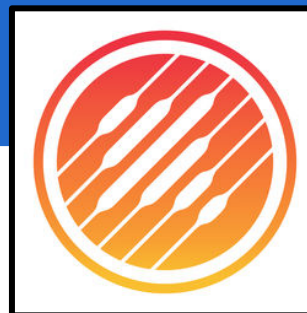


OneDrive

(cloud-based storage)

Music Memos

(recording)



Blob Chorus

(differentiation tool)



STUDENT APPS

TECHNOLOGY FOR VOCAL ASSESSMENT



Music Memos app for choral evaluations

- Whole ensemble sings together, but each student records individually
- Allow for listening, evaluating, and re-recording (They aren't used to hearing themselves!)
- Submit via LMS for grading based on a rubric



Vocal "Portfolios"

- One copy of each singing evaluation is saved into the student's individual cloud-based file
- Specifically labelled including date
- Serves as a recorded record of vocal growth 7th-12th grade
- Senior Reflection on growth as a musician through Choir

TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Google Sites for a one-stop info center

- “Where can I find –?” “Check the Choir website”
- Also a great place for photos!



Choir YouTube Channel

- Instructional Videos
- Performance Recordings
- Teaching Tools
- Suggested Playlists



Remind

- AWESOME tool for extra-curricular activities!



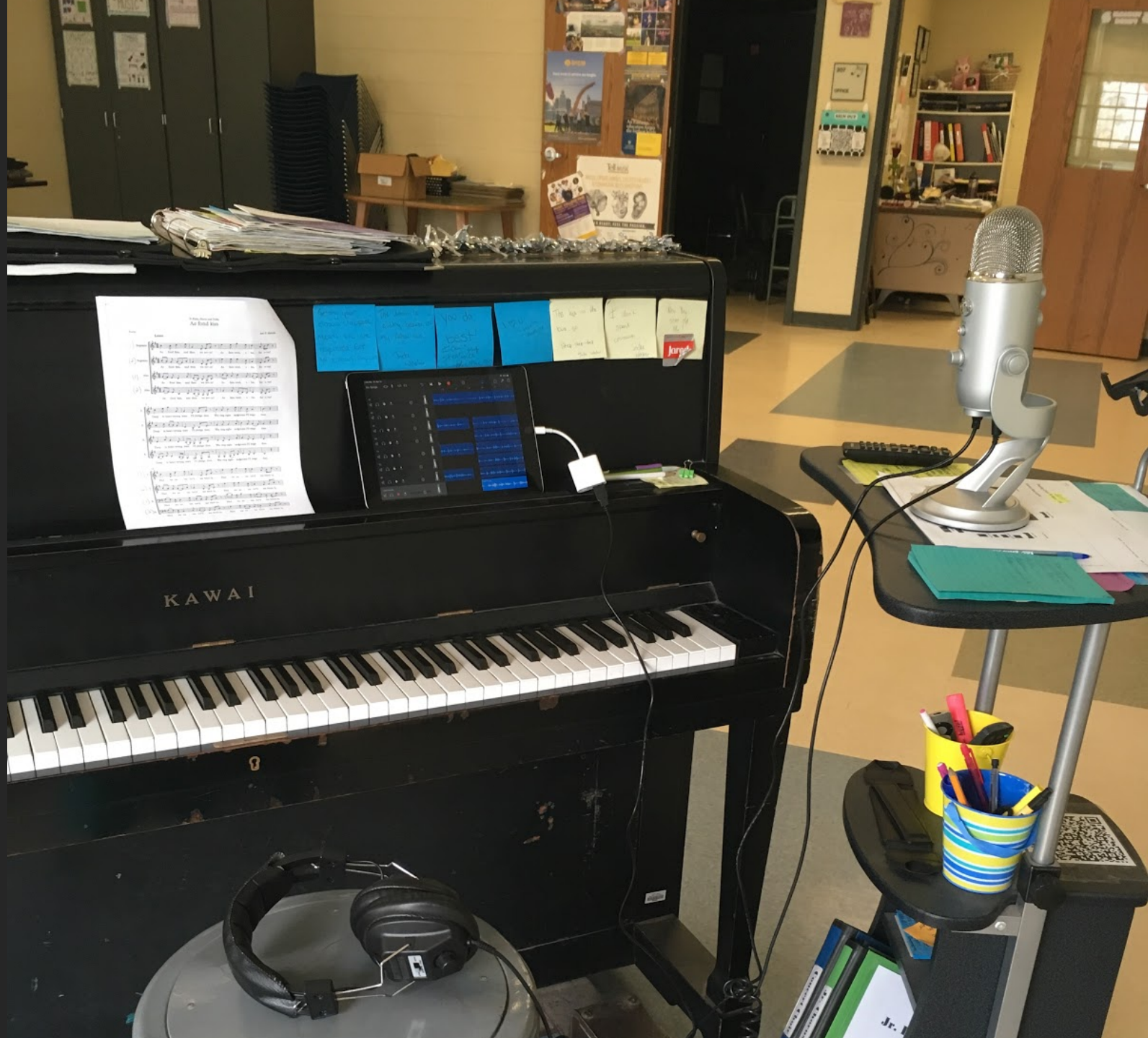
GarageBand for practice tracks and SUB PLANS!

- Splitting, looping, metronomes, copy/paste make this process a LOT easier!

TECHNOLOGY FOR SUB PLANS!!

GarageBand

- Blue Yeti USB microphone with USB-Lightning adapter to record directly into iPad
- Overlay practice tracks with metronome
- Snip out mistakes and re-record!



TECHNOLOGY FOR SUB PLANS!!



Student Leaders

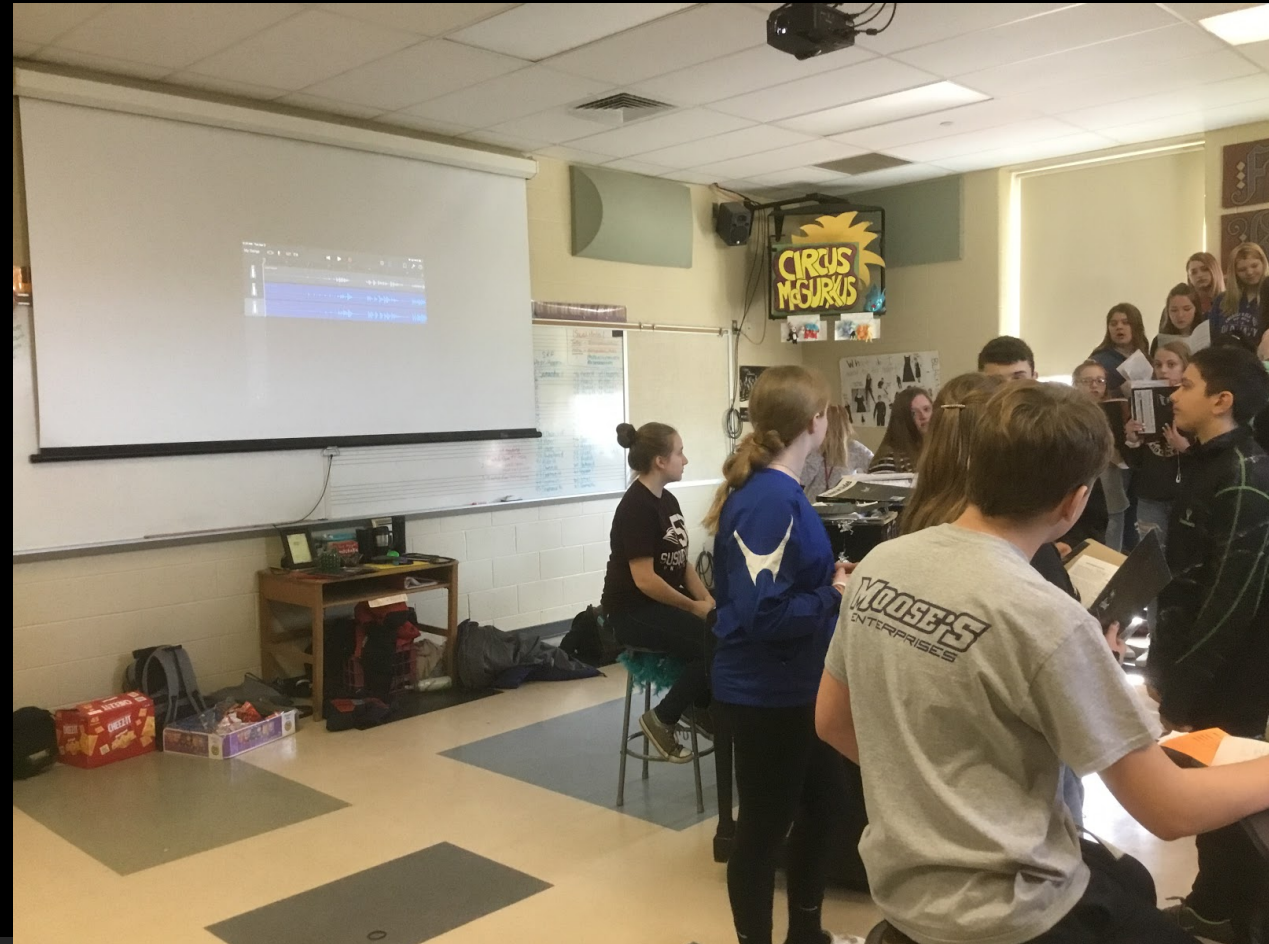
- A confident techie to operate the iPad
- Strong singers who can hold their part and make musical decisions (pair up for confidence)
- Cooperation and teamwork among student leaders



Student-led Rehearsal

- Utilize the mute feature in GarageBand per part
- Part by part, student leaders can rehearse their sections and then rehearse together
- Ability to review AND NOTE-PLUNK NEW THINGS!

TECHNOLOGY FOR SUB PLANS!!







TECHNOLOGY-BASED CHOIR PROJECTS

SOLFEGE MUSIC VIDEOS



RECRUITMENT TRAILERS

HAVE FUN

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE CHORAL CLASSROOM?

YES

- Show your department to your community!
- Teach students how to properly use social media! Don't hide it from them!
- Be smart about it and how it is implemented - Digital Citizenship
- Be involved, but let them take ownership (Choir Officers)



@MrsMacMusic
@troyareasd_music
@atticus.the.chorus.cactus



@MrsMacMusic307
@troyareasdmusic



SOCIAL MEDIA FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

- “[The 21st-centrury educator] recognize(s) that the educational landscape has changed with continuous advances in technology and see the benefits of transforming their role from a traditional, isolated learner, to a connected learner through the use of social media tools and a personal and **professional learning network**.” (Whitaker, Zoul, Casas, What Connected Educators Do Differently, 2015)
- Hashtags
- Teacher-gram (or “Tinsta”!)
- Twitter chats

SOCIAL MEDIA SUGGESTIONS

HASHTAGS

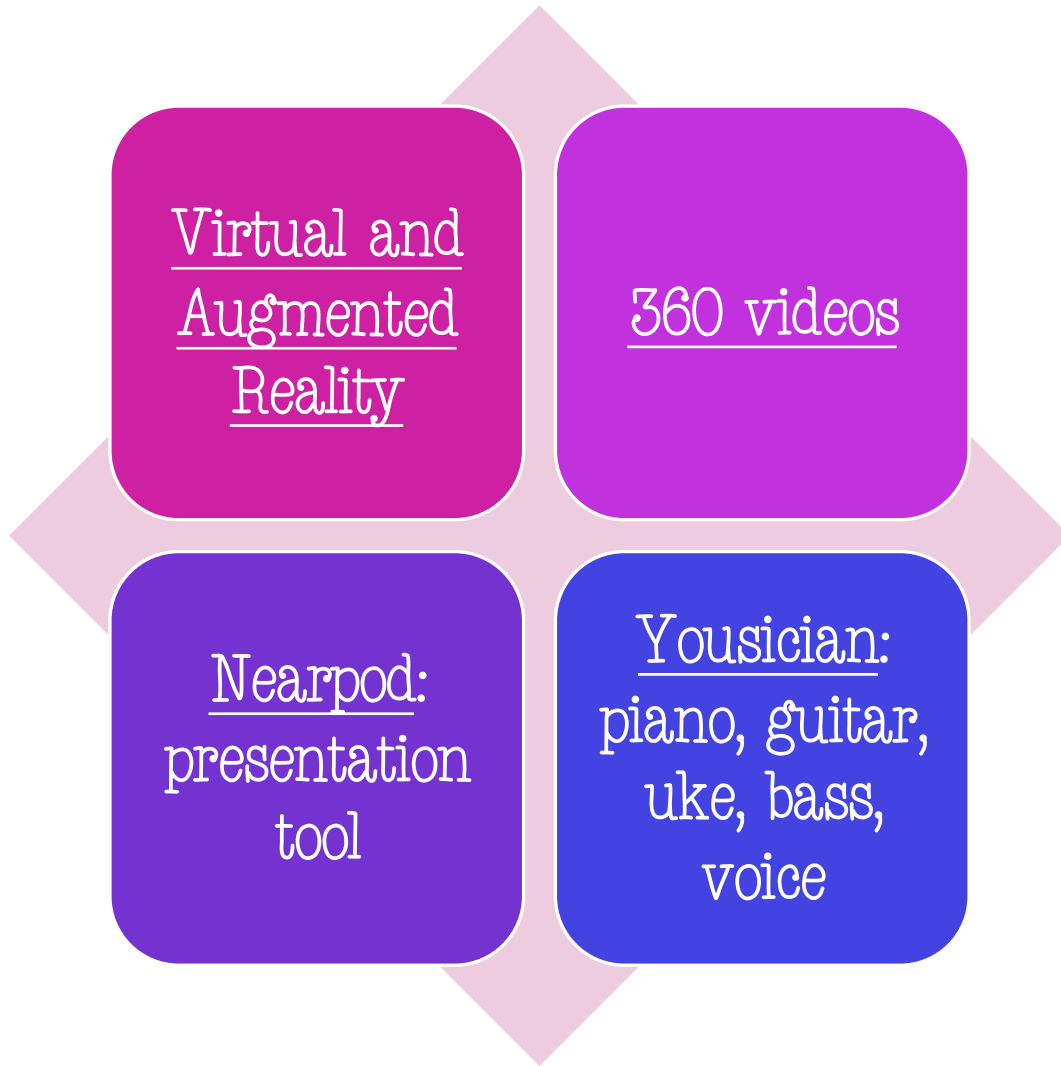
#teachersofinstagram
#teachersfollowteachers
#iteachchoir
#choirteachersofinstagram
#choirteacher

INSTAGRAM HANDLES

@choirbaton
@croatanchoir
@whathappensinchoir
@musicalmiddles
@singinginthemiddle

TWITTER CHATS

#musedchat
#edtechchat



OTHER FUN TOYS

“Technology will never replace great teachers,
but technology in the hands of great teachers
can be **transformational.**”

-George Couros, author of The Innovator's Mindset:
Empower Learning, Unleash Talent, and Lead a Culture of Creativity

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

BOOKS

- [*Theory & Practice of Technology-Based Music Instruction* – Jay Dorfman](#)
- [*What Connected Educators Do Differently* – Todd Whitaker, Jeffery Zoul, Jimmy Casas](#)
- [*Marching Off the Map* – Tim Elmore](#)
- [*Glow Kids* – Nicholas Kardaras, Ph.D](#)
- [*Digital Organization Tips for Music Teachers* – Robby Burns](#)

PODCASTS

- Music Education & Technology
- The Music Tech Teacher Podcast
- Robby Burns & Friends
- Choir Baton

MRS. SYDNEY MACDONALD

TROY AREA JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL