

Application for Addition to Recommended Technology Tools

Recommended by: Mel Cooke

Tool: CPS IR – Student Response Systems - Clickers

Cost: **CPS IR (Infrared)**
24 Pad System \$1495.00 USD
32 Pad System \$1995.00 USD
Shipping and handling is \$25 per system

Target Group: All grades, all subject matter

Standard: See the OSPI co-relations of GLEs and Technology by grade level
<http://www.k12.wa.us/EdTech/GLE-Tech.aspx>

Need: *Educators tout clickers for their ability to engage whole classes of students via ongoing question and answer activities, collect data in real time to assess the effectiveness of instruction, facilitate self-paced testing, collect large amounts of data on student performance, and to generate reports in a range of viewing options. TechLearning, Nov. 15, 2007*

There are also administrators in the district who want the clickers to collect data at staff meetings. While this may be a low level of use it is good role modeling. I believe higher order thinking activities will take place as more teachers and administrators become familiar with the tool.

Research: See <http://www.einstruction.com/WhatisCPS/Research/index.cfm>

Support: No in-house support, faulty equipment would be shipped to manufacturer if repair is necessary.

Chris Bailey had these words to share: I spoke with a tech from CPS and gathered from useful information that should get posted to the Levy How To's page before long.

FREE Tech Support can be called for software issues as well as hardware assistance – they usually need the caller to be at the computer in order to make changes to the software and/or hardware setup in the classroom. Here are a few key issues with the CPS IR systems:

- With infrared hardware, the main issue that comes up is interference from fluorescent lights and windows.

Making sure that each transmitter has direct line-of-sight to the receiver greatly enhances the signal, and shading the windows can solve a lot of the problems. If moving the transmitters to a closer range seems to resolve the issue, it's probably got to do with interference.

All-in-all, it seems tech support is fairly straight forward with these systems, but I am as of yet unsure what the process will be for returning defective equipment to CPS

Dottie Coven the factory representative had these words to share;

The CPS IR systems have a lifetime warranty against defect. eInstruction technical support can help to troubleshoot and get these replaced as needed. They warranty does not cover things like breakage, but if you do have a pad that isn't working they have the lifetime warranty.

Training: There are free online tutorials for basic set-up and use as well as higher order thinking activities that can be done with the clickers but to take full advantage of this tool's capabilities more extensive training is necessary.

It is the belief of this coordinator that getting a Classroom Performance System into a Library Media Center or classroom is the first step toward using the tool for higher order thinking activities. The word I have heard from some teachers is that the online

tutorials are well developed and easy to follow further enhancing the opportunity for no-cost staff development.

Required: Two 2 hours training sessions with an IMD coordinator to get started.

Recommended: Opportunity for in class or collaborative planning support to develop lesson plans to incorporate critical thinking skills

Optional: Opportunity to participate in a teacher forums to share lessons, ideas, and templates within content areas.
