

## **NJASPERD Conference 2017**

### **Workshop:** Getting Started Plickers

Presenter: Amanda Amtmanis, Middletown (CT) Public Schools, amtmanisa@mpsct.org

#### **A How To** list:

- 1) Go to Plickers.com.
- 2) Set up an account for yourself and sign in
- 3) You can print a set of cards for free on this website OR you can order a set of cards from Amazon.
  - a. If you choose to print, there are several choices. Each choice is accompanied by a description. Read the descriptions to make the best choice for the setting that you plan to use the Plickers. Keep in mind that you can print as many sets as you want to and print as often as you want to, so don't stress this choice too much because you can always change your mind. Unless you plan to use your Plickers as a strictly one-time disposable item, you will probably want to print them onto cardstock. Many Plickers users have said that they have had trouble when they laminated because the gloss of the laminating film interfered with the scanning so many do not recommend laminating.
  - b. If you choose to order cards through Amazon, they are about \$20 for the set and come in a 5"x5" size with durable matte laminate. They are reusable with all of your classes, so you only need one set.
- 4) On Plickers.com, go to "classes" and input the classes that you plan to use Plickers with. While it is certainly possible to use Plickers with all levels, you may want to set a small goal for yourself to use them with just 1 or 2 classes or a single grade level while you test this out and get comfortable with the technology. You can type in each student to create your class list or you can import the class list if it already exists in a word document. Each student will be assigned a number and that is the number card that they will use when you use your Plickers.
- 5) On Plickers.com, go to "library". Create a few questions. Choose really easy questions with universally obvious answers to use as test questions so that you will be able to tell if students get it wrong, it is because they don't understand how to use the Plickers correctly and not because they may not know the correct answer.
- 6) Once you have your test questions in your library, click on the icon in the bottom left corner of each question box. This will allow you to add that question to the queue for each class. You will then click on the classes that you want to use that question with and it will be put into their queue.
- 7) Download the Plickers app (free) onto your device (iPad, iPhone, Android).

- 8) You will see “My Classes”. Select the class that you will be testing out the Plickers with. You will see the list of questions that you have put into the queue.
- 9) Select a question and read it aloud to the class – the students should each have their Plickers cards and should be standing in open space facing you holding their cards. Coach the students to hold their card so that the letter corresponding to the correct response is on the top side of the card. Cards need to be held still and upright (not on an angle) and their fingers should not be touching the code but should be near the edges of the card.
- 10) Select Scan. This will use the photo capabilities of your device to scan the students’ responses and record them. You will be able to see when each student’s response has been captured and it will also let you know immediately if it is a correct or incorrect response.
- 11) You can select the back arrow to return to the queue to select another question if you would like.
- 12) When you select History, you can see what percentage of the students made a correct response and the total number of students who responded.
- 13) In your account on Plickers.com, you can go to reports to view bar graphs for each question that gives the date that you assessed, the number of responses for each answer choice, and the percentage of correct responses. You can also select scoresheets and see how individual students did on a series of questions (like a quiz grade for instance).
- 14) As you and your students get more comfortable using Plickers, you can use this tool to assess student understanding in many areas. Plickers works at updating their technology and one of the most recent updates is the ability to insert pictures or GIFs in the question. There are a number of videos on YouTube that give advice, suggestions and examples of things that you can do with your Plickers.