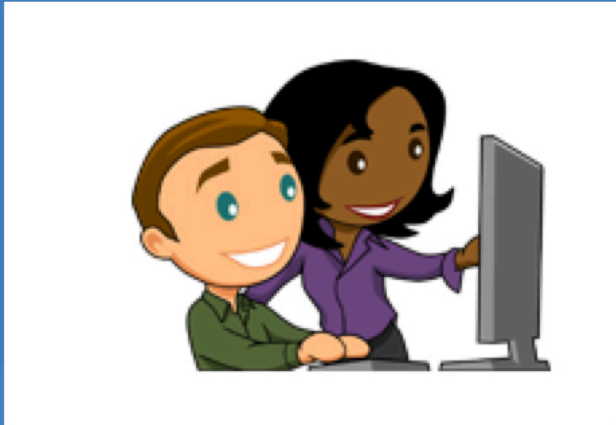


Edmodo - What is it?



Edmodo is a "social learning platform" website for teachers, students, and parents and is marketed as the Facebook for schools.



Edmodo was Founded in Chicago, Illinois, when two school district employees set out to bridge the gap between how students live their lives and how they learn in school. Edmodo was created to bring education into a 21st century environment.

FOUNDED - 2008
EMPLOYEES - 104
MEMBERS - 43,375,786



Edmodo - Who's doing it?

Edmodo, is now the number one K-12 social learning network in the world, dedicated to connecting learners.

Of the hundred largest districts in the U.S., 86 or 87 have set up Edmodo administrative features and have their own communities for the teachers and students in their districts.

Edmodo is driven by grassroots adoption.



Edmodo - Why is it Significant?

Using Edmodo, teachers invite students into private groups that can be used for online classroom discussions, but in a format that keeps the teacher firmly in control.



Teachers give students a class signup code, which can be deactivated once all students have signed up, and students in turn are encouraged to share the code.

As an invitation-only social network, Edmodo is meant to mirror a secure offline classroom that intruders cannot access, with rules of decorum.



Students can post only to the group or the teacher, and group messages can be moderated by the teacher if necessary.

Edmodo is a social network platform that fosters participatory culture, not only between students, but also between educators. "Participatory culture is emerging as the culture absorbs and responds to the explosion of new media technologies that make it possible for average consumers to archive, annotate, appropriate, and recirculate media content in powerful new ways"

Henry Jenkins, "Confronting the Challenges of Participatory Culture:", p. 8.



Edmodo - What are its downsides?

In "Confronting the Challenges of Participatory Culture" Henry Jenkins says that middle class students' abilities to have access to "recordings, concerts, museums," and the lack thereof of those children from working classes is reflected in the classroom. Jenkins argues that the participatory culture now through such mediums as Edmodo and other technological devices is similar: "Those experiences, which were widespread among the middle class and rare among the working class, became a kind of class distinction, which shaped how teachers perceived students. These new forms of cultural participation may be playing a similar role" p. 14.



A specific challenge for a classroom teacher is not having the option to print quizzes. Frequently our RSP teacher asks for student work samples to use for assessments and records. Edmodo doesn't have a print quiz feature which I find very frustrating.



"I do see some downsides. I teach 3rd grade students that come from a low socio-economic background, so they potentially would have a lot of obstacles to accessing a computer beyond the classroom. Many of the families that I work with do not have computers or ipads at home."



"For my purposes, I find that this is too tied to a classroom model to make complete use of the project. I like the ability to have a protected environment and having the ability to share with one another, but all of the modules and units are pretty much outside of my use pattern." - Joshua Archer



Edmodo - What are the implications for teaching and learning?

This learning management system or launch pad allows the teacher to make content available to the students so they can learn or review new concepts. Students can then access these resources from home anytime and on any device that connects to the internet. This is useful to students who are absent or easily distracted in a large classroom environment.



In addition to sending information out, a teacher can also receive student work back through the system in the form of an assignment, a quiz, or in a note or reply. Students can upload files such as Powerpoints, excel spreadsheets, or documents, but they can also attach links to their work created in cloud based platforms such as google drive/docs, prezis, or websites, etc...

Edmodo can be very supportive of group projects in a constructivist model, allowing students to communicate about their interests, and work together on student-driven projects, but also allowing teachers to provide guidance and oversight in their work.





Edmodo - ISTE Standards for Students and Teachers

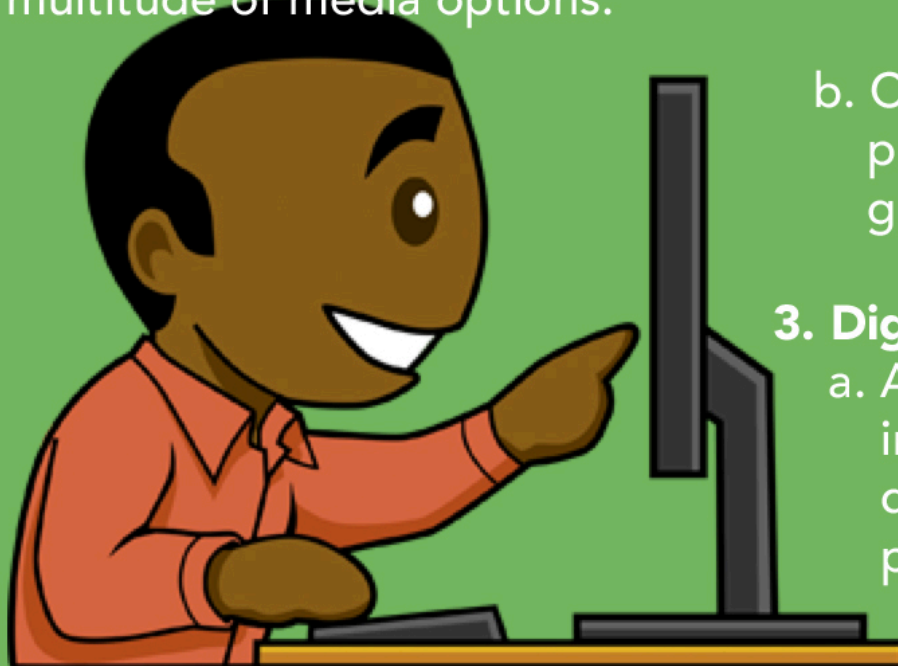
ISTE Standards for Students:

1. Creativity and Innovation

- a. Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products or processes --
students leverage their understanding of other social media sites and paradigms to successfully interact on Edmodo.
- b. Use models and simulations to explore complex systems and issues --
Modules available through the Edmodo marketplace can be assigned and offer rich simulation experiences to students.

2. Communication and Collaboration

- a. Interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others employing a variety of digital environments and media --
The Edmodo environment is a peer and instructor communications and publishing platform that allows for the incorporation of a multitude of media options.



- b. Contribute to project teams to produce original works or solve problems -- Edmodo facilitates the formation of class teams or groups which can be used to collaborate on class projects.

3. Digital Citizenship

- a. Advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology -- Students get to practice good digital citizenship while interacting with their instructors and peers on the Edmodo LMS.



ISTE Standards for Teachers:

1. Facilitate and inspire student learning and creativity

- a. Promote student reflection using collaborative tools to reveal and clarify students' conceptual understanding and thinking, planning, and creative processes -- Edmodo provides a rich collaborative environment that allows educators to assign learning modules to promote conceptual understanding of the subject matter, and also allows for students to collaborate in groups with teacher guidance on projects.
- b. Model collaborative knowledge construction by engaging in learning with students, colleagues, and others in face-to-face and virtual environments -- Teachers may bring in co-teachers or guests into Edmodo for modeling constructive collaboration, and can design project-based work to take advantage of Edmodo's collaborative model.

2. Design and develop digital age learning experiences and assessments

- a. Design or adapt relevant learning experiences that incorporate digital tools and resources to promote student learning and creativity -- Edmodo has a very large marketplace of learning modules that can be easily imported and used in the context of the Edmodo classroom, many have been matched to specific learning standards, and provide multiple learning style approaches.
- b. Develop technology-enriched learning environments that enable all students to pursue their individual curiosities and become active participants in setting their own educational



goals, managing their own learning, and assessing their own progress -- Edmodo allows for the inclusion of many learning modules that can be made available in folder groups and students can pursue their own interests through these modules, if the classroom is so structured. Each learning module can also have their own set of assessments, which the students can use to track their own learning progress (as well as teachers).

c. Customize and personalize learning activities to address students' diverse learning styles, working strategies, and abilities using digital tools and resources -- Edmodo's capabilities to address different learning styles and strategies are limited only to what either resides in the marketplace, or what the instructor can create and use for themselves in their environment.



Edmodo - ISTE Standards for Students and Teachers

ISTE Standards for Teachers (continued):

2. Design and develop digital age learning experiences and assessments

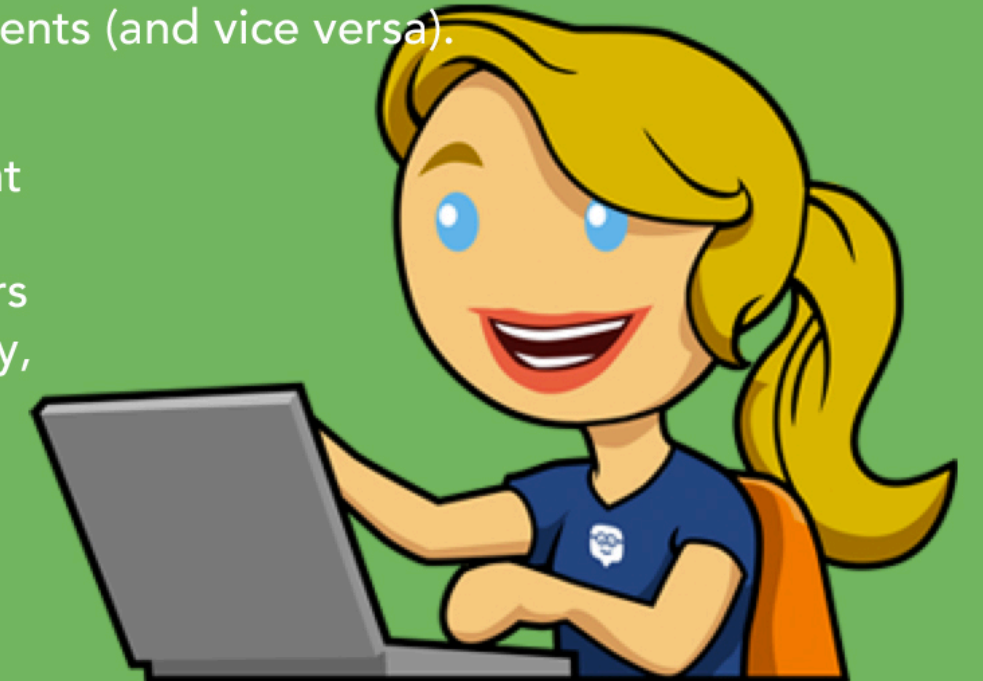
- d. Provide students with multiple and varied formative and summative assessments aligned with content and technology standards, and use resulting data to inform learning and teaching -- Edmodo has a number of integrate assessment tools designed to allow the teacher to receive and give instant feedback on how the students are progressing in their understanding.

3. Model digital age work and learning

- a. Demonstrate fluency in technology systems and the transfer of current knowledge to new technologies and situations -- Edmodo models many of the same idioms and workflows as other popular social networking sites and successful LMS's, and the skills demonstrated and learned through Edmodo can promote fluency in other similar environments (and vice versa).



- b. Collaborate with students, peers, parents, and community members using digital tools and resources to support student success and innovation -- Edmodo can be used as a collaboration vehicle that can be inclusive of not only teachers and students, but other members of the students' community, such as other peers, parents and community members. Teachers may take advantage of this feature and design projects to include other community members.



- c. Communicate relevant information and ideas effectively to students, parents, and peers using a variety of digital age media and formats -- Edmodo is an excellent aggregation and distribution tool for any multimedia projects the students collaborate on and produce together.
- d. Model and facilitate effective use of current and emerging digital tools to locate, analyze, evaluate, and use information resources to support research and learning -- Teachers' use of Edmodo to select, curate and present learning modules, and to organized digital media projects through the collaborative aspects of Edmodo are effective means to model and facilitate successful use of said technology.



Edmodo - ISTE Standards for Students and Teachers

ISTE Standards for Teachers (continued 2):

4. Promote and model digital citizenship and responsibility

- a. Advocate, model, and teach safe, legal and ethical use of digital information and technology, including respect for copyright, intellectual property, and the appropriate documentation of sources -- Edmodo is a powerful collaboration tool that allows teachers to present and model appropriate and ethical use of digital information.
- b. Address the diverse needs of all learners by using learner-centered strategies providing equitable access to appropriate digital tools and resources -- Edmodo allows for the creation of multiple learning modules and experiences, each designed to a different learning style, and allowing students to pursue their own learning at their own pace.
- c. Promote and model digital etiquette and responsible social interactions related to the use of technology and information -- Edmodo's closed sandbox is a safe and protected space to allow students to experiment with the nuances of communication and collaboration in social network environments. Teachers have a key opportunity to model appropriate use.



5. Engage in professional growth and leadership:

- a. Participate in local and global learning communities to explore creative applications of technology to improve student learning -- One of Edmodo's strengths is the community of educators and subject groups that exist within its structure. Teachers can engage, learn from, and collaborate with their peers from across the nation and the world.
- b. Exhibit leadership by demonstrating a vision of technology infusion, participating in shared decision making and community



building, and developing the leadership and technology skills of others -- Teachers engaged with the Edmodo community have an opportunity for powerful connections and collaborations, participating in teaching communities within subject areas as well as broader communities around subjects such as college readiness, and professional development.



Edmodo - Resources and Links

- * **Teacher Resources for Edmodo from 21 Things for Students**

<http://www.21things4students.net/teacher-resources/using-edmodo/>

- * **Edmodo Training Slideshow**

https://docs.google.com/a/srcs.k12.ca.us/presentation/d/1He7PjI3zJCmylpdksYkR96_E_hZSjWshx2X7xExUjzk/edit#slide=id.p

- * **Screencast introduction to using Edmodo**

<http://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/clQXrlVEjt>

- * **How to use Edmodo Small Groups**

<https://blog.edmodo.com/2012/04/18/how-to-use-edmodo-small-groups/>

