

Celebrating Writers and Writing in our Communities

Volume 5

Article 23

2023

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Recommended Citation

kan, zuma (2023) "Tale of Technology," *Celebrating Writers and Writing in our Communities*: Vol. 5, Article 23.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/rwc/vol5/iss1/23>

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Tale of Technology

by Zuma Kan

At schools, technology is something that is somewhat essential. At my school, for as long as I have been in Upper Elementary (4th-6th grade) we never had enough Chromebooks for everyone. In fact, we barely had enough for each of the 20 person classes. We called this "The Chromebook Crisis". Getting Chromebooks was a goal that we had. After asking for more technology and not getting any, I decided to write an essay to the lead administrator of our school asking for more Chromebooks. Our teacher told us that our administrator has been impressed with my letter. A few months later, both classes got new Chromebooks

Getting new Chromebooks for the 4th grade through 6th grade classes has had many benefits for all students including the ability for us to produce better work, have increased productivity, and better access to more resources for research projects. In some ways you could say that getting new technology could make us more intelligent, giving us a better chance at higher test scores when we do state testing. Better test scores could make our school's reputation better so that we can get more enrollment. More students would mean that we get more funding for things like school supplies, field trips, and more technology.

Before I wrote my letter, we only had 20 Chromebooks for all 40 4th - 6th grade students. Meanwhile, the 7th-8th grade classes had a Chromebook for each student. Everyone I spoke to felt the situation was unfair and inequitable, even after asking for more technology, the people in charge of purchasing more Chromebooks had done nothing to improve the situation.

I have been told that I am very persuasive, and writing a persuasive essay was something I was determined to do. I started with an outline and then got some of my classmates to comment on the topic so I could use it in the essay. Once I finished, I emailed the person in charge of the school telling them about the situation. After a few days, I got a reply and then was told by my teacher that my essay had gotten us new Chromebooks.

After we received the new Chromebooks, I got an email from the lead administrator of our school. He told me "your voice matters and asking for what you want is the best guarantee to getting things done." After hearing this and actually making an impact on the 4th-6th grade classes I learned and taught other people about how asking never hurts, and your voice can change things for the better of your community. If you want something, asking doesn't always mean you get what you want but sometimes, you do get it and that feeling is extremely rewarding. You did something, even if it was just a small change for your community, school, or even town, it matters that you did it.

Sources:

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