

Case Study



Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10 Novosibirsk, Russia

Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10 integrated interactive whiteboards to address the challenges of larger classrooms

Often called the educational hub of Siberian Russia, the Novosibirsk region is rich in research facilities and higher education institutions. Comprising the city of Novosibirsk and the city of Akademgorodok (which translates to the *academic town*), the region is a rapidly growing center of education, business and industry. Novosibirsk has a reputation as a strong intellectual community that emphasizes the importance of education, and for teachers at Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10, academic success begins with the effective integration of education technology.

Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10 has 980 students. With up to 30 students in a classroom, teachers are challenged to personalize the curriculum for each student's unique learning style, and to develop a creative and flexible learning process. The school had a variety of technology products for use in the classroom – computers, printers and scanners – but not an effective technology product for large classes to interact with lessons. The school was using televisions to project websites and software applications from computer screens, but students found it difficult to see.

The school's goals include changing the system of instruction to include more audiovisual options to engage students, and giving students the opportunity to become proficient with technology. Achieving these goals would encourage self-development and the improvement of problem-solving skills. In light of these challenges, teachers such as Tatiana Oskolkova wanted to take ICT integration to the next level to make it easy for the children to interact with a successful system of communication in the classroom.

Challenge

Integrate technology that encourages interaction in a Russian school with large class sizes

SMART solution

SMART Board™ interactive whiteboards

Result

Students are able to see and interact with the learning materials. Students are actively involved in their classwork and pay more attention.

"For a long time we were hoping for a new way to activate the teaching and learning process, a means that is more effective for both students and teachers," Oskolkova comments.

When Oskolkova was introduced to SMART Board interactive whiteboards, she knew she had found the answer to these challenges. The interactive whiteboards feature appealing visual elements, large enough screens to create focus points in the classroom and interactive and engaging qualities. The school implemented four SMART Board interactive whiteboards in September 2006, and both students and teachers were immediately captivated by them. For Oskolkova, the interactive whiteboards solved the problem of trying to teach to large class sizes because they allowed her to personalize the curriculum to meet each student's needs.

"The SMART Board employs all the main sensory channels: visual, auditory and kinesthetic. It makes it so much easier to relate to each student. Now children see classes as easy and fun. Every day they learn more because they truly want to," Oskolkova says.

She also points out, "using the software helps teachers reach students of different perception levels and make information delivery more effective and targeted for each of them."

The teaching process has been impacted in other ways, too. Oskolkova says that it's easier to explain concepts because of the visual and audio capabilities of the interactive whiteboard. Because of its large screen and compelling images, the interactive whiteboard helps Oskolkova focus students' attention on the work at hand.

"Every teacher dreams to have all students actively involved in classwork. I am so glad that because I use the SMART Board, there isn't one child who stays passive in my lessons. Moreover, once they are asked to do some task on the SMART Board, they do not want to leave and would love to do more," she says.

The students agree that the SMART Board interactive whiteboard makes classroom activities more exciting and has created stronger communication with their teachers. Oskolkova says that grades have improved since the integration of the interactive whiteboards because students follow their teacher's instructions more attentively.

Students are so excited about using SMART Board interactive whiteboards in the classroom and this has attracted the attention of parents. "At the regular parent meetings, the parents ask me to show them the exercises their children do on the SMART Board. They come after class and demonstrate how to use them," Oskolkova says.

For the students and teachers at Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10, the SMART Board interactive whiteboard has helped them reach their goals of creating an exciting, multimedia-rich classroom experience. "SMART Board interactive whiteboards have the best qualities – they are reliable, easy-to-handle and high quality [and] they mean a lot to us," comments Oskolkova. The introduction of interactive whiteboards is helping students achieve success in learning.



Students at Novosibirsk Gymnasium 10 are more actively involved in lessons since the school integrated SMART Board interactive whiteboards.

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Tatiana Oskolkova, teacher at Novosibirsk Gymnasium School 10

About SMART

SMART Technologies Inc. is both the industry pioneer and global education market segment leader in easy-to-use interactive whiteboards and other group collaboration tools. The award-winning SMART Board interactive whiteboard is the most widely installed interactive whiteboard in the world. Many school jurisdictions have standardized on the product, which is used to provide interactive learning opportunities and enhance student achievement in more than 450,000 classrooms spanning every U.S. state, every Canadian province, every Local Authority in the UK and in more than 100 countries worldwide. SMART products also include interactive pen displays, interactive digital signage, wireless slates and software. Using SMART products, groups can access and share the information they need to meet, teach, train and present. SMART's education customers include New York City Board of Education (U.S.), Oxford University (UK), Kobe City Board of Education (Japan), Barnier Public School (Australia), University of Ottawa (Canada), United World College (Singapore), Stephen-Hawking-Schule Neckargemuend (Germany), Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (U.S.) and Harvard University (U.S.).

SMART is a private company founded in 1987. Employing more than 800 people, SMART is headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, with assembly facilities in Ottawa, and offices in Bonn, Tokyo, China, New York City and Washington DC. SMART has been issued and maintains a broad portfolio of patents with numerous U.S., Canadian and other patents pending. In 1992 SMART formed a strategic alliance with Intel® Corporation that resulted in joint product development and marketing efforts, and Intel's equity ownership in the company. SMART products are sold through dealers across North America and distributors worldwide. For more information, visit www.smarttech.com.

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