

Case Study



Pui Ching Middle School Hong Kong, China

SMART Board interactive whiteboards enable global and regional collaboration in Hong Kong

Pui Ching Middle School is one of Hong Kong's leading schools and has a strong reputation for embracing IT to better educate its students. In March 2005, Hong Kong's Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) began the Interactive Whiteboard Pilot Project that placed three SMART Board interactive whiteboards in each of 10 select Hong Kong schools. As an innovative and tech-savvy school, Pui Ching had been using the SMART Board interactive whiteboards since 1998 and was able to provide valuable training to the pilot schools on the best use of their SMART Board interactive whiteboards.

Currently, Pui Ching boasts 13 SMART Board interactive whiteboards and one Symposium interactive pen display installed in various classrooms, with Notebook software and SMART Ideas concept-mapping software used to further enhance classroom participation and student understanding. In addition, the school has two Bridgit conferencing servers dedicated to real time e-collaborative class sessions with sister schools in Beijing and Singapore. Pui Ching's SMART Board interactive whiteboards are located mainly in form 1 classes (ages 12 to 13) as teaching tools for English language, mathematics, computer science and other courses.

As a long-time user of SMART Board interactive whiteboards, Pui Ching has deployed SMART Board interactive whiteboards in numerous classroom situations. The need for greater participation and more effective teaching techniques was a motivating factor in initially installing SMART Board interactive whiteboards in its classes. Recently, the school also wanted to expand and further explore

Challenge

Enable greater global collaboration and encourage better classroom participation

SMART solution

SMART Board™ interactive whiteboard with Notebook™ software

Symposium™ interactive pen display

Bridgit™ conferencing software

SMART Ideas™ concept-mapping software

Result

Useful shared learning experiences with sister schools in Beijing and Singapore. Students are engaged and participate with eagerness.

the advantages of the SMART Board interactive whiteboard for collaborative and distance communications with its regional sister schools, such as Beijing Yu Cai and Singapore Nan Hau.

“Pui Ching’s students and teachers can chat with overseas students and teachers using a single SMART Board interactive whiteboard for collaboration learning and extended classroom discussions,” explains Chung Wai Tung, SMART Board interactive whiteboard project coordinator and school network administrator. “The students and teachers have really enjoyed the ability to connect to remote classrooms and get everyone focused on a single topic. The SMART Board interactive whiteboard’s ability to record is great for storing interesting lessons so the students can review them later.”

The SMART Board interactive whiteboard’s record and save capabilities have been helpful in many classroom situations. Teachers can create new lesson and discussion materials and update them for future use.

“It’s great that we can save the materials that we have just written. When I want to go through them again, I can just open it and show it to my students,” says Isabella Ma, junior form coordinator, department of English. “My students can immediately remember what was taught previously. This is a very powerful function, and the SMART Board interactive whiteboard is very easy to use!”

The SMART Board interactive whiteboard’s simplicity makes it easy to manage for Pui Ching’s form 1 students. This has made a difference at Pui Ching, particularly in the teaching of English. By changing the student’s role during the lesson, teachers have stimulated student interest in learning the language.

“In the past, students were less willing to take the initiative to learn English, but now with the SMART Board interactive whiteboards, they have more chances to participate during lessons. They are no longer passive receivers of information, but active participants who learn proactively,” stated Miss Ma. “My students love to write things on the SMART Board interactive whiteboards as they are presenting. They also love the dragging function. It makes grammar and other matching lessons engaging and fun.”



**Isabella Ma, junior form coordinator,
department of English, records lessons
and in-class work for students to
review later**

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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 Neckargemünd (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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