

# HHS Tech Story 2018

Harrisburg High School, Harrisburg Illinois

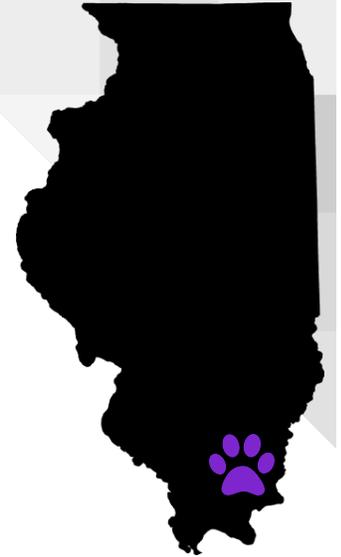


## **My Tech Story: Mrs. Krystal Wilson, High School English Instructor**

Technology has always been really important to me. In December of 2016, I received 25 in class Chromebooks to incorporate into my daily instruction. Having the advantage of allowing each student to have their own computer in class completely changes the makeup of a high school classroom. In my class, students are self motivated and self starting. The chromebooks have allowed me to teach valuable technology and research skill that

used to be taught only when the library lab was available. Because of these computers, I am able to do extended writing and research projects like the one you see here today.

In this project, students must gather information and research their own family genealogy. The goal is to get to the 7th generation out on at least two sides of their family. The research skills taught for this project are extremely upper level. Students have to sort through digital census, birth, marriage and death records to track their ancestors. This really gives their reading comprehension skills a work out. Additionally, the students use technology to create their own digital family tree and eventually copy it onto paper form. Free online software at Familysearch.org provides a starting place for each student's tree and research.



## **Our School's Tech Story: Harrisburg High School**

Our school is currently in the end phase of a total renovation. That has opened the door for so much new technology. Teachers are now armed with interactive whiteboards that have changed how we all teach and interact with our students. Tech funding has also helped us build updated science labs and provided many teachers in the school with their own class sets of Chromebooks.

The technology in my classroom is most definitely saving the district money. I have not gone to a totally paperless classroom yet, but, little by little we are moving that way.

## **Tech for the Future: My Dream**

My utmost dream for our technical future is for students to go 1:1 with laptop devices. I would like to see a program that leases devices to students their freshman year. The devices would also foster in an age when textbooks are digital and always available with the push of a button.

This ideal program would also identify low income students with no internet access and provide them with a limited amount of data per month. I truly feel that in rural poverty stricken communities like ours, students with internet access at home operate at a huge advantage compared to their low income peers. Closing this gap would mean so much to the students of this area who deserve an equal start in education.