We’re used to hearing about productivity in business — getting more out of the workday, completing projects on time and on budget, and accomplishing tasks faster.

Less often do we hear about productivity in education — productive learning, efficient teaching. But it’s a highly relevant concept, a worthy goal, and more challenging, yet more important, than ever.

“During this time of school shutdowns and remote learning, education technology has become a lifeline for the continuation of learning.”

McKinsey
When schools were forced to close their doors and suddenly institute remote learning, technology was quickly put in place to close the distance between teachers and learners. But tech didn’t always help. Teachers were spending valuable time managing tech when they could have focused on their students.

Survey respondents who switched to online teaching said they spent almost as much time preparing for their virtual classes (three hours) as they did teaching them (four hours).1

Students, teachers, administrators, and education IT leaders all need technology that not only works, but works well enough to move them through the school day more easily, with less stress, and with better outcomes.

Technology is available now that boosts productivity and helps everyone thrive in the new K-12 hybrid environment. This brief describes some of these technology solutions and their benefits.

Lenovo recommends Windows 10 Pro for Business.
Today’s best student laptops and tablets are built to withstand the rigors of the classroom, including wear and tear, drops, and spills. Modern devices are easy to use and have built-in hardware and data protection tools — all of which contribute to the productive continuity of school.

**Connectivity**

When students began learning from home, we learned that the “digital divide” was wider than we knew. Worldwide, UNICEF reports two-thirds of school-age children do not have internet connections in their homes. In the United States that percentage is much lower, but the divide still exists. Many districts have been deploying off-campus hotspots or subsidizing broadband access to close the access gap.

Research by the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) revealed that even with broadband, the quality of the device (age and specifications) greatly affects students’ online learning experience. Device upgrades are needed, preferably LTE-enabled, to keep students connected and productive.

**Classroom management**

Now that internet-based learning is a larger part of the day, online distractions also interrupt student productivity. Research scientists have found that media multitasking interferes with students’ attention and recall. Reading comprehension, note-taking ability, test performance, and grade point average all suffer.

Classroom management software gives teachers visibility and control of student screens to help students avoid distraction and stay on task. Teachers can do this from their PCs without leaving their desks — keeping them productive, too.

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**Students:**

**Modern devices made for education**

Students: Modern devices made for education

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Lenovo recommends
Windows 10 Pro for Business.
Teachers: Solutions for inspired, efficient instruction

Teachers are using Lenovo Windows 10 PCs and the Intel vPro® platform, with business-class performance for the classroom, to power productivity-enhancing software — including learning management systems (LMS). These applications help teachers to streamline access, provide content, and conduct activities for their online classes, all in one place. With some systems, teachers can conduct and grade online assessments there, as well.

Not only does this kind of technology help teachers increase their organization and productivity, it saves time — time they can use to slow down, recapture their passion for teaching, and connect with their colleagues. Teachers report they are uncertain (81%), stressed (77%), anxious (75%), and overwhelmed (74%). And only 31% of American teachers say they have time to collaborate with peers.1

Collaboration platforms
Collaboration is essential to hybrid learning, and nothing stops productivity in its tracks like videoconferencing glitches. Teachers deserve seamless collaboration devices, clear audiovisuals, and an intuitive UC platform.

Professional development
Successful ed tech deployment extends beyond IT. The right training is essential for teachers to get the full productivity advantages from new digital tools. Marrying tech instruction with professional development will help teachers truly integrate new technology and own its benefits.

Lenovo recommends Windows 10 Pro for Business.
Productivity-enhancing solutions for IT

New technology is needed to improve the efficacy of hybrid teaching. Yet 51% of education leaders do not feel they have adequate staffing to implement it. And 61% of districts surveyed were not prepared to provide remote technical support to students and families.

These technologies and services are designed for IT productivity:

- Interoperable hardware and software
- Remote deployment
- Built-in device security
- Remote manageability
- Device as a Service (DaaS)

Lenovo technology delivers productivity wherever learning goes. Find out more about hybrid classroom solutions, powered by Windows 10 PCs and the Intel vPro® platform, with business-class performance for the classroom.

Learn more at www.lenovo.com/Education.

SOURCES
3 Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), “Student Home Connectivity Study” May 2021
4 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, “Distracted learning a big problem, golden opportunity for educators, students,” 2020
7 CoSN, “Edtech Leadership Survey Report,” May 2021