

EDU 185 MIDTERM

A GRAPHIC NOVEL

BY EMMA CHOI

Hello, I'm Emma. I'll narrate this whole ordeal, so of course you'll see a lot of me lol.
But, I'll also feature some additional characters - my brothers.



Jaden Choi

Grade: 11 | Age: 17

Interests:

Origami
Cubing
Bionicles

Kyler Choi

Grade: 5 | Age: 10

Interests:

Cars
Minecraft
Japan

Emma Choi

Grade: 14? | Age: 19

Interests:

Drawing
Colorguard
Tea?

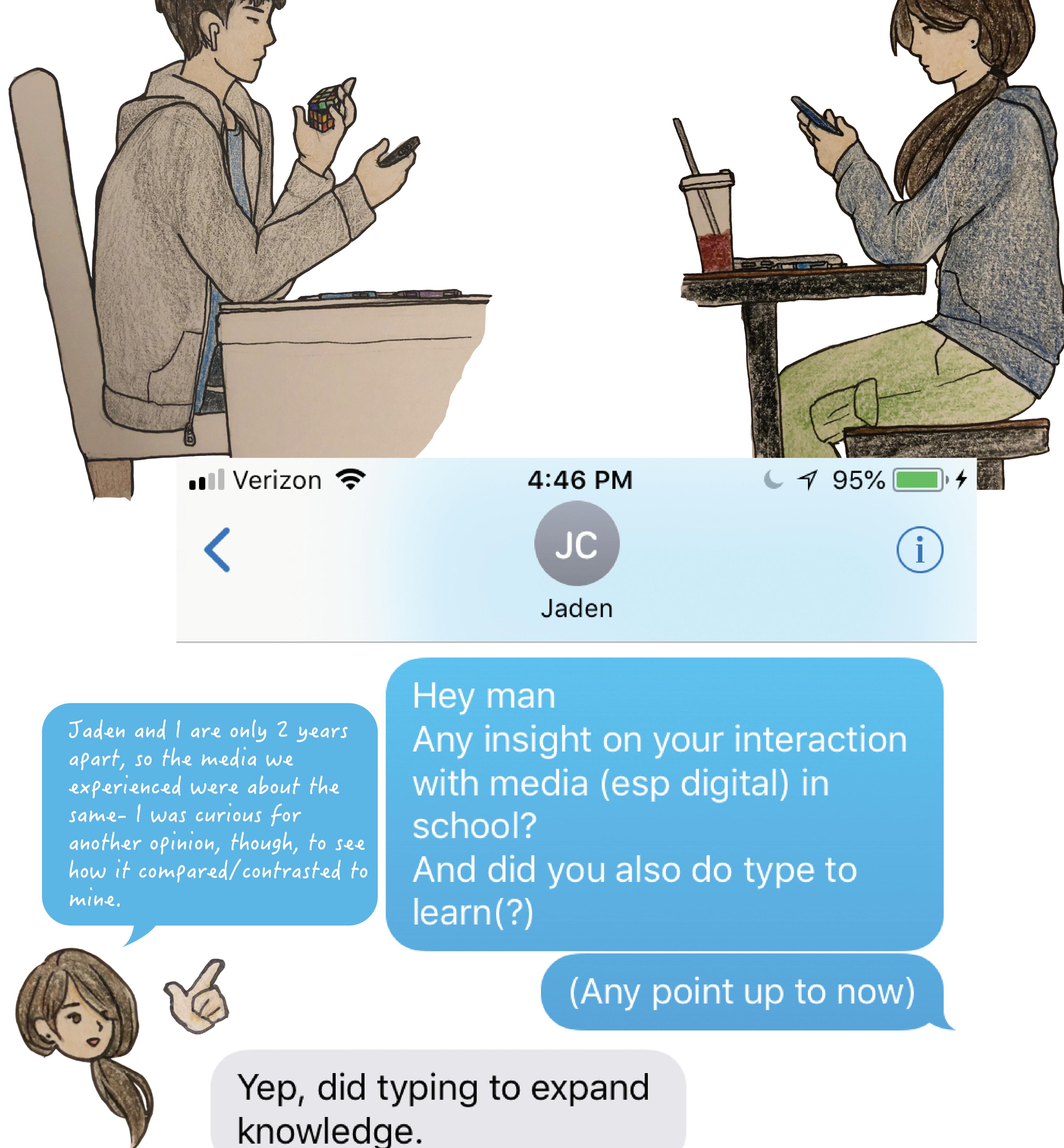


The layout here's a bit unique - I've texted/chatted with my brothers, and recorded the conversations. Here, you'll see those, + me as this small head to add commentary. I've underlined the references so it's kinda easier to spot.

Uhh, with that in mind, let's get right into it I guess?



iPhone Message



Verizon

4:46 PM

95%

JC

Jaden

i

Jaden and I are only 2 years apart, so the media we experienced were about the same- I was curious for another opinion, though, to see how it compared/contrasted to mine.

Hey man
Any insight on your interaction with media (esp digital) in school?
And did you also do type to learn(?)

(Any point up to now)

Yep, did typing to expand knowledge.

Elementary school, then put the cardboard box over hands for the like test things.

Yepp, the good old box lol

How do you think the inclusion of tech changed your edu(?)
Like
Good things, bad things
Wouldn't be different if just on paper
Etc?

(Can be broad/few examples lol)

It helped I think.

Cause it helped me prepare for typing a lot of stuff.

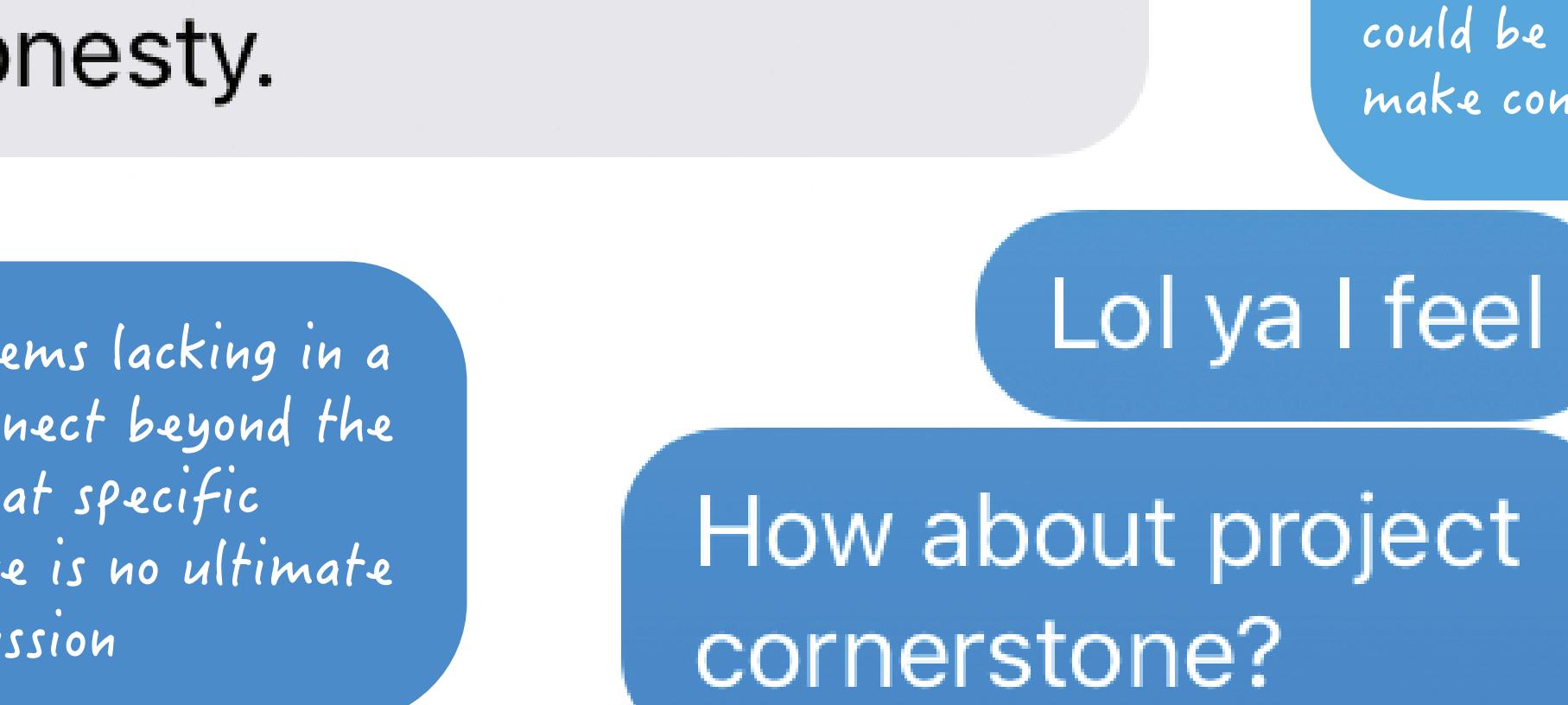
Typing is good cause you can easily edit and revise.

Type to Learn is a fairly straightforward example here. After all, the computer is the prime way to teach typing... I can't imagine other ways working very well lol.
And certainly, it came in handy here later on, as more work requires typing.

👉👉
(Anything beyond type to learn too?)

However, I guess you could say tech can be like distracting?

Besides that, it is really helpful in class when revising essay.



Personally, I don't think it was particularly revolutionary or helpful. While I wasn't too involved in "drama" and whatnot, at times I was a "bystander," which I knew was bad from programs like this but ultimately never did anything about it. I also recall that, to my knowledge, elementary had the most bullying.

Here's the Arthur thing
If you wanna check it out & let me know anything similar you had?

😂
(I likened it to a digital version of project cornerstone)

Yeah.

Basically seems like that.

Project Cornerstone: parents read kids a story with some moral lesson, followed by some discussion/activity.

(+ kids buddy while doing it so also the buddies thing, how did that work out with you lol)

The buddy thing?

I mean, it didn't really do much in all honesty.

I agree - I remember having buddies, and playing on the playground with them 'cause had to. That's about it, really, which is unfortunate, as this could be a good opportunity to make connections.

The buddy experience seems lacking in a motivation/reason to connect beyond the need to be there with that specific person. Unlike AIM, there is no ultimate goal/push for more discussion

Lol ya I feel

How about project cornerstone?

Guess it was helpful.

However, it is not entirely successful, as kids like [REDACTED] slip through without learning the lessons....

Unfortunately, there always is "that" kid who never seems to learn/care about things like this. Here, things like Project Cornerstone seem to do little/nothing in helping resolve problems.

Of course lol

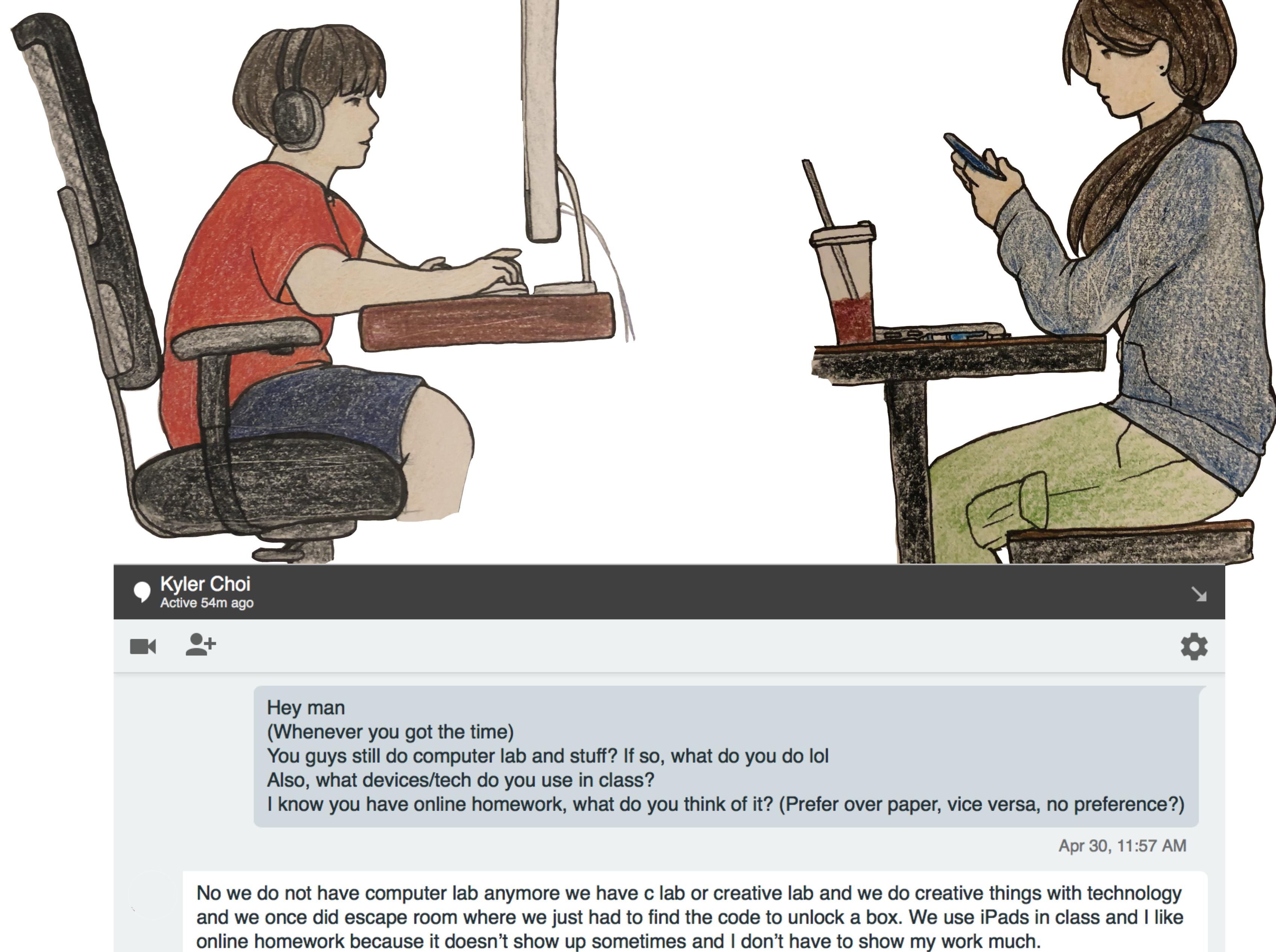
Of course, I don't think anything would have worked on that kid.



iMessage



Google Hangouts Chat



Kyler Choi
Active 54m ago

Hey man
(Whenever you got the time)
You guys still do computer lab and stuff? If so, what do you do lol
Also, what devices/tech do you use in class?
I know you have online homework, what do you think of it? (Prefer over paper, vice versa, no preference?)

Apr 30, 11:57 AM

No we do not have computer lab anymore we have c lab or creative lab and we do creative things with technology and we once did escape room where we just had to find the code to unlock a box. We use iPads in class and I like online homework because it doesn't show up sometimes and I don't have to show my work much.

Kyler • Apr 30, 2:31 PM

In opposition to Collins' (2010, p. 19) note that computers provide more customization - less work needs to be shown in online math homework, meaning no customized feedback on your work - either you're right or you're wrong, doesn't matter how you got there.

Thanks man 🤗
What do you do on the iPads!
*? Lol

Apr 30, 3:59 PM

for "Starbucks mode", we listen to music on the iPads. For schoolwork, we go to Newsela to read articles. We use Google classroom, Google docs, Google slides, Google drive...

Kyler • Apr 30, 6:15 PM

Also, how about the buddies experience(?) You guys still do that right haha

May 2, 11:24 AM

No we do not except for one or twice but it was fine but a very tiny bit annoying dealing with a 2nd grader. 🍸

I enjoyed SSR - reading was a big part of my elementary experience, and the books at school were different than those I had at home. One of my primary hobbies back then was reading.

😂😂 aight cool man
Back to the tech stuff, what's your favorite use of the iPads?

Maybe the Starbucks mode where I can listen to music.

I am reminded of Gaiman's (2013) point on reading and libraries, and how they help in building empathy and communication skills; I think SSR would really help kids enjoy reading, since it isn't super "school"-like, and they can choose

Nice nice haha
Do the teachers say why you have Starbucks mode(?)
Is it like SSR (do you have that too lol)

Because ms rebholt's class got Starbucks mode and maybe because it helps other students work?... oh yeah funny thing is that we haven't done ssr for the whole tower until tomorrow.(sustained silent reading right?)
Whole year not tower

Ahh I see lol
So do you do like
Paper work while you listen to music on the iPad(?)

Sometimes but we also do research on the iPad in Starbucks mode cuz I found a trick so I can research and listen to music.

Hmm, I see 😕

Here's a pic of the Starbucks mode poster.

Ohh, intriguing 😕 thanks man

Your welcome.

*you're
Lol

Are these questions for a college project or something like that?

Ya, my midterm lol
Making a graphic novel about K-12 grade media experience

Cool man.

Do you still have project cornerstone(?)

Yes but it doesn't work and the parents read us a book and after we get to do some sort of activity.

Doesn't work in what way(?) like no one learns, or...?

Well what I mean is that no one stops bullying other people.

Despite things being there to "prevent" bullying, it continues. Problem with kids, program, both?

Hmm, I see I see
<https://pbskids.org/arthur/friends/so-funny>

Hey, you wanna check this out and let me know if you think that'd work better?

Ok

(It would be done with a buddy, older/younger pairing, and you play it with each other)

(You don't have to do that obviously lol but yea let me know if you think kids would learn from that or still bully 😂 😂)

)

Ok

Just looking at how bad things have gotten with bullying and not many people have stopped I have a feeling that it might not work but who knows it might be work.

Might work not might be

'Aight, check it out and let me know 🌟

Also, can you think of anything that might stop people from bullying? (If not that's chill lol, just curious)

Idk maybe have people watch kids very closely to see if they are bullying.

So like more supervision?

Yea like that

And in terms of like
The kids learning
Would it just be the people watching needing to tell them what they're doing is bad/they need to stop

Yea

Would you say classroom activities probably don't make kids learn that they shouldn't bully/do bad stuff and whatnot?

Probably

Things are quite bad w/ bullying, doubt that things would be able to help it. Kids unwilling to learn will not learn?

Unfortunately, another problem where kids don't seem to take these things seriously/never seem to learn. Kyler suggests more supervision, to hold them accountable for their actions; then, maybe they'll learn?

Why do you think?
Is it like
Kids don't take it seriously?
It's not realistic/applicable?

(Sorry so many questions lol but your feedback is very useful 🙌 🤗)

I bet a lot of kids don't take it seriously maybe because they are either too persistent in their bullying career or they just goof off at project cornerstone.

Hmm, I see, I see 😕

So even in project cornerstone there maybe isn't enough strict supervision?

Maybe

I see I see

Do you think the bullies know what they're doing is wrong, or they're just like eh whatever

They probably don't care.

Is there something that can motivate them to care? Hmmm...

Is newsela just like
Only a place you can read articles(?)
Or is there more beyond that?

you read articles, answer questions, annotate and type up what the article does

Kyler • May 4, 10:13 PM

I had never heard of Newsela before, but looking into it, it seems to be a news-like platform specifically curated for education settings. They even note on their website, "Young learners never see articles about troubling subjects, so your search for content that is both engaging and age-appropriate is over." (Newsela, 2019)

This is very characteristic of the "protectionist approach" that makes out "young people as passive consumers of potentially dangerous content" (Mirra, 2018, p. 13). Additionally, I was reminded of the ban on Persepolis and the questions over what children should be exposed to (McNicol, 2015). While understandable teachers want age-appropriate material, the having no "troubling subjects" brings into question what are "troubling subjects"? Is it depriving students of potential big-picture questions/engaging subjects? Maybe, maybe not- but it's an interesting

Thanks 😕

May 4, 11:29 PM

So given this info, my experience - what can be better? Well, I'd like to propose an improvement of the whole "moral teachings" lessons/activities present in school. The current system in place (here, Project Cornerstone) seems inadequate - people still bully, and seem to lack care at all for the lessons being taught.



I think that the AIM project (Bowers, 2015) shows improvement from this, as it facilitates more personal discussions and thought. Here, the use of buddies here is not arbitrary/diminished. It has a central role in a specific facilitated activity, in a more supervised environment. As such, the utility of kids learning from others is made useful.

Additionally, the aspect of technology is relevant these days; I also believe this would capture attention more. Making it a more individual (though with a partner) activity requires more engagement, whereas more distanced class discussions may not engage everyone, especially those who have no care to participate. Active engagement as part of aesthetic learning experiences, noted by Kraehe (2011), aids in learning to care for others.



I think that some RPG-esque game, or digital graphic novel (like AIM), that brought about multiple endings dependent on the choices of the player would be a viable option. While AIM touches on multiple endings/consequences, they are relatively minimized.

I think something that changes the player's playing world (in the moment) would further drive home the role of consequence (something Kyler noted may help kids stop bullying)



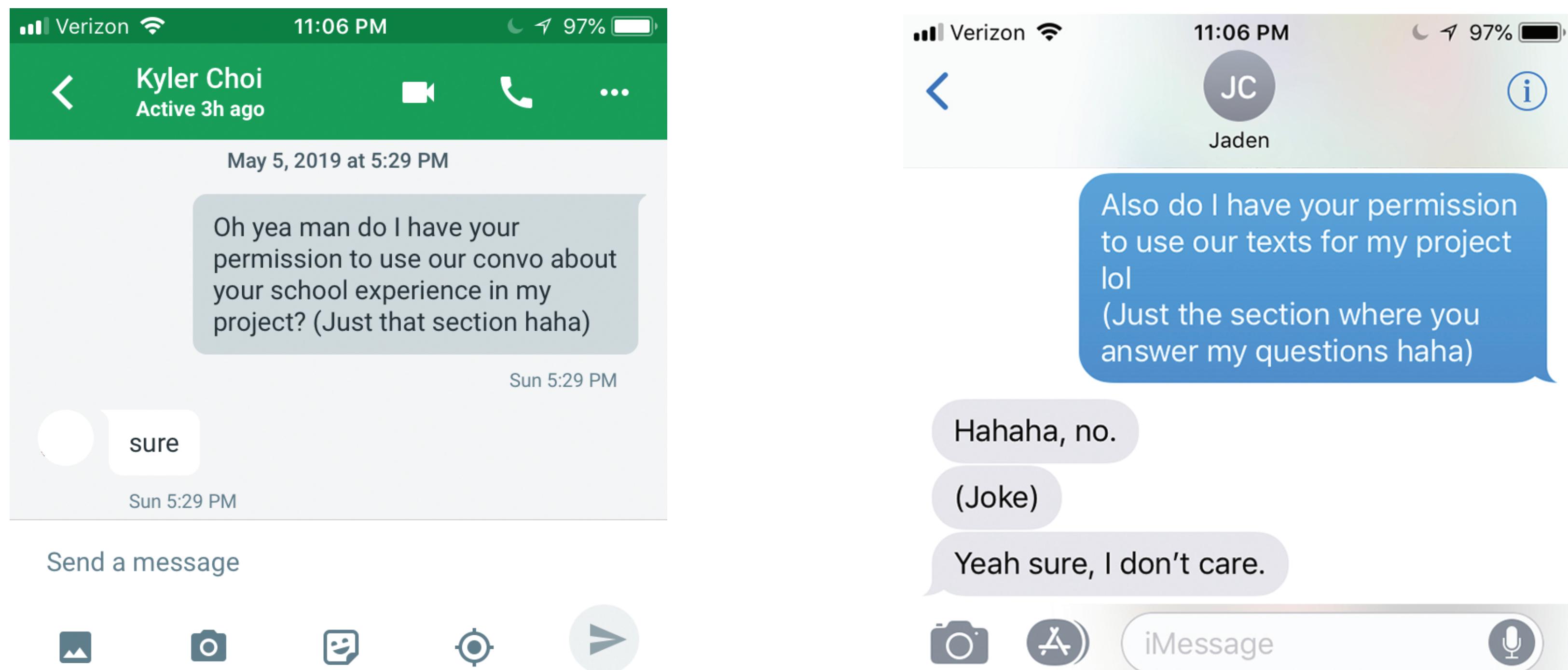
Looking at games out there, Undertale is a good example of really highlighting how your choices have grave effects. While probably too brutal for elementary, Undertale is fighting-style RPG with an unexpected twist - by killing the monsters you encounter, you essentially become a monster. The endings are differentiated as "genocide" or "pacifist."

So, I mean, yea. Something like that -
Games: engaging
Consequential: motivation
Partners: conversation
This together would hopefully help the bad
bullying situation currently going on.



References

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Also, shout out to my bros, thanks for your input! And sorry for like slandering your faces lol I tried my best.

