

## Textbooks Should Stay In Schools

Textbooks should not be replaced with tablets in school. Textbooks are more reliable and efficient. Tablets on the other hand have long term issues and cause temporary issues as well such as eye strain, increased neck pain, and work-load distractions. Textbooks are more cost efficient, while tablets are more expensive and eventually require replacements and technological upgrades. Tablets do outweigh textbooks in some categories, but not enough to be qualified to replace them. Sometimes it is better to keep around the old, efficient things than replace them with new complicated things.

First of all, reading with textbooks instead of tablets is easier to focus on. In fact, studies show that you read digital text 20-30% slower than paper text. I can vouch for this because I read books faster in my hands than reading assignments online. Students who use hand written notes are better able to obtain knowledge than from taking electronic notes because of the use of touch. You feel more engaged when you are writing or coloring then when you are typing all of your notes. Along with this fact, students become more motivated when they can see how much they have physically accomplished. For example, with textbooks you can see how many more pages you have to read or complete with your hands. On tablets, you only have a number that tells you how much more you haven't done. With these facts considered, keeping textbooks instead of tablets seems like the more motivative move.

Secondly, textbooks are the smarter choice in the long run. Although textbooks have to be replaced with newer models, so do tablets. Textbooks don't become inefficient with charging, breaking, cracking, etc. Tablets can raise lots of problems here like when a student breaks one and has to replace it even with a low income family. Schools will have to replace all devices over time once they start to die out. While both



have to be replaced, textbooks cost significantly less with an average of \$65 per copy while tablets cost an average of \$200 a piece with an additional installation of a \$45 E-Textbook. With increased use of technology over the last decade, doctors take note of eye strain issues and increased neck pain caused by devices. These issues can be decreased if we start to use electronics less. If tablets start to replace textbooks, all of these issues will be increased and will have even more long-term issues.

Even though textbooks are better, tablets are also beneficial. Instead of having to carry around heavy textbooks, you can carry lightweight tablets in your backpack. In reality, you don't have to carry around textbooks anyways because most students have two copies each, one at home and one in class. In personal experience with this issue, I've found that textbooks are rarely used and only taken home when needed which would be about once a month. Also, while carrying the textbooks once in a while you can be physically strengthened by the change of weight. With the benefits of tablets considered, textbooks are still the smarter option.

In conclusion, textbooks should not be replaced with tablets. Long term issues of eye strain, back pain, technological cost and issues are not worth it to be replacing textbooks. We are still in the early stages of technology so we do not know long term effects or consequences. Textbooks are the better, wiser option in the long run. Although tablets come with their own advantages of less weight to carry, textbooks still out rule devices in school. Textbooks should stay in schools.

