97% of district administrators say the effective use of instructional technology in school is important for preparing students for future success.

68% say it is extremely important.

Students and teachers are increasingly using more technology in the classroom, with even higher rates of usage predicted in the next few years.

**Today**

- Cloud based communications and collaboration tools (85%)
- Online assessments (77%)
- Using student data to inform instruction (73%)
- Social media use for communications with parents (65%)
- Digital content such as videos, animations and simulations (54%)

**Future**

- Flipped Learning (54%)
- Blended Learning (53%)
- Competency-Based Learning (47%)
- Open Education Resources (44%)
- Online PD for Teachers (43%)
- Digital Games within Instruction (42%)
- 1:1 Mobile Devices in Class (37%)
58% of technology leaders say their top concern with cloud applications is ensuring data privacy.

33% of tech leaders are concerned about teachers’ lack of understanding about how to protect student data.

While... 61% of district administrators say teacher PD on student data privacy is a top priority.

Only... 8% of teachers recognize that they need that type of PD today.

How districts are protecting student data (2017 vs 2014)

- Staff person assigned for data privacy and security: 45% (2017) vs 40% (2014)
- Hardware and software in place: 70% (2017) vs 77% (2014)
- Understand legal obligations: 67% (2017) vs 67% (2014)
- Educate teachers about policies and procedures: 59% (2017) vs 59% (2014)
- Detailed district policies and procedures in place: 52% (2017) vs 52% (2014)
- District controls downloads: 41% (2017) vs 51% (2014)

71% of district administrators are concerned about the security of their network against malicious attacks or misbehavior.

Top 5 obstacles: districts face effectively protecting students, teachers and staff

1. Balancing access to educational resources with security (57%)
2. Lack of technology expertise among teachers and administrators (55%)
3. Keeping up with the pace of technology adoption (43%)
4. Students and teachers circumventing existing policies (39%)
5. Securing mobile devices both on and off premises (29%)

Source: Speak Up Research Project for Digital Learning, 2017-18 Findings - the results of the authentic, unfiltered views of 406,779 K-12 students, parents, and educators from around the world. Speak Up is an annual research initiative of Project Tomorrow, a global nonprofit organization. Surveys were open from October 2017 through January 2018. Learn more about Speak Up and other research findings from Project Tomorrow at tomorrow.org.

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