

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 16 March 2015 11.00 A.M.**

**PRESS RELEASE: SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, SINGAPORE (SST)  
PARTNERS GOOGLE FOR EDUCATION TECH SUMMIT**

1. Platforms that allow multiple students to co-create content. Tools that allow teachers to manage and keep track of assignments. Applications that minimise administration bottlenecks so teachers can focus on teaching. These and more were explored at the inaugural tech summit organised by the School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) in partnership with Google Inc.
2. The one-day event is the first of its kind to provide a platform for local researchers and educators to meet and share experiences in deploying Google technology for education.
3. Apart from a keynote and demonstration by Google, highlights of the summit included hands-on workshops led by experienced professional developers and practitioners, a demo-slam competition as well as a full day of informative breakout sessions.
4. Response to the event was overwhelming with the number of applications far exceeding the target of 200 participants from secondary and primary schools. In total, there were 229 participants from 42 secondary schools and tertiary institutions as well as 23 primary schools.
5. Mr Hoe Wee Meng, Principal of SST, said about the event, “The SST Tech Summit aims to empower educators to harness technology for education so as to promote self-directed learning and collaborative learning among students. The encouraging response reflects the enthusiasm of teachers to innovate teaching practices and connect with the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner. SST will continue to champion initiatives in education technology in our drive to transform learning.”



6. Commenting on the summit, Mr Suan Yeo, Education Evangelist for Google in the Asia Pacific region said, “Education is at the core of Google’s overall mission to help make the world’s information accessible. We believe that the power of education and the promise of technology can improve the lives of students and educators. We hope that teachers come away from the summit with new ideas for using technology in the classroom and new ways to help their students discover a world of information online.”
  
7. Mr Glenn Wong, Vice-Principal of Jurong Junior College added, “It is an invaluable experience to be able to present at the inaugural SST Tech Summit. The event affords local educators the platform to harness their collective wealth of expertise to share and form knowledge building communities to benefit our students and to bring about a more vibrant and exciting educational landscape in Singapore and the region.”
  
8. Participants picked up pointers on leveraging Google applications for certification. Other topics covered included the use of Chromebooks for Education, Youtube for schools, Building Googlesites and Change Management. Please refer to Annex A for information on key presenters and presentations. The detailed programme can be accessed from this [link](#).

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**About School of Science and Technology, Singapore**

*The School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) is a Specialised Independent School that offers a distinctive 4-year GCE O-Level programme with an integrated approach to applied learning. Learning in SST is multi-faceted as students gain a strong foundation of key academic concepts in core subjects like Mathematics and Science. Having delivered success at the GCE O-Level examination, the school aims to be a global leader in transforming learning and nurture passionate innovators through real-world applications of science and technology. For more info, visit [www.sst.edu.sg](http://www.sst.edu.sg).*

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For media enquiries, please contact:

**Mr Jamaluddin Bin Johan**  
Corporate Communications Executive  
School of Science and Technology  
Tel: 65717200 ext 430  
Email: [jamaluddin\\_johan@sst.edu.sg](mailto:jamaluddin_johan@sst.edu.sg)

**Ms Ng Kian Pin**  
Corporate Communications Manager  
School of Science and Technology  
Tel: 65717201  
Email: [ng\\_kian\\_pin@sst.edu.sg](mailto:ng_kian_pin@sst.edu.sg)



## Annex A

### Key Presenters

**Mr. Suan Yeo**

**Head of Google Apps for Education, Asia and Pacific**

**Google Inc.**

#### **Biodata:**

Suan is the Education Evangelist for Google in the Asia-Pacific region. He works closely with educators and administrators on helping schools and universities, teachers and students go Google. A Google veteran of 12+ years, Suan worked in 7 offices, 5 countries and 3 product teams before finally creating his dream job of working with teachers and students on technology-enabled learning.

2015 is shaping up to be the biggest year for Google to be recognised as a world leader in education. While Suan's 2014 goal was to create an #eduwin for everyone he worked with, his focus on 2015 will be on empowering learners to seize the opportunity to make a positive difference in the world. "Focus on the learner and all else will follow".

Suan currently lives in Sydney where he enjoys the wonderful beaches and 300 days of sunshine a year with his awesome wife and two wonderful kids.

Suan is the Keynote Speaker and will be conducting a hands-on session on Google Glass and Google Cardboard.

#### **Presentation title:**

A New And Open World for Learning

As technology becomes increasingly pervasive in our lives, how do we prepare our students for their future? What are the hottest trends in education technology? How do administrators and teachers keep up with concepts like flipped classroom, blended learning and game-based learning? This talk will also take a look at the role Google can play in Education, and showcase some of the web-based tools to encourage collaboration and creative thinking.

Link: <http://www.google.com/edu>



**Mr. Lee Min Sen**

**Year Head (Upper Sec)**

**Bedok North Secondary School**

**Biodata:**

Lee Min Sen is currently the Year Head (Upper Sec) for Bedok North Secondary School. In 2013 - 2014, he headed the Curriculum Innovation (CI) Committee to encourage and cascade innovative forms of teaching and learning in Bedok North Sec. Closely aligned to the school's focus on the use of ICT and the school's theme of *An Engaged Learner*, the various programmes organised by the CI committee leverages on the use of iPads and Google sites to make teaching and learning more engaging and impactful. In 2014, he collaborated with the HOD (Humanities) to implement the Applied Learning Programme in Bedok North Sec.

**Presentation title:**

The Use Of Google Site As A “One-Stop” Tool For Learning. Bedok North Secondary School’s Journey In Learning Programmes And Google Site.

**Synopsis:**

Bedok North Secondary School (BNSS) adopted the theme of *Environmental Studies and Sustainable Living* for its Applied Learning Programme (ALP). Secondary Two students focused on the topic of *Sustainable Development* to better understand and appreciate the impact and necessity of Singapore’s efforts at building a Sustainable City. The Curriculum Innovation Committee (CIC) developed a programme leveraging on the collaborative and encompassing nature of Google Sites to engage both students and teachers.

This session would share with participants the process that BNSS took in the developing, planning and preparation of a Google Site for a school programme for students and teachers. The use of Google Docs, Google Forms or any other online IT tool would be integrated with Google Site to provide a “one-stop” platform for any programme.

**Mr. Glenn Wong**

**Vice-Principal**

**Jurong Junior College**

**Biodata:**

An educator at the secondary school level for 10 years, Glenn Wong first started using Google Apps as early as 2008, when the school he was teaching in, Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road), adopted a system-wide application of Google for Education for administrative and teaching and learning (T&L) processes. Since then, he stayed updated on the use of Google Apps in T&L when he was a part of the pioneer team of key personnel in the startup of the School of Science and Technology. Currently as a school administrator, he had successfully introduced Google for Education in Jurong Junior College in 2014, with the aim that the Google platform would provide a more customized approach to streamlining administrative and T&L processes.

**Presentation title:**

Google for Education in Jurong Junior College – Startup in Retrospect

**Synopsis:**

The presentation would provide participants with an insight into the following areas:

1. A need for change - why Google for Education in JJC
2. Initial challenges faced
3. Walk the talk - leading through collaboration
4. Google Apps in action through Professional Development

Participants will be able to have an understanding of the start-up process at JJC on the implementation of Google for Education, and experience hands-on activities with regards to Professional Development (PD). The session will introduce participants to how PD in JJC aims to change classroom practices through the Google experience for teachers, and showing them how instructional materials could be designed and learning achieved through Google Apps.

**Ms. Shaun Ng**

**Head of Standards and Assessment**

**Raffles Institution**

**Biodata:**

Shaun is the Head of Standards and Assessment of Raffles Institution (RI). She teaches Mathematics at RI Year 1-4. She enjoys looking out for interesting ways to harness the interactiveness of technology to enhance student learning and encourage collaboration amongst students.

**Presentation title:**

The Dot That Went For A Walk: Using Google Spreadsheet In The Teaching Of Graphs

**Synopsis:**

Have you ever wondered what happens when a dot goes for a walk? What if the dot were to go for a walk in Google space?

This session will demonstrate how the real-time display function in Google Spreadsheet can be used to teach graphs. By getting students to connect the dots between numerical, algebraic and graphical representations via the Google Spreadsheet App on their smart phones, students are given the opportunity to manipulate values and see how the values affect the shape of the graph collectively as a class in real-time. This strategy of having each student represent a point in Google space provides a platform for them to experience the interconnectedness of numerical, algebraic and graphical representations. In this way, not only are students more engaged during lesson, their conceptual understanding of graphs also deepens. This activity can be used in the teaching of functions and graphs for any level of high school / secondary school mathematics.



**Mr. Irfan Darian**

**Head of Department (Art, Design, Media & Technology)**

**School of Science and Technology, Singapore**

**Biodata:**

Irfan did his Bachelor and Master degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Systems Engineering respectively at NUS. He counts photography, product ideation and experimenting with new apps for classroom use as part of his repertoire of hobbies that he indulges in during his spare time.

He is interested in how design thinking can be applied more pervasively in the classrooms and across disciplines, and has been an active proponent of its application in the teaching of design-centric disciplines for the last few years. His other related professional areas of interests includes the cognitive development of students' design capacities, specifically their Design Quotients (DQ), as well as the effective use of educational technology in a design and media-centric subject matter.

**Presentation title:**

Design Thinking, And Thinking About Design: Opportunities And Challenges

**Synopsis:**

Design Thinking (DT) is a human-centric approach to design that has only recently gained momentum in the design industry. Consequently bringing the DT experience into the classrooms is an even newer undertaking. This presentation aims to share the experiences of bringing DT into a media and design-centric subject matter. It is aimed at sharing good practices and experiences that could be used in the classrooms, whilst leveraging on current technologies in a 1-to-1 context. Some opportunities for further development would also be shared, together with the challenges that come along with it.



**Ms. Loh Kwai Yin**

**Head, Special Project**

**School of Science and Technology, Singapore**

**Biodata:**

Kwai Yin graduated from the National University of Singapore with a Bachelor of Science, and holds a Master of Educational Studies from the University of Adelaide. In her 22 years in the education service, Kwai Yin has taught Mathematics, Computer Applications and Elements of Office Administration. During her three-year stint with the Education Technology Division (ETD), she was involved in the development of the Baseline ICT Standards, an initiative that has been rolled out to all schools since 2007. Kwai Yin received the prestigious MOE Service Excellence Award (MSEA) in 2006 as well as the Innergy Award (Commendation) in 2007.

In 2009, Kwai Yin joined the School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) as one of the pioneer staff, overseeing the ICT department and the FutureSchools@Singapore programme in SST. At present, research into ICT-enabled pedagogy and digital citizenship programmes are two core areas that she looks into, apart from knowledge management. In 2012, Kwai Yin was conferred the "Associate of Academy of Singapore Teachers" for her contribution to the professional development of teachers.

A very experienced teacher, she believes that effective use of technology deepens learning, and curriculum must not be driven by technology but by sharing the practices in schools actively with both local and overseas educators. She is an Apple Distinguished Educator (ADE) and a Google Certified Teacher (GCT).

**Presentation title:**

Youtube In Teaching And Learning

**Synopsis:**

Participants will learn to modify video clips, using features in Youtube to support a variety of learning activities. In addition, participants also learn how to organise learning materials with Youtube channel and playlists.

**Mr. Jay Atwood**

**High School Educational Technology Coordinator**

**Singapore American School**

**Biodata:**

Jay is the High School Educational Technology Coordinator at Singapore American School where he is responsible for leading education technology planning, professional learning, and technology integration with the goal of improved student learning. He's a Google Certified Teacher, Google Education Trainer, a Lead Learner at Google Teacher Academies in Asia-Pacific, Australia, Europe and the US and a Common Sense Digital Citizenship Certified Educator.

**Presentation title:**

An Add-On For All

**Synopsis:**

Explore some of the newest Add-ons available in Google Drive. Do things that you didn't think were possible. We will be playing with some of the most relevant features and coming up with instructional examples for all subject areas and grades. A laptop or Chromebook is required. Participants working only on tablet devices will not be able to fully participate.

**Ms. Yeo Hwee Khim**

**Teacher (English and Music)**

**Singapore Chinese Girl's School**

**Biodata:**

Ms Yeo Hwee Khim is a teacher of English and Music in Singapore Chinese Girls' School (Primary). A firm believer in the use of Information Technology to enhance lesson delivery and students engaging in independent learning, Ms Yeo has experimented with the use of Google applications in both the disciplines of English and Music.

**Presentation title:**

Using Google Docs In The Classroom

**Synopsis:**

Research has shown that the use of collaborative technology does enrich learning, enhance active participation and increase the engagement level of pupils. This study, conducted by three language teachers in the subjects of English, Mandarin and Tamil, aims to examine how collaborative technology in the form of Google Docs can aid students in enhancing their oral conversation content. The skills taught by teachers of each subject are generally similar and this study was thus executed over three different subjects with an identical research methodology.

80 students from Primary Five and Six participated in this experiment. Pupils were randomly grouped into their small groups for collaborative work. Results from data collected showed that the use of Google Docs aided collaborative learning and brought about a deepening in understanding and heightened pupils' engagement in the learning process. Pupils' abilities to engage in relevant conversation content were also enriched through peer editing and productive collaboration through the use of Google Docs. Post-study surveys conducted with the pupils also revealed that they had enjoyed the process of constructive discussion and had become more effective collaborators.