

# TECH TIME '20

[Make Computer Calls](#)
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## Calls via TEAMS

Want to make and receive work calls without giving out your personal phone number to students? Consider downloading the Teams app on your Smart Phone or District Computer.

**To use:** Open the TEAMS app. Click CHAT on the left ribbon. Type the name of the student or Team Guest in the NewChat box, then click the PHONE icon. It will ring, and if they don't answer, leave a message. Group calling available.

## Set it up to Suit Yourself

The default phone number associated with the message is your OCS D Outlook address info. If you want to change that, be aware that EVERYONE who can see your profile will be able to see that number, including students.

I switched my settings from the default of 30 secs to 15 secs. When I get a call, my phone rings and my computer rings if Teams is open.

If I miss it, the message appears as a tiny red dot in my Teams ribbon. I click CALLS and listen to the message, or I read a transcription of the message and hit reply.



## The TEAMS Bookings App

Make your Parent/Teacher Conferences a Breeze to Schedule

*Here's the Scenario - [Click here for a Step by Step](#)*

Teacher needs to set up conferences with 36 parents. Not unheard of these days! Here's how it works. Start in Teams by clicking on the ... in the ME ribbon. Type Bookings. After install, the teacher picks the dates/times, sets the length of the meetings and the amount of time in between, and emails the link to the parents (or student accounts). Parents open the link, choose the date/time that works for them and reserve the time. This auto generates reminder emails. Need to reschedule? Parent clicks the link, unselects one appointment and chooses another. Our hairdressers and dentists are using this tool. Now we can too.





## Thankful for Digital Citizenship

I'm grateful for Digital Citizenship training for our students - especially those who now spend so much time online. For these students, I want to share some resources on the 6 core topics of Digital Citizenship. Each underlined title below takes you to a 3-5 minute video or lesson plan.

- [Media Balance & Well Being](#) (Elem)
- [Privacy & Security](#) (Elem)
- [Digital Footprint & Identity](#) (Elem)
- [Relationships & Communications](#) (Sec)
- [Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech](#) (Sec)
- [News & Media Literacy](#) (Sec)

Not unexpectedly, Common Sense Media has created Election News and Media lessons. Check out the links below.

[DeepFakes and Democracy](#) (Sec)

[Social Media: is Your Breaking News Broken?](#) (Sec)

[5 Ways to Teach Kids to be Media Savvy](#) (ELEM)

[Political Ads on Social Media: Selling the Truth?](#) (Sec)

[Why is Teaching Online Safety Important?](#) (Sec)

## Digital Storytelling Conference Software

Good parent/teacher conferences are kind of like good story writing. Now let your students develop conference materials using Digital Storytelling software available to all of us. Here are four apps to consider.

### Power Point

Students use a digital book template and include screenshots of their work. Add audio files, record student read aloud, or project presentations, and insert videos. PowerPoint helps students take ownership of their learning goals. Close Captions, Translations, and Animation are all free to OCSD students and teachers. Priceless to parents. Learn how to make a [PDF EBOOK HERE](#).

### Sway

I shared this TEAMS app before, but it bears repeating. Check out the templates to build storytelling skills. Sway moves slide cards and multi-media tools seamlessly along, and the templates guide the emerging writers. Paired with Bing Web Search, Sway will give you seamless conferencing tools for attaching pics, audio, webpages, survey links, and video. Free to OCSD students and teachers through Office 365. [Learn more here](#).

### Adobe Spark

The program has a free as well as a paid version. Build Video presentations, Portfolios, and Graphics - like a title poster for a book students read. Simple and intuitive for teachers and students, Spark is worth fanning the flame of creative presentation. See the attached video for step by step instructions with one of my favorite trainers, Teacher's Tech - Jamie Keet. [Click Here for a video](#). I would love to hear from Spark users!

### PowToon

Even the free version sends messages they'll never forget. This ad took 5 mins to create. [Click to Watch](#).



When students use tools like these to tell the story of their success, the genre doesn't need to be fiction to be good.