

Misunderstanding technology...

To us, technology is a tool. Technology is NOT a learning outcome. Sometimes the role of technology gets misplaced, and technology becomes the idea. People get caught up in the new gadgets, or they think it's the technology that motivates kids and makes the learning personalized. That isn't true.

"Kids aren't motivated by technology. They're motivated by opportunities to make a difference in the world; they are motivated by opportunities to ask and answer their own questions, and they are motivated by opportunities to learn together with peers." Bill Ferriter, author/educator

Digital tools can be tools to help make meaningful learning possible, but we must see technology as nothing more than a tool. Technology is NOT personalized learning. To personalize learning, we must think about the things that *do* motivate student learning and complex thinking. That's done with academic goals, curriculum, content, teaching method, and pace of learning – all conceivably personalized for children.

For those districts where technology became the idea, it went wrong. Personalization is the idea, technology is merely a tool. Let's do personalization right.