We’re using Suite360 three-fold: in our guidance classes, in the classroom to teach expectations to all of our students, and as a re-teaching tool for when students don’t meet those expectations. My advice to a new administrator would be: share this program first with a small team of teachers, preferably one from each grade level, who are cutting edge, tech savvy, and not afraid to try something new. I gave Suite360 to our RTIB team first, and they were able to guide all of the other teachers in their grade level. Because of this approach, Suite360 wasn’t seen by the other teachers as overwhelming or as just one more thing on their plate. That’s really been a huge part of our success.

The students have really enjoyed it. 6th graders are a tricky bunch. So to have them actually engaged in the activities—to me, that’s very important because a lot of time the content that is out there is a little bit too cheesy and doesn’t really take into account the students’ interest. The activities in Suite360 are high interest and high rigor, which helps their engagement with program. When I see 5th and 6th graders truly engaged and not dismissing the information that’s given to them, that’s really important.
RTIB (Response to Intervention for Behavior) is a way of looking at behavior intervention as: my students are not bad students, but rather they have learning gaps in what is appropriate behavior. When we first started this approach, we were really just working with some lesson plans that our RTIB team had created to address potential behavior issues. And as we got into it, we saw that we can’t possible have a lesson plan for every possible thing—I mean, it was just overwhelming. That is when my principal Dr. Evans said hey let’s look into what Suite360 could offer as far as specific lessons. Suite360 really took a lot of the work off of our hands so that we could work smarter not harder.

Also, when one of our teachers has a student with a conduct issue, instead of necessarily coming into my office, the teacher themselves can provide an intervention using Suite360 by assigning an activity and having a conversation with the student. And we track that, so the teacher will print off that information, date it, and put it in that child’s file. Should a parent come back to us to complain, or if we have to take the discipline to the next step, we have all of that Suite360 data to say: look at the type of intervention and learning opportunity that we have provided to this child; this is why we are having to move to the next step, or this is why it has worked.