

Greenhill School authorities made a conscious decision to equip students with basic technological skills, and also to ensure that the teaching staff would become as comfortable with technology as they are with chalk and books. It's a mission that introduced them to Tandberg Educational and the SANAKO Lab 300 (Prisma/ICM Duo).

Greenhill school

- Co-educational, private day school
- Student enrollment of more than 1200 pupils
- A diverse group of students from pre-K to Grade 12
- Committed to integrating technology into the classroom and the curriculum
- Languages offered: Chinese, French, Latin, Spanish

SANAKO – a trusted brand

- 18-position SANAKO Lab 300 system
- Completely digital solution makes learning more efficient
- Existing cassette material can be digitized and stored
- Many different ways to improve the learning experience

Striving for Excellence

Located in Addison, Texas, Greenhill School is a coeducational private day school with an enrollment of more than 1,200 students, Pre-K through Grade 12. It is a diverse community of learners that strives for excellence; values individuality; fosters a passion for learning; promotes the balanced development of mind, body, and character; encourages service, and instills a respect for others.



SANAKO Lab 300 helps students and staff achieve excellence.

Greenhill's Technology Commitment

Six years ago, the technology committee met and outlined a set of goals that would update Greenhill School's technology for the 21st century. The new language lab was the final piece in the technology committee's six-year plan - with its opening on February 3rd 2003, the technology department realized its goal. The new language lab, which contains 18 computers, cost a little over \$100,000, most of which came from funds from the technology initiative, a technology-based capital campaign, and gifts. Chris Bigenho, Director of Educational Technology, Mary Tapia, Chair of the Modern and Classical Languages and Beth Wing, Spanish Teacher, visited several schools and colleges in the Dallas area and attended a conference in Houston to determine what type of language lab would be best for Greenhill. "We knew that language labs all around the area were going digital, so we decided that Greenhill's new lab would be digital too," said Mrs. Wing. "Basically, we narrowed it down to a few types of digital systems and decided to go with the Tandberg Educational lab. Our last language lab was a Tandberg Educational IS-10 language lab so we knew that we would be working with people we trusted."

A Completely Digital Solution

Mr. Bigenho felt the technological tools in the new language lab would make learning in the lab easier and more efficient. "The new language lab is completely digital," he said.



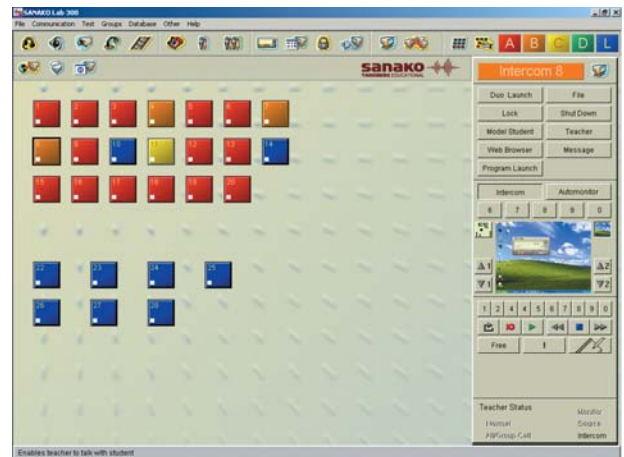
“Students access their lessons on the computer, respond, and digitally record their voices. Teachers can then open up student recordings on file and listen to them.” In contrast, the old language lab required lessons on tape. Now the taped lessons will be digitized onto the new language lab’s servers. “The Tandberg Educational IS-10 language lab was installed when the Upper School was built in 1987, so the technology became obsolete,” said Ms. Tapia. “There are an infinite number of ways the new lab will improve the education experience.” To reduce confusion, teachers and students are being trained on how to use the new system during their lab class times. “It takes time and patience to become familiar with new technology, but students and teachers will be pleased with the changes in the long run,” said Mr. Bigenho.

Easy-to-Use Technology

Ms. Tapia said she is pleased with how easily students and teachers are adapting to the new technology. “The first few sessions have gone very smoothly,” she added. According to Mr. Bigenho, all of the new computers have Microsoft XP, which contains a language program that enables students studying Chinese to read and type in Chinese.



SANAKO Lab 300 Media Assistant Duo Student User Interface



SANAKO Lab 300 Teacher Software

“It is going to be really nice to type in Chinese. In the writing center they have a Chinese program, but it takes too long. Also, the old lab only had a television and a tape deck, so now we can participate and react,” said sophomore Mark Henderson.

Chinese-language students are not the only ones excited about the addition of a digitally enhanced language lab. The students studying Latin will also benefit from the lab’s technological advantages. Junior Brett Lacher said, “Finally, Latin students can practice their language outside of the classroom setting.”

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