



**MATT MILLER**

## How to do More with Your Learning Management System

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**Podcast:** [Google Teacher Tribe Podcast](#) co-host with Kasey Bell

**Books:** **NEW Book: [Do More with Google Classroom](#)** +4 other books

**Companion Book:** [GoogleClassroomBook.com](http://GoogleClassroomBook.com)

### **A little bit about Matt**

- ❑ Former newspaper reporter and then high school Spanish teacher in rural Indiana.
- ❑ Currently a speaker, blogger, and author traveling around the country and beyond sharing practical ways to ditch that textbook.
- ❑ Host, Ditch That Textbook Digital Summit

*"Teach Better, Save Time, Make a Difference" Matt Miller*

### **Learning Management Systems (LMS)**

- Google Classroom
- Canvas
- Schoology
- Microsoft Teams
- Blackboard
- Moodle

**"Is like an airport, taking you to a wide world of creative assignments."**

- [Google Classroom](#) (Your LMS) is like the airport.
  - Students hop a plane to get to their destination

## 10 Ways to use Your LMS to do More

- #1 Envision your ideal classroom
  - Imagine your ideal LMS lifestyle
    - What is important to you as a teacher? (**mission statement**)
    - What kind of **academic work** do you want your students to do?
    - What do you value in **grading**? What kind of messages do you plan to send during your grading process?
    - How do you prefer to **interact** with your students?
    - What are your personal preferences for **organization**?
    - What **device** do you use most (or think you will use most) to do schoolwork?
  
- #2 Figure out where your prime real estate is.
  - Prime Real Estate- The place that gets the most eyeballs
    - The banner image (first thing students see when they enter your classroom)
      - Make your own banner image
      - [Google Drawings](#)
      - File > Page Setup > Custom > 1600 X 400 Pixels (Adjust to your preference)
      - Note: the right third may be cut off on a mobile device
  
- #3 Make a "Right Now" section on the Classwork tab
  - Assignments are clickable and draggable into different topics
  - Your classwork page is fluid. That's an advantage!
  - Maximize the top of your assignment area
  
- #4 Use emojis in your assignment titles
  - Give each assignment title a unique number
  - Add emojis
    - Mobile devices have built in emoji keyboards
    - Windows: Use Window key + period for emoji keyboard
    - Mac: Use Ctrl + Cmd + Space bar for emoji keyboard
    - Chromebook: Right click & choose the emoji option
  - Use emojis to represent content, new activities, bulleted list and more

- #5 Create assignments based on where students could go
  - Domestic Flights: Tools inside G Suite (Jamboard, Docs, Drawings, etc)
  - International Flights: Tools not included in G Suite (Kahoot, Book Creator, Edpuzzle, Quizlet, Adobe Spark and so many more)
  - Find more apps at [GoogleClassroomBook.com](https://www.googleclassroombook.com)
  - What to do when you reach your destination:
    - [Flipgrid](#) Top 10 Video [gclass.link/top5](https://gclass.link/top5)
    - Use YouTube for inspiration to plan your assignments
    - Free ideas from the book: [TechLikeaPirate.com](https://www.techlikeapirate.com)
    - Matt's Template Library: [DitchThatTextbook.com/templates](https://ditchthattextbook.com/templates)
  
- #6 Leave feedback through voice comments
  - Mote: Leave an audio file
    - [Justmote.me](https://justmote.me)
    - Click the purple icon that allows you to leave audio comments in Google Classroom.
    - Students hear your intonation,
    - We talk faster than we type
  
- #7 Use voice to text to speed up your feedback
  - Use your mobile device for voice typing
  - Speeds up the feedback loop
  - You can pull down the notifications and voice to text your feedback without having to open the app.
  
- #8 Let students leave each other feedback
  - Peer feedback helps students see their own work differently
  - Go to: [docs.new](https://docs.google.com/new) to create a new Google Doc quickly
    - Add students name to the doc
    - Change the sharing permissions to "anyone with the link can edit"
    - Take it to Google Classroom & Create an assignment
      - 1. Create a document with your essay
      - 2. Click the share button on the top right. Change permissions to "anyone with the link can comment" and copy that link
      - 3. Go to this document (insert the document with all the student names)
      - 4. Highlight you name and link your document to that text
      - 5. Go read three other students' work and leave comments
    - Mark Garder's framework: [gclass.link/spark](https://gclass.link/spark)

- #9 Send a student assignment summary by email
  - Click the people tab
  - Click on individual student
  - Click the envelope button on the top right
  - Write a message to your student & check box to send student work summary
  
- #10 Include an “everything I know but wasn’t asked” question
  - Open a Google Form: [forms.google.com](https://forms.google.com)
    - Turn this on as a quiz 1-10
    - Question 11 is an open ended question
      - Zero point question
    - Grading Question 11
      - Use the question to only add points and not take away.
      - More on this idea: [gclass.link/better](https://gclass.link/better)
  
- Recap: 10 ways to maximize your LMS visit [GoogleClassroomBook.com](https://GoogleClassroomBook.com)
  - Share what you have learned on Twitter at [#DitchSummit](https://twitter.com/DitchSummit) and [@jmattmiller](https://twitter.com/jmattmiller)