

My first recommendation is that you get a projector that can make the image as big as you possibly can. My image is about 12 feet wide by 8 feet high. It definitely gets the job done. Even as incredible as it is... if I didn't have the windows I would enlarge it even more.

If you were projecting something like Team Shake to divide your teams you want the names stay large enough to be seen around from anywhere in the gym. There are times when students need to get closer to find their names. If you are running assemblies in your gym the bigger image helps out.

I don't have a projector screen; we just use the white wall. I think this is the best for a gym. Without the screen there isn't an after school target and it doesn't need to be pulled up and down between uses. The higher the projected image the better it works. If you need a screen your image will be limited to the size of the screen.



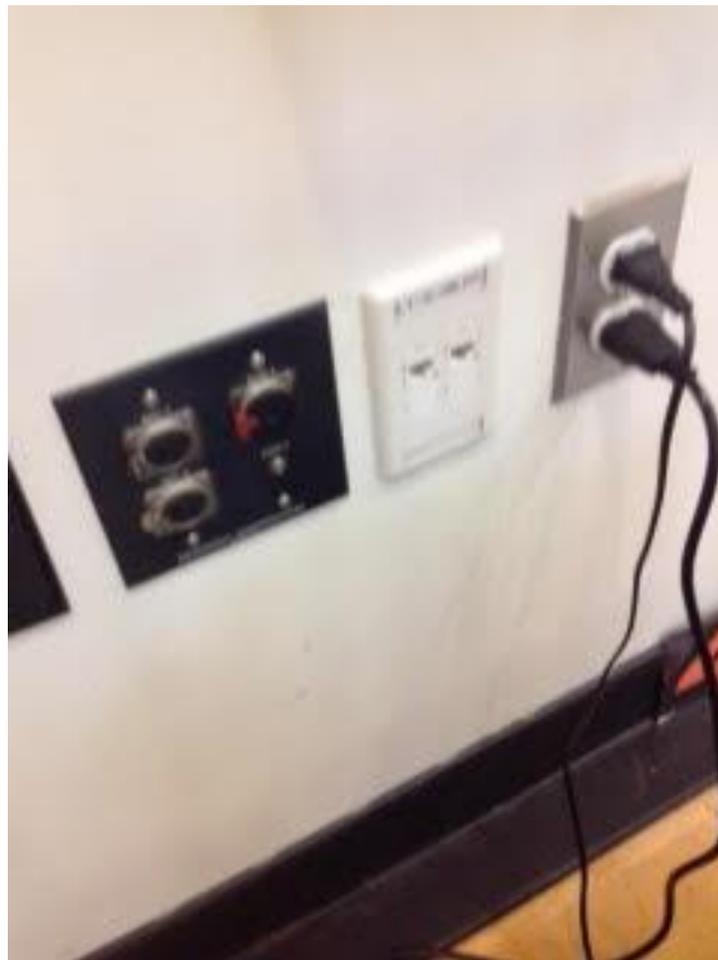
My projector is built into the wall between my office and gym. It is 8 feet high and has a Plexiglas screen to protect it. The height is nice because it isn't in the students eyes when we are playing a game. It is also low enough that I can access it if necessary. The fixed area saves wear and tear from moving it around and I never have to adjust the image to find the right setting, it is always ready to go.

Ignore the speaker on the mat, it usually isn't there. A cool feature is the saddle doors that protect the computer/teaching station. When I am running the projector during and activity, I just shut the door and can still access everything.

One little drawback (that I look at as a positive), is that I am often teaching/talking while the students are facing the opposite direction looking at the screen. The advantage is that often the students might be doing their warm-up with a video and I am getting prepared with the next part of the lesson or getting another technology piece ready. In addition, I can view my work on the projector in real time if I were up

front I would lose that advantage. I could probably get apple tv and run my ipad and roam as needed but I haven't done it yet.

The main two things I would stress would be to see if you can have your projector connected to your office/teaching station, even if it is off to the side of your gym do it. Second, do anything you can to have it fixed or mounted with easy access. When you use a cart you lose so much time pulling it in and out of the way of the activity, you need to turn on, up warm it and then turn it off between each activity the lesson gets killed with the pauses.



You'll want to think through how you will run the sound through the projector, computer, iPad, phone and mic. My system lets me run three things at a time. There is an aux plug here (and inside on the rack) that allows me to plug the jack into my computer, iPad, ect. If your system is running on Bluetooth you can only run one

thing at a time, so if you're switching between your computer/iPad/music you lose lesson time waiting for a reconnection...that's what I've been struggling with while waiting for tech company come back to fix our sound which is out of commission for some reason. With the hard wire to the sound available I make easy transitions.



This is the control panel for our system that lets me turn on the projector, run my mike system, dvd player and the rest from the outside of my office. Super handy and locks up at night.



This is my work station. The main thing to see is that I am often going back and forth between my ipad and computer. At least for me, the computer is much more reliable when showing videos off YouTube and using the dvd player from the computer keeps it on my station most days





This is the back side of the control panel area. The projector I have is a Christie LW650. It is top of the line. I saw it listed on-line at \$6,300 and it has 6500 lumens. I have a lot of natural lighting so that is part of the reason for both. However, bigger is better. If it was priced out by the amount of minutes it is on during the day, number of students reached and over the 20 year life span it is a bargain! I can't tell you how much it helps out in teaching and how much I use it. It is on every minute of every class.

The bottom two pictures are the rest of the system/rack that came with the rebuild. One thing to keep in mind is to have enough outlets close by your station for your computer/ipad/battery charger and the rest. Since I have the rack that controls everything, I can switch between my computer and ipad, hdmi cable and vga cable in seconds. VGA will be obsolete soon, if it's not already, but being able instantly switch between devices to the projector is a huge plus, if not a must.