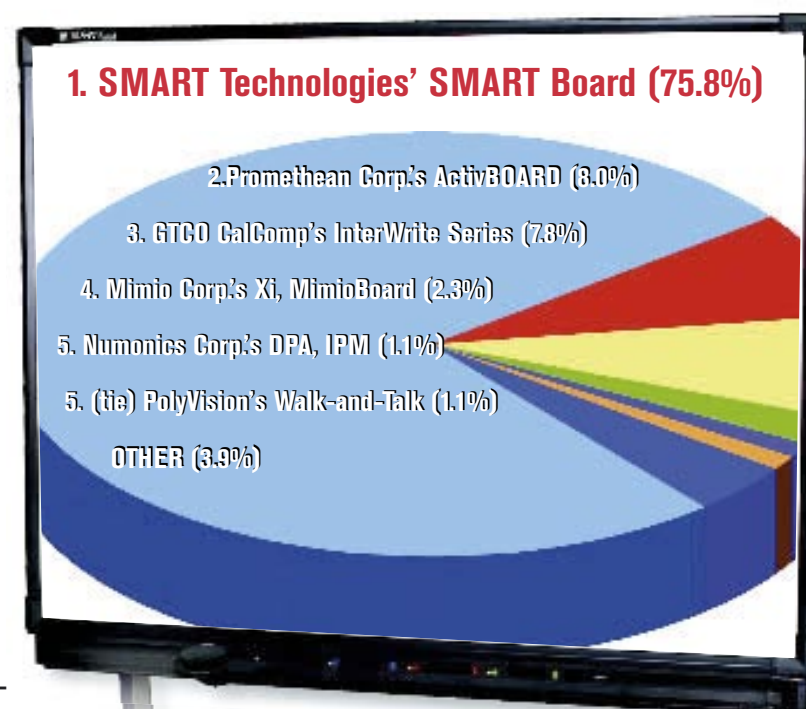


Best interactive whiteboard system for education:

As technology becomes ever more engrained into the fabric of daily learning, few tools are as important as the ones educators rely on in their classrooms to present concepts to their students. From interactive whiteboards equipped with cutting-edge handwriting recognition software to portable projectors that can be tucked under your arm and carried from class to class, or larger devices that can be mounted to the ceiling or pushed around on a cart, today's tech-savvy teachers have at their disposal a dizzying array of innovative solutions for capturing their students' attention—and keeping it.



In February, we asked our readers to vote at **eSchool News** Online for what they consider to be the best presentation solution for education. In our most popular Readers' Choice Awards program ever, nearly 1,000 of your colleagues responded to our online survey.

Maybe it's because, as the original electronic whiteboard for education, the SMART Board from Canadian company SMART Technologies Inc. has become synonymous with this product category. Or maybe it's because the SMART Board really is considered superior to the competition. Whatever the case, the SMART Board was a runaway winner in this category, securing more than three-fourths (75.8 percent) of the vote. "I absolutely love it," wrote one educator in favor of the SMART Board. "The SMART Board enhances all of my lessons and my students' presentations." Another wrote, "It's been the best thing that's ever happened to my kids." So what makes the SMART Board such a hot commodity in schools? According to our readers, the technology is readily available through a wide range of educational grants, not to mention compatible with a variety of interactive software programs designed to enhance student participation. "It's great for integrating technology into the curriculum," wrote one satisfied customer. Another praised the SMART Board for its touch-screen functionality, calling it "fun" and "easy to use in the classroom." Despite a distant second-place finish, Promethean's ActivBOARD also received a fair share of accolades from voters. "ActivBOARD was created for the educational environment," wrote one survey respondent, who said its usefulness in the classroom is evident to even the most casual of observers. Its "integration is seamless," another reader wrote. Also receiving votes in this category: Mimio Corp's MimioBoard and Xi (2.3 percent), which was praised by one voter for its "portability and flexibility"; Numonics Corp's DPA and IPM systems (1.1 percent); and PolyVision's Walk-and-Talk product (also 1.1 percent).