

Title of Session: Technology in the Classroom

Moderator: Donna Hendry

Title of File: 20041201techclass

Date: December 1, 2004

Room: After School Online Room

BJB2: welcome to tonight's Technology in the Classroom

BJB2: Before we start most discussions in Tapped In...

BJB2: we like to have everyone introduce themselves

SusanR: o O (wonders if anyone here is taking a tech Integration course)

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

DanyelleG: Hi, I am a Puma student from the University of Houston

JudySi: my name is Judy and I am eng lang art major at the university of Houston

RogerJC joined the room.

BJB2: welcome, Roger. We're just doing introductions

BiancaT: postbac at UH

JessicaRP: I'm a grad student at University of Houston getting my certification and masters in ed.

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher and helpdesk volunteer as well from Ottawa, Ontario

AlishaSa: Hi, in PUMA at Univ of Houston majoring in middle school education

RogerJC: Good evening everyone!

KristaS: I'm a Special Ed Teacher in Oklahoma and working on Masters

JohnJH: Hi I am an English undergraduate at the University of Houston I will be student teaching hopefully in the spring

BrianCB joined the room.

MelissaRom: my name is Melissa. I'm a grad student at the University of San Diego. I'm a third grade teacher

BJB2: Hi, Brian. We're doing introductions

SusanR: Welcome Brian

BrianCB: okay

BrianCB: my name is Brian

AdamGst24: I'm a middle school math/ soc. studies senior at the university of akron

BrianCB: I am a graduate student at the University of Mary Washington

BJB2: a reminder if you are new to Tapped In go to the ACTIONS menu in the top right of this chat window and click on DETACH

EdS joined the room.

RogerJC: I am a graduate student at Azusa Pacific. I teach high school business technology in Pittsburgh, PA.

BrianCB: I currently teach 7th Grade Civics and Economics

DonnaH joined the room.

SusanR cheers for Donna

BJB2: and right on cue is our discussion leader, Donna Hendry

BJB2 cheers wildly also

DonnaH: *waves to all and sundry, and apologizes for her lateness*

EdS left the room.

DonnaH: (she's only cheering because she was afraid I wouldn't make it... *giggle*

SusanR: . o O (8 minute detention)

MariaMM joined the room.

DonnaH: I just got home from my own children's teachers' conference

DonnaH: (it ran late)

MarisolR joined the room.

SusanR: ours are tomorrow

DonnaH: (ours were today AND tomorrow)

BrianCB: I also had conferences tonight I totally understand

MelissaRom: I have conferences next week.

BJB2: sounds like you have a sympathetic audience, Donna

SusanR: ..tomorrow evening and Friday until noon to be precise

MarisolR: Hi Everyone, sorry that I'm late

DonnaH: (cackles* seems to be the way of the evening, Marisol:) Don't worry.)

MarisolR: thanks

SusanR: reports went out today

DonnaH: Okay, even though I missed introductions...

MariaMM: hi

KristaS: hello

AnnieG joined the room.

DonnaH: My name is Donna Hendry, and I'm an Educational consultant in Connecticut, as well as your erstwhile session leader:)

LaurelGi joined the room.

DonnaH: So, I guess my first question is, is there anything that anyone has specific worries or curiosities about tonight?

MelissaRom: What do we do? It's my first time?

DanyelleG: no

LaurelGi: This is my first visit. Is this strictly an Alhambra forum?

DonnaH: Not at all.

DonnaH: we have visitors from all over the world:)

DonnaH: My sessions are always open to anyone.

MarisolR: I'm from Houston Texas

LaurelGi: So if it isn't Alhambra how far-reaching is it?

JessicaRP: I'd like to know how technology is really used in the classroom. I've been learning a great deal in school, but some things seem difficult to implement.

BrianCB: I totally agree

BJB2: Laurel, Tapped In has an international membership of over 21,500

LaurelGi: Ah. I'm sure we go beyond the south and west, hmm?

BJB2: . o O (sorry to interrupt, Donna)

DonnaH: though, quite often I'll have prof's who require a visit here and I'll get what seems to be whole classrooms.

DonnaH: (not at all BJ:) I wasn't aware of what the latest # was:))

SusanR: I would love to hear about any tried and true successful teacher tested tech integration activities, projects and ideas!

JessicaRP: or whole universities (UH tonite)

DonnaH: *chuckle*

DonnaH: (bits and pieces it is then:))

BrianCB: I'm in Virginia and we have the SOIs and they are pushing us to always use the textbook but also use technology

LaurelGi: Goodness. I see we're going to become very quick and efficient typers!!!

BJB2: a reminder if you are new to Tapped In go to the ACTIONS menu in the top right of this chat window and click on DETACH

DanyelleG: I have been observing in the classroom this past semester and have seen great uses of technology

MariaMM: So what are some examples we could use to integrate technology into our classroom

DonnaH: please share them Danyelle:~)

KristaS: I would like to know more resources on the web/software to implement in my classroom for reading

DonnaH: (what grade are you, Krista?)

SusanR: Or if time allows can you describe a day in the life of an Educational Consultant, Donna

DanyelleG: I have created a couple powerpoint games for the classroom for lessons and workstations

KristaS: special ed k-12

DanyelleG: my teachers have borrowed them for their personal resources

DonnaH: powerpoint is an excellent tool.

BrianCB: I've created powerpoint jeopardy and that seems to work well

MarisolR: Your lucky Danyelle because the classroom that I observe uses no technology at all. I think some teachers are scared

AnnieG: I have also and have also lent them to my teachers

DonnaH: They make great flash cards as well, if you print them out in review format

KristaS: yes it is

MariaMM: Jeopardy is a cool game to use in a classroom

DonnaH: I think most teachers are scared.

LaurelGi: and works so well in test prep, as well

DanyelleG: My Pre-K teacher used technology everyday, the students used computers for stations, it was awesome

DonnaH: add to the fact that I think most classrooms are ill prepared.

BrianCB: I agree with you Donna

MarisolR: I have also done jeopardy powerpoints and they are lots of fun

MariaMM: New teachers are now more technologically prepared.

MelissaRom: Many schools don't have the resources to use technology in the classroom.

AnnieG: That's true

MariaMM: yeah

AlishaSa: I agree

MariaMM: That's sad though

BrianCB: In my school I'm the youngest teacher 23 and the next person to my age is 40 and basically in my school people mostly just do e-mail and that is it!

DonnaH: do you think new teachers are now more prepared than the school systems in which they find work?

JohnJH: Judy can back me up on this one but if you look at Windows Moviemaker kids at all levels enjoy that. I know I did

JohnJH: Moviemaker is awesome

DanyelleG: I think a lot of schools don't utilize their tech specialists

LaurelGi: To answer Donna. Not necessarily at all!

AnnieG: I think they are because even when they do have the resources sometimes they still don't utilize them

JudySi: I would have to agree with John

AlishaSa: I like moviemaker too

DanyelleG: I know at UH we are required to take 3 semesters of technology in the classroom

DonnaH recognizes that her view is somewhat limited.

BrianCB: What exactly is moviemaker?

AlishaSa: and that is a lot

DonnaH: (compared to the one credit course I was required to take 6 years ago)

JohnJH: its on the MS (I know on XP)

JessicaRP: there's more out there now than 6 yrs ago

MelissaRom: In California we're only required to take 1 technology course.

BiancaT: windows xp provides moviemaker

MarisolR: Can you use digital pics in moviemaker

MariaMM: We do get to learn a lot of technology in UH

AnnieG: You can record clips through a digital camera and then link them together to make a movie

MariaMM: yes you can Marisol

JessicaRP: consider what will we have to do to stay current in comparison

DonnaH: when you think of using technology in the classroom, how many people automatically assume internet usage?

AnnieG: I don't

MelissaRom: I do.

JessicaRP: not only internet...

BrianCB: okay ... moviemaker sounds good

AlishaSa: I don't it's a lot of things you can do without using the internet

JudySi: most do think of internet usage

BrianCB: what did you use it for?

JohnJH: Have you see Nat'l Geographic? It can take still pictures and text and music to create and edit an actual movie

DanyelleG: I think more of Kidspiration and Microsoft office

RogerJC: internet and other things

MariaMM: a lot of teachers out there right now consider internet usage technology

KristaS: cool

DonnaH: It is just interesting to me...because there is a big difference.

DanyelleG: I agree

DonnaH: I usually don't speak to software, because everyone has different things, or access to different things.

JessicaRP: what do you perceive as the difference

MarisolR: I feel teachers should not limit themselves to just using the internet, though that's great for research but the options for tech are endless.

DonnaH: the internet is something that, if we're here, we have it. We ALL have access to it. whereas discussing software, we are more limited because without having it, it is much harder to discuss

AnnieG: I think a lot of teachers think using software like jump start is integrating technology - but it's not

DonnaH: (because the internet is not always stable.)

BrianCB: In my case our county buys a lot of material but they either do not teach us the material or they will send it to one school and not another

MariaMM: Sometimes schools don't have the resources to purchase software

AlishaSa: I agree Donna

JessicaRP: true, but it's good to know about software that has been proven useful. Future budget considerations, you know

DonnaH: I find a lot of teachers use technology time as reward time. which I have to admit I disapprove of.

MariaMM: but windows has cool things to use

JohnJH: yes

MarisolR: I agree with you Annie

MariaMM: you're right Donna

JohnJH: I agree Maria

KristaS: title 1 is very useful to buy technology

DanyelleG: I have seen technology used a lot for workstations

DonnaH: so then, Brian, do you think the problem with technology integration is the training and support? or the lack of interest to begin with?

JohnJH: Moviemaker powerpoint publisher, excel.....etc

BrianCB: I would say training and support

KristaS: yes I agree

MelissaRom: I think the problem lies in training?

JessicaRP: what about incentives to use tech in the classroom?

DonnaH: I've used it in the past as a work station for online Kloze activities.

MariaMM: Not only training

JohnJH: that is the biggest problem

BrianCB: if you offered the training I feel that teachers despite their years in the classroom or reluctance would come if they would be taught

MariaMM: but also it should mandated by the state to teach technology

DonnaH: (tech, while engaging, and CAN be integrated with regular work...it still can take more time)

JohnJH: cause PCs are everywhere for use

MariaMM: since everything now a days is so advance

MarisolR: I did a writing activity with 3rd graders and we used digital cameras as part of the lesson and they loved it.

MariaMM: everyone is using computers to make work and other stuff faster

JohnJH: people only use them to check email]

DonnaH: That's awesome, Marisol.

AlishaSa: I agree Maria

DanyelleG: I think integrating technology sometimes takes too much work that teachers don't have to time to deal with, or want to

MelissaRom: So much attention is given to standardized tests that administrators don't give technology the focus that it needs

KristaS: I use my computer for several things.....

BrianCB: YES

JessicaRP: true, Melissa

DonnaH: (speaking as someone who spends roughly 16 hours a day online...) checking email is the least of the things it's capable of.

KristaS: standardized testing will soon be on it

BrianCB: Melissa you are absolutely RIGHT

JohnJH: Yes Danyelle but lots of enjoyment for students

JohnJH: seem worth it to me

DonnaH: Which is why I used it for the Kloze activities, Melissa...I could kill two birds..

JessicaRP: if teachers realized how much time savings they could get out of an initial investment, maybe more would use it

AnnieG: I agree with Danyelle

MariaMM: true Jessica

DanyelleG: I am a big user of tech and I believe students should be able to use it to make learning fun

AnnieG: I don't think it's right but its reality

JohnJH: what is Kloze

MelissaRom: How many computers did you have in one classroom?

DonnaH: Kloze is a sort of reading test for...4-6 or 8.

DonnaH: (*snort* one. if I was lucky)

KristaS: what is the site Donna

MelissaRom: Is Kloze like Accelerated Reader?

MarisolR: I feel that it is crucial for students to be exposed to technology in the classroom because technology is growing day by day and it will help prepare students for the future

DonnaH: the basic idea being, certain words are left out of sentences, and you have to guess the appropriate one by what makes the most sense.

DonnaH: Sorry, Krista...I would've shared, but the site is no longer there.

JohnJH: like them reading a book and taking a test on it Accel Reader

JessicaRP: it would also help if there was clear access to some sort of "best practices" site where teachers could quickly access sample tech uses for their content area

KristaS: oh ok...thanks

JessicaRP: you can find stuff online now, but it may take a lot of time

KristaS: The more u use it the easier it becomes

DanyelleG: I know you can on Microsoft teachers corner-they have templates for games

JohnJH: have you ever heard or kloze, Judy

MelissaRom: It takes a long time to sort good lessons from bad ones.

AlishaSa: I agree with you Marisol, technology is very important

JudySi: yes

JessicaRP: Marisol, I agree w/ you. Even more so b/c students are sometimes more well versed in tech than the teachers, but not in how to use in a business setting.

JudySi: I learned about it in reading in the content area

DonnaH: absolutely. but the question those who DON'T use it is, that the amount of time teaching the technology aspect takes too much time

JessicaRP: they know how to chat and blog

DonnaH: (not that I agree)

MariaMM: If the administrators are only thinking about the tests maybe technology could be used to practice for those tests

JohnJH: oooooohhhhhhhh yeeaaahhhh!!!!

DonnaH: but it's always good to know the argument that you need to overcome.

JohnJH: that just tests reading accuracy and speed correct?

BrianCB: the only problem is that the system could go down

AnnieG: Teaching how to use a computer should start in PreK

JessicaRP: there probably isn't any evidence yet on how much time can be saved long run

JudySi: yes

BrianCB: last year we did our test online and the system went down and we lost everything

DonnaH: that's my attitude, Annie.

MariaMM: students will have practice both on technology and the test

KristaS: oh that's bad

JohnJH: how do students enjoy that?

DonnaH: When I did daycare, I had 3 year olds visiting the Forbidden City after watching Mulan.

JudySi: oh that is really bad

DanyelleG: I have witnessed two prek classrooms and both have used tech.

JessicaRP: cool, Donna

BrianCB: We definitely cried that day ...

DonnaH: (I think I would too)

AlishaSa: really Danny?

AnnieG: It's amazing how students in first grade are still fiddling around on the computer not knowing what they're doing - but that also has to do with technological equity

AlishaSa: I've never heard of it being used in pre-k

KristaS: I have 2 computers, 1 notebook, and 2 laptops in my room

JessicaRP: my kids' preK uses computers several times a week

DanyelleG: The students love it they know how to click and drag, some can type their names

JessicaRP: starting at 4yr old

AnnieG: I have observed three year olds that were great on the computer

MariaMM: My niece knew how to play the Dora game online since she was three

MariaMM: That's cool cause my sister in law showed her how

MarisolR: that's cool Maria

BrianCB: I have 7th graders and they love it anytime they can use a computer ... they would rather use the computer than the book

DonnaH: my kids did great on the computer. (The pooh bear game ...letter recognition is another really good one for early users)

JessicaRP: kids aren't intimidated by tech, but adults are

KristaS: scholastic is good

MelissaRom: In an ideal world all children would have a computer at home, but they don't.

MariaMM: She was even showing my mom how to get to the game

AnnieG: Maybe if it started at a young age - teaching technology skills, teachers would be able to do more in higher grade levels with technology and it wouldn't be as difficult

DonnaH: any work you can do on the computer is more engaging, especially with students who are hard to encourage.

AnnieG: that's true

DonnaH: I used to have their daily language online...

KristaS: how?

MariaMM: It's not all the schools responsibility to integrate tech

DanyelleG: there is a literactive website that is full of language arts game, that students love

JohnJH: the younger generation is learning more about computers either at home or at school because of the influence by tv radio older adults etc.

KristaS: what is the site?

BrianCB: yes ... underachievers in my experience have loved using the computers because they can show off what they actually know

MariaMM: Parents at home take time and show their children how to use it

DonnaH: (choose the synonym and antonym for a given word, vocab, look up the definition (link to online dictionary) and fill in...) then print out.

DonnaH: Did it myself; had a website, and uploaded it.

JessicaRP: great!

KristaS: great

MelissaRom: How did you find the time to do this?

DonnaH: Good too, for those who wanted to work ahead, used radio buttons and a cgi-bin. when it was filled out, they had clicked send, and it would emailed to me.

JohnJH: my father teaches at an inner-city school where those children type 40 wpm

JessicaRP: wow

MariaMM: wow

DonnaH: I had to write up the notes to give them anyway, right? I simply typed them instead.

JohnJH: this occurred with the evolution of video games too, needless to say

DonnaH: once I had the basic outline of the page, I just had to change the vocab, the quote of the day...the form never actually changed.

JessicaRP: great system, Donna

JudySi: I can't even type that much words a minute

JohnJH: me either Judy

MariaMM: lol

MarisolR: great idea Donna

JessicaRP: did you find it made your work throughout the year any easier, Donna?

JohnJH: I subbed there and saw those children do it

DonnaH: Especially for students who were functionally illiterate; They could get the work, they could LEARN it...but they weren't frustrated with the inability to write it all down (or the slowness)

MariaMM: good point made

DonnaH: and part of their disability was a lack (major lack) of organization. so they would print out their copy, but the email to me was good insurance..

MelissaRom: That's a great idea.

JohnJH: with paper over their hand so they could not look down like I still sometimes do on my struggling days like today

BrianCB: that's good that you had a copy

DonnaH: Yes, actually, it did Jess. Because the less frustrated these kids were, the easier it became to teach them.

JessicaRP: good point

DonnaH: (these were SED students, who on many occasions would tell me where to stuff the work in no uncertain terms rather than to actually work...)

MariaMM: That's what we all want

DanyelleG: How did you get them to email it to you. I know the school I was at there was block on free email accounts. you couldn't access yahoo or hotmail

MelissaRom: Wow! SED kids. Talk about patience!

KristaS: I have a student that fits that description

DonnaH: a cgi-bin. Most websites have them...(geocities for example) and you set up a form, and you put your email address as the recipient...)

DonnaH: click send, and it automatically comes to my email...anonymously.

JudySi: that's cool

DanyelleG: that's cool I never heard of that

JessicaRP: neat! I'll have to remember that

DonnaH: so there was no email on their end (for that exact reason...I wouldn't get them email addies to save my life.)

BrianCB: but can you see Donna which student sent it

BiancaT: that's cool, gonna have to learn how to set one up

DonnaH: one of the boxes I put on the form was a 'name' box...

BrianCB: okay

AnnieG: I wish they wouldn't block access to yahoo.

JessicaRP: clever girl

DonnaH: (geocities dumped it...and I haven't retrieved it off my old harddrive yet...)

DonnaH: but I do plan on putting it back up for sake of discussion.

DonnaH: Well, I dislike it, but I can understand why they do it.

MarisolR: Do most school have a tech specialist to help teachers

BrianCB: My school doesn't

MariaMM: I doubt it

JudySi: I doubt it

DonnaH: I had them do penpals the same way. write the letter in a cgi-bin form box, then it was sent to my email, where I could check it and forward it.

DonnaH: they do, but they are usually considered upper administration.

MelissaRom: We tech specialists, but all they do is fix the computers.

MariaMM: awesome idea Donna

DonnaH: and are woefully understaffed.

JohnJH: EVERYONE In my opinion there needs to be teacher in-services that show teachers hands on how to use tech in the classroom and require one time with the latest

thing learned at that in-service. There is always one person who knows how to use a computer inside out and needs to pass that information down to teachers so that their children get interested, motivated and excited about learning. please reply

DonnaH: ed

BrianCB: 18 schools in the county and we are the only one without a specialist and we have the largest middle school population 700est

MarisolR: I love the idea Donna

DonnaH: (would you believe my school district has refused my OFFER of holding an inservice?)

DonnaH: that's when it becomes sad.

JessicaRP: John, I agree but think there also needs to be some incentive for sharing knowledge, integrating tech

JessicaRP: Sad they refused, Donna

MariaMM: It should be required by schools to have some tech experience

JessicaRP: but typical of education today

BrianCB: true

KristaS: wow....we wouldn't refuse

DonnaH: completely typical.

JessicaRP: today...oops

MarisolR: that is sad and such a shame

MelissaRom: Tell me about it!

AnnieG: In Texas it is a required that we teach Technology

BrianCB: attending could count for recertification points which would really encourage teachers to attend

JohnJH: we were blessed to have really great techs at UH. I can use tech all day now if I had to in the classroom

AnnieG: Technology TEKS

JessicaRP: good idea, Brian

BrianCB: Thanx

MariaMM: It might be required but how is it implemented

SusanR: Is there a tech curriculum, Annie?

JohnJH: absolutely Jessica!!!!

MeganIB: all inservices at our school count for recert. points, they make sure the subject is geared to that and they offer summer classes on tech topics that do the same

MariaMM: using the internet to research a topic

BrianCB: In Virginia counties have plans for technology but no actual class

DonnaH: (I can't believe I'm saying this) but it is getting better.

JessicaRP: could it have gotten worse??

BrianCB: a class especially in elementary school to teach typing, PowerPoint and things along that line would be great ... they would have such a head start for Middle and High School

DanyelleG: My teacher that I observed for 6 weeks was asking me of the different types of tech training they had

DonnaH: At least there is the recognition that it needs to be included now.

AnnieG: There are technology guidelines that state the skills that students must master at certain grade levels

JessicaRP: true

DonnaH: But there is no rhyme or reason across the board

KristaS: we have a computer lab and the teacher does a good job teaching technology

MeganIB: what about districts that just don't have the technology or have enough to go around...one computer lab with 10 PCs isn't enough for a whole high school

KristaS: some teachers attend

DonnaH: and as of yet, they are not always followed either.

AlishaSa: yes Annie I have seen those

MeganIB: that's what I think discourages teachers from using it at times

AdamGst24: I have a cousin from Georgia in fourth grade and he had to do his own powerpoint presentation

AlishaSa: the guideline I mean

BrianCB: I have also

JohnJH: the only way we can have students enjoy learning is when it is relevant to them. making the most fun so that they want to continue to gain knowledge

DonnaH: Out of 4 elem schools in our district, only one has a computer 'lab'.

AlishaSa: wow! Donna

AnnieG: Those guidelines are pretty advanced for children if you ask me

AnnieG: at least young ones

MariaMM: yea Annie

DanyelleG: what that is crazy

JessicaRP: but they can do it

MariaMM: Yes they can

AnnieG: that's probably because of the lack of preparation in lower grades

JessicaRP: they learn so quickly, esp w/ technology

JohnJH: you'd be amazed

MariaMM: I've seen it happen

BrianCB: In my school we have a lab of 25 computer per grade level and a lab for Gifted Students with 25 computers and a tree cart with 40 laptops

DanyelleG: my school had a CCC lab, a computer lab, a cart of laptops

MariaMM: wow

JessicaRP: awesome, Brian

DonnaH: a ppt in 4th? as a requirement, I think that pushes it.

MeganIB: wow

KristaS: Wow Brian

BrianCB: but only like 5 out of 45 teachers really know what they are doing

MelissaRom: What! Where do you teach?

KristaS: lol

DonnaH: (I need to move to your district, Brian)

BrianCB: Fauquier county, Virginia ... 70 miles southwest of Washington DC

DonnaH: But I think it really illustrates the disparity that I'm talking about.

JohnJH: yep that president money

MelissaRom: Is it a higher income area?

MarisolR: Did the students have assistance with the powerpoint

MariaMM: lol

JessicaRP: yes, Donna, it does

BrianCB: yes it is ... we also do a lot of fundraisers

JohnJH: Bush is hooking y'all up

DonnaH: which illustrates that there is money in your area.

SusanR: Donna ..every teacher is about to receive his or her own PC..a classroom pc and every school receives a multimedia cart with a state of the art infocus projector, PC..

SusanR: in our school district

JessicaRP: which is where again?

DonnaH: we have fundraisers too...but if you're worried about where you're going to get next weeks groceries...

MelissaRom: Must be nice!

AlishaSa: I agree with that Susan

JohnJH: must be

SusanR: Ontario Canada

MeganIB: nice Susan

MariaMM: I remember when I was in high school some students wrote a letter to one of the congress man and the school was granted a computer lab and access to the internet

JessicaRP: awesome, eh?

DanyelleG: Wow, I thought all teachers had classroom computers. All of the classrooms I observe have at least 2 student computers and a teacher computer in every classroom

DonnaH: I am in CT (yes, I know, everyone thinks high income) but my district is running something like 70% free/reduced lunches (to give an idea)

DonnaH: (let me put it this way, my daughter's class--kinder--is using an Apple II...need I say more?)

AlishaSa: yeah that's what I've seen Danyelle

DanyelleG: wow

MelissaRom: I'm in a low income area too.

JohnJH: lots of people in here tonight hard to keep up with all conversations

MariaMM: HISD suffers the most

DanyelleG: I have seen low income districts and higher

AlishaSa: me too Melissa

JohnJH: yes Maria

BrianCB: I will say that it's nice to have the money but what sucks for us and for me that the stuff just sits there and collect dust

AnnieG: I wish that classrooms that had computers had *updated* computers - Microsoft 2003/XP,etc

AlishaSa: yes Maria they do

SusanR: Donna, the kinder classes often receive computer rejects...too bad

JessicaRP: a shame, Brian

AlishaSa: me too Annie

JudySi: that a shame

AnnieG: That's probably another reason teachers don't use technology as much in their classrooms because their equipment isn't current

DonnaH: That's another thing.

BrianCB: plus programs knowbody is educated on

JohnJH: YES

JudySi: that is a good enough reason

JessicaRP: hard to justify new equip, though, if no one's using the existing stuff

AnnieG: They probably don't have access to programs like inspiration, front page, etc

JudySi: not to use tech

MelissaRom: We have programs on our computers that we don't even know of.

AnnieG: Especially using windows 98

MarisolR: I agree with you Annie

JessicaRP: software is prob more important, I agree

DonnaH: I was reading an article in Innovate (a new online research journal...out of Uni of Indiana if I remember right) where they said that technology works in schools when the preservice teachers are taught how to use it.

AnnieG: Just something I have noticed while observing

JohnJH: they teach us on PC but HISD has Macs

DonnaH: But I think the issue is much bigger than that...comments?

JohnJH: that scares me

AlishaSa: really John I didn't know that

AnnieG: I agree with that, I feel prepared to integrate technology into the classroom because we were trained

MarisolR: I think Macs are a little confusing

JessicaRP: Again, I think lack of incentive is key

JohnJH: I sub there

JohnJH: yes

JudySi: I do not like mac computers

AnnieG: There shouldn't need to be an incentive

BrianCB: I would like to I just want training on these programs

JudySi: it is very confusing

DonnaH: but what if your district is something like mine, where the equipment is barely acceptable,

MariaMM: I do think that I have learned a lot and I wish to help kids learn what I know

DanyelleG: I think that's what it will take, They tell us that we will be the tech experts when we go to the schools because of are training

JohnJH: me either Judy

AnnieG: Students being engaged and learning technology skills should be enough

DonnaH: (I don't either, Judy...and that is all my school system uses)

JohnJH: one mouse button to click????????????????

BrianCB: I can't take a bunch of 12-14 year olds into a computer lab with NO BLOCKERS or Firewalls while I try to figure stuff out

MariaMM: We can always take our own computer and share with the students

JohnJH: weird

JessicaRP: again, if it isn't used at all, isn't it hard to justify to admin getting new stuff?

MeganIB: that is a problem Brian

JohnJH: I can't even close those windows sometimes or get the net up

AlishaSa: Maria that would be a lot of work but it would be worth it to see the kids learn

DanyelleG: I think it helps when schools have blockers

BJB2 thinks teachers should be flexible...never know what our kids will be using when they finish with school. You have to learn to be cross platform and problem solve!

JessicaRP: I agree, BJ

BrianCB: true they are good our go down or the kids find ways to get around them

JohnJH: when you send to a pc an attachment it can't read it

KristaS: great point BJ

MeganIB: Macs are actually more user friendly if you are used to them but PCs pushed to the forefront, however Macs rule in the world of graphics and design

JessicaRP: You know, kids can help problem solve, too.

JessicaRP: They're good at figuring out a lot of tech issues that would take us much longer

BrianCB: We have no Macs

DonnaH: We aren't allowed to bring in our own computers to use with students.

JohnJH: What Megan!

BrianCB: only PCs

JudySi: that is true Jessica

DonnaH: its goes against the IUP

MariaMM: If teachers really wanted to integrate technology they would find a way to get computers

MelissaRom: I agree MACs are user friendly.

DanyelleG: students can learn computers a lot faster than adults it just takes one time of good explanation

JessicaRP: silly, Donna!

AlishaSa: I know Donna

JessicaRP: Rules standing in the way of progress

DonnaH: while I don't agree, I see their point.

MariaMM: Look for grants or donations from different associations of companies

AlishaSa: I haven't had a lot of experience with MACs

AnnieG: I don't like macs they're too complicated

JohnJH: I tried and it is so uncool

MariaMM: write to different computer companies and talk about the idea of integrating technology into the classroom

MeganIB: kids need exposed to both, if you a child interested in broadcast, journalism, design, art, they will use a Mac in their career

BrianCB: definitely grants ... I don't know all the details but our county has deal with Dell computers that is why we have so many in our school system

AlishaSa: really Meagan?

JessicaRP: Maria, also local employers who will need HS grads as future employees

JessicaRP: They will want them to be tech-savvy

AdamGst24: I never used a MAC until college, but once you get the hang of them they are easy

JohnJH: how do you know that ??? I'm dumb founded

BrianCB: that's a good idea Jessica

JohnJH: Megan

MelissaRom: I agree. If we're going to teach children how to be computer literate. They should know how to use all types.

DanyelleG: I agree

BrianCB: reminding the community that one day they may employ these students so make an investment

MariaMM: I agree

JudySi: I agree to disagree

JessicaRP: that's right, Brian

JohnJH: me too Judy

JessicaRP: But getting the \$ usually takes more than 1 teacher to champion the effort

DonnaH: (I can use both...but I find that pc's are more the norm...so it makes sense to teach them on what they are more likely to be using.)

MelissaRom: In my educational experience I've had to use both PCs and MACs.

AlishaSa: I agree Donna

MelissaRom: Sometimes we don't get a choice.

JohnJH: I hate MACs. Heck, I don't even eat MACaroni

BrianCB: hahaha

AnnieG: I love macaroni

AnnieG: but not macs

JudySi: lol, that funny John

MelissaRom: I don't like it either.

JessicaRP: Ha! Megan is right, though, about the prevalence of Macs in those fields

BrianCB: I agree Annie Macaroni is good but Macs are not

DanyelleG: teachers have to be flexible and deal with what they have and make the best of it

DonnaH: (For those who wondered about the online journal i mentioned...<http://innovateonline.info/index.php?view=issue&id=0>)

AdamGst24: MACs are cool because they don't get bogged down with viruses like PCs

DonnaH: *snicker*

DanyelleG: thanks

DonnaH: mac's have their uses.

DanyelleG: thanks

JohnJH: ok who else is coming with me? (jerry MAC guire)

DonnaH: the virus thing being one.

BrianCB: thank you Donna

DonnaH: and they are admittedly better at graphics.

MelissaRom: Thanks!

MariaMM: Thanks Donna for sharing your ideas with us

KristaS: THANKS

DonnaH: but as someone who is a wordophile...an MS office guru, and live on line...I'll keep my pc, thanks:)

DonnaH: (gah, it is time, isn't it?)

DanyelleG: Thank you I now know not every school is blessed as the ones I have seen

JessicaRP: Thanks, Donna

MarisolR: your ideas have been so helpful and great Donna

BJB2: Thanks, Donna, for leading this discussion

JessicaRP: And to all for sharing

JudySi: THANKS, Donna

MelissaRom: It's nice to know that we all have similar tech problems across the country.

JohnJH: Thanks Donna

BrianCB: Thank you Donna

AnnieG: Thank you Donna and everyone!

DonnaH: I'm just happy with the lovely discussion everyone had.

DanyelleG: Thank you Donna and good luck with your technology

MarisolR: Bye everyone!

BrianCB: I really enjoyed and thank you everyone for your comments and advice

AlishaSa: thank you Donna...I've learned a lot

BiancaT: thanks everyone, it was entertaining.

JudySi: I really enjoyed the discussion tonight, bye

JohnJH: Bye everyone!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!peace out'

AdamGst24: Thank You Donna

MariaMM: Bye everyone and I hope everyone has an opportunity to teach and use technology in the classroom