

Title of Session: Web 2.0 Tools for Schools - NET*S Refreshed

Moderator: Lynne Wolters

Guest Speaker: Susan Brooks-Young

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BJB2: Lynne, would you like to start with introductions?

LynneW: Yes, welcome to all.

LynneW: My name is Lynne Wolters and I am the facilitator for this special interest group.

LynneW: Please introduce yourselves.

LynneW: Tell us where you are from and what you teach.

BJB2 waves hi. I teach remedial communication and am located in Pennsylvania

SusanR: Sue Roseman from Ottawa, Ontario

SusanR: K to 3+ is my area of expertise

JeffC: Jeff Cooper, Forest Grove Oregon and on Tapped In Helpdesk.

AlixP: I'm the tech staff devel. trainer in the Davis Joint Unified School Dist., Davis, CA -18 years of junior high

LynneW: Bless you.

GlenysM: Hi I am joining this group from Saskatchewan

AlixP: thanks

SusanR: I facilitate the K to 3+ Great resources monthly sessions here at TI

LynneW: Sue's K to 3 resources group is a good one!

LynneW: I want to introduce you to Susan Brooks-Young, our guest speaker.

LynneW: First, let me explain why she was invited.

LynneW: I had not heard much about the update to the NETS student standards.

LynneW: I also had many of my students asking questions about the standards.

LynneW: I contacted ISTE for a recommendation of someone who would be willing to be our guest speaker.

LynneW: Within hours Susan was contacted and said 'YES'

LynneW: Susan, welcome to Web 2.0 Tools for Schools.

LynneW: Please tell us a bit about yourself and then feel free to begin.

SusanJB: Hi all...

SusanJB: I'm Susan Brooks-Young from Lopez Island, WA and Vancouver, BC

SusanJB: I'll be sharing a bit about the refreshed NETS for students and also Web 2.0

SusanJB: I'm currently traveling and my internet connection is wonky

SusanJB: However, Lynne has my script, so if I get dropped off, she can carry on for me!

LynneW thinks this is a great example of a ready Plan B

BJB2 agrees.

AlixP: plans B-Z

SusanJB: Released in 1998, ISTE's National Educational Technology Standards for Students (NETS*S) have been widely used in setting educational technology expectations for students in schools across America and in a number of countries around the globe. The student standards became a springboard for NETS for Teachers (2000) and NETS for Administrators (2002). The NETS Project also provides a wide variety of standards-based resources to help educators establish enriched learning environments supported by technology.

SusanJB: Rapid advances in technology, changing student demographics, the shift to a global economy, and radically changing views about the role of technology in daily life are just a few reasons why a refresh of the NETS*S was needed.

SusanJB: The goal for this first refresh of the NETS*S was to collect input from a variety of stakeholders through a series of events designed to solicit as much feedback as possible. The process included open forum meetings at major education conferences and meetings; focus groups to collect input from education, business, and community organizations; and online surveys. Then, the ISTE Accreditation and Standards

Committee compiled the responses and developed a draft that was reviewed and revised by the ISTE Stakeholders Council.

SusanJB: The resulting draft of the refreshed NETS•S was then reviewed for additional comments and suggestions online and in additional open forum meetings. Ultimately, all 50 states and 22 countries were represented in this process. The NETS*T are being refreshed in 2007-08 and the cycle will be completed when the NETS*A are refreshed in 2008-09.

SusanJB: That's quite a chunk to read...how are we doing?

BJB2 hopes Susan will give us some time to scroll back

SusanJB: You bet!

SusanJB: Let me know when you're ready to move on

AlixP: Good to go

LynneW: I'm ready

BJB2: ready

JamesC: Ready- I investigated NETS recently on the site.

SusanJB: Okay, let's look at the focus of the new NETS

SusanR: I'm fine

SusanJB: Recognizing that students still must develop basic technology competence, the new NETS*S also incorporates skills and knowledge that students need to learn effectively and live productively in an increasingly digital society including the ability to:

SusanJB: Think creatively

SusanJB: Communicate and work collaboratively

SusanJB: Think critically

SusanJB: Become responsible digital citizens

SusanJB: Okay...that's the gist of the list...

SusanJB: Perhaps one of the most critical shifts with these refreshed standards is the acknowledgment that it's no longer enough to just think nationally. Rapid global developments in technology and the economy are placing greater demands on education

systems worldwide. ISTE is moving beyond the borders of the U.S. to make these standards applicable and accessible to teachers and students in countries around the world.

BJB2 likes the thinking parts the best

SusanJB: Let me know when you're ready to go on and/or if you have any questions so far...

LynneW is ready

AlixP: ready

SusanR nods

SusanJB: Here are the six standard areas...

SusanJB: Creativity and Innovation

SusanJB: Communication and Collaboration

SusanJB: Critical Thinking, Problem-solving and Decision-making

SusanJB: Research & Information Retrieval

SusanJB: Digital Citizenship

SusanJB: Technology Operations and Concepts

SusanJB: As you can see, they're very different from the original NETS for students...

AlixP: nods

LynneW likes these very much

SusanJB: But, there are ties...the following is some information about that

SusanJB: While the final refreshed NETS•S exhibits recognizable linkages to the NETS•S 1998 version, changes in the standards landscape place the focus of the refreshed standards directly on the benefit to the student, rather than on specific technology tools.

SusanJB: The original NETS identified skills and knowledge every student needed to succeed in the technology and information environment that was emerging in 1998, concentrating on the tools--the technology itself.

SusanJB: In contrast, these new student standards focus on skills and knowledge that students need to learn effectively and live productively in an increasingly digital society ... cognitive and learning skills, as well as creativity and innovation, are the focus now.

SusanJB: The order in which the standards are presented has also changed as they shift away from a focus on "competency with technology tools" and towards a focus on "skills required in a digital world to produce and innovate" using technology.

SusanJB: As educators begin to apply these refreshed standards, they will find that existing standards-based resources retain their value. Students still need to learn "the basics." However, we need to expand and enhance these resources to take advantage of the capabilities of new and evolving technologies.

AlixP: Good to hear

SusanJB: Take some time to scroll through this and let me know when you're ready to move on to student profiles

LynneW is ready

AlixP: ready

BeverleyC: ready

JamesC: I would be happy if teachers would learn the basics.

SusanJB: James' comment is true...sadly, it's no longer enough...

SusanJB: Okay, here's info about student profiles

SusanJB: A major component of the NETS Project is the development of a general set of profiles describing technology (ICT) literate students at key developmental points in their pre-college education. The grade level bands for these profiles are preK-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Coupled with the standards, the profiles provide a framework for preparing students to be lifelong learners and contributing members of a global society. (You may access the profiles online at http://www.iste.org/inhouse/nets/cnets/students/pdf/NETS-S_Student_Profiles.pdf)

SusanJB: Skills are introduced and reinforced over multiple grade levels before mastery is achieved. In situations where access is an issue, profile indicators will need to be adapted to fit local needs.

SusanJB: It's important to remember that the profiles are indicators of achievement at certain stages in primary, elementary, and secondary education and that success in meeting the indicators is predicated on students having regular access to a variety of technology tools.

SusanJB: Before we move on to looking at Web 2.0 tools that can be used to help

AlixP: I like the breakdown on K-2, 3-5 etc. Such different motor skills at those grades

LynneW: Susan, did they modify these profiles or are they the same as before?

SusanJB: implement the new standards, do you have questions?

SusanJB: The profiles are new to reflect the new focus

LynneW: Great

SusanJB: Any other questions?

AlixP: ready to go

SusanJB: To share ideas for Web 2.0 tools you can use with students to implement the new NETS*S, I've created a presentation using an application called VoiceThread. According to the site, "a VoiceThread is an online media album that can hold essentially any type of media (images, documents and videos) and allows people to make comments in 5 different ways - using voice (with a microphone or telephone), text, audio file, or video (with a webcam) - and share them with anyone they wish. A VoiceThread allows group conversations to be collected and shared in one place, from anywhere in the world."

LynneW: I do have one

SusanJB: Oops...ask away Lynne

LynneW: I'll hold it. Please continue

SusanJB: OK

SusanJB: Accounts are free for educators. In this VoiceThread, I included an audio comment and a text comment (of the script) for each slide. I'll project the URL now. You may need to click on the Play button and then on the icon with my photo to hear the audio portion. Please return here as soon as you have viewed the VoiceThread.

SusanJB: This should take about 5 minutes

SusanJB: Then come right back, please.

SusanJB projects <http://www.sjbrooks-young.com/id148.html>

JamesC: Above link came up file not found.

JamesC: Nice uses of voice thread. Have you had students using it?

SusanJB: Just beginning to...

SusanR: Nicely done!

SusanJB: Let me know when you're back, please

LynneW: Susan, this is really wonderful.

HeatherQE: Heather is back.

SusanR: WOW

SusanJB: Isn't this a great tool?

LynneW: YES

JamesC: Nice review of the tools, now the trick is figuring out how to use them.

SusanJB: This is true...Now that you've had the opportunity to view the VoiceThread are there questions you'd like to ask before spending some time with the wiki?

SusanR: and to find time to explore

HeatherQE: that's the real challenge

BJB2: wonderful presentation, Susan!

LynneW: I have found it most helpful to use the tools first and then you can make connections to your lessons.

SusanJB: Thanks! It will remain available on my site, if you want to share it with others

SusanJB: Lynne is right

LynneW: We definitely will be sharing this gold mine.

SusanR: play with the tools and become comfortable

SusanJB: Absolutely

SusanJB: Are you ready to go to the wiki?

JamesC: yes

SusanJB: The Webtools for Educators wiki is included in the links for this group. The password is “webtools” (without the quotes).

SusanJB: Please spend 10 minutes now reviewing the wiki, then return here for a final opportunity to ask questions.

SusanJB: I said 10 minutes, but let's make it 5 for now

SusanJB: Again, you can go back to this at any time

SusanJB: Let me know when you're back...

AlixP: Very cool use of Voice Threads!

SusanJB: Thanks! I've sent everyone on to the wiki for 5 minutes. The link is with the links for this group

SusanJB: The password is webtools

JamesC: Where is this Wiki? URL?

BJB2: <http://webtoolsforeducators.pbwiki.com/>

SusanJB: Thanks BJ

SusanJB: Again, please let me know when you've returned from the wiki...

HeatherQE: that is awesome-

LynneW: Susan, my question was about assessment of the standards. Whenever we can get to it.

SusanJB: Sure...fire away!

LynneW: My students always remark on the NETS*S as being much too general and do not understand how they can be used. They question how rigorous the standards are meant to be. If an elementary student uses pen and paper and then faxes to another class, does that cover communicating using technology?

LynneW: How about if they use iMovie to share and collaborate. Does that cover the same standard but more rigorously?

SusanJB: The profiles help here

SusanJB: However, ISTE never meant for the standards to be used without local input.

LynneW: I think they are looking at parity issues, resources, schools that have and do, and those that do not.

SusanJB: The intent was for educators to take the profiles and add local specifics...

LynneW: How can the standards be used to make funding choices a priority for ed tech.

LynneW: Local control trumps it all.

SusanJB: Can you be a little more specific?

LynneW: We have many schools whose only tech is used for testing and administration.

LynneW: Teachers who don't believe it is important to learn.

LynneW: Parents without tech in the home.

SusanJB: Right. These are schools where 21st century skills are not being taught at all

AlixP: We have many district admin who were last in the classroom before the advent of the internet!

SusanJB: It's critical for these folks to get up to speed on the real world...

SusanJB: That's a lot of what I do

AlixP: or wait for them to retire. LOL!

SusanJB: work with administrators who don't know

LynneW: So, I was wondering if ISTE is working on the Federal DOE to more strongly adopt the standards.

SusanJB: Yes. But that's a tough one

LynneW: Is there any way we can help that process?

SusanJB: It's important to get involved locally.

AlixP: The really sad part is that many of our students are way ahead of us techie-wise - but rudderless about using their knowledge in the real world

SusanJB: Be an active member of your local affiliate

LynneW writes letter to my Senator and representatives about this issues every six

months.

SusanJB: You can be an advocate if you are in touch with what's happening

SusanJB: ISTE membership can also help you

LynneW: Nods agreement with Alix

LynneW: How many here are members of ISTE?

SusanJB: That's because they're not getting what they need from us!

LynneW: Is there anyone who doesn't know what ISTE is?

AlixP: Agreed!

SusanJB: There are thousands...don't know the exact #

LynneW: I meant here in this session.

JamesC: The students I know just play in the sandbox of myspace etc and are not really tech-wise. They know how to entertain themselves but not learn.

AlixP: Once HUGE obstacle is the filter and the fear about internet resources - this is where digital citizenship should be encouraged

SusanJB: Right.

SusanJB: And, IT folks need to work WITH teachers, not against them

AlixP: James, you are so right! There is a lot being written about the myth of the digital native

SusanJB: Digital native isn't a myth.

JamesC: There is a fear of dragons and the edge of the Earth, because admin and teachers don't know and use Web 2.0

LynneW: One thing I am doing with my students is requiring them to cite NETS standards in every lesson / unit they create. The rule I use is, whenever you are referencing a state benchmark, you also cite NETS.

SusanJB: It's our belief that they don't need us to help them learn effective use

AlixP: They are digital natives , but sometimes their knowledge doesn't run too deep

SusanJB: right

AlixP: In school districts, the edtech curriculum folks and the IT department are very separate entities.

SusanJB: And that's a major problem

SusanJB: Classified staff are making instructional decisions every day...

LynneW: IT departments generally make curricular decisions by the control they have for software, hardware, and access.

JamesC: We only have IT and no edtech curriculum folks.

SusanJB: And they're doing the best they can

AlixP: My Assoc. Supt for Curriculum has asked "what's a wiki?" Well, at least he is asking...

SusanJB: but they don't have an ed. background

LynneW: So, let's get back to Web 2.0 tools before this session ends.

LynneW: Susan shared several of them with us.

SusanJB: What would you like to ask?

LynneW: Do you have any questions about a particular tool new to you?

AlixP: One concern I have is that a lot of Web 2.0 tools require a student email address - which brings up security and safety issues

SusanJB: Right. But you can set up 'dummy' accounts

SusanJB: That way students aren't using their personal accounts

AlixP: Good thought

HeatherQE: there are some that allow teachers to set up student accounts without using personal info

LynneW: I do this myself. However, I haven't found an increase in spam because of registration at these sites.

BJB2 . o O (like the Tapped In K-12 Student Campus :-))

AlixP: I enjoyed seeing all the homepage aggregators - I use iGoogle

SusanR . o O (epals.com)

AlixP: I bookmarked many of what I saw in delicious

JamesC: My students don't really have access to technology at school. I Try to get them to do extra credit on my wiki. They use their own accounts to get permission to join. Is that trouble?

BJB2 looks at the clock on the wall

SusanJB: Check with your IT person and AUP

LynneW: I want to thank each of you for taking the time to be here today.

SusanJB: You may want to create Gmail accounts for this purpose

LynneW: Susan, you have offered us such rich information.

HeatherQE: very useful info in this session

LynneW: APPLAUSE

AlixP: Susan - many thanks for all the great info

SusanR : clap clap

BJB2 cheers wildly

JamesC: Thanks

SusanJB: Remember you can get to this later. Thank you!

SusanR : much to explore

BeverleyC: thanks very much

LynneW: We appreciate you so much Susan.

SusanJB: Thanks!

SusanR : Thank you!

AlixP: Lynne - do you have a regular schedule of presentations on Web 2.0 tools?

SusanJB: Must run...

BJB2 nods to Alix...third Thursday of the month

BJB2 waves bye to Susan

BJB2: Happy holidays

AlixP: waves bye to all

SusanJB: Thanks! Bye

BJB2: Have a good holiday, everyone