

Engaging Non-Tech-Savvy Educators in Using Library and Ed Tech Resources

ECIS Librarians Conference
Berlin
February 2008

Reasons not to adopt technology

- Too time-consuming to learn
- Technologies can fail (crash, freeze...)
- Not convinced technology can help
- Not familiar with compelling examples in the subjects/grades one teaches
- Students don't have good home/ classroom access to tech tools...

Personal hypothesis: the school's learning climate is an excellent predictor of tech integration

Positive learning climate is where 2 things happen:

1. Teachers openly ask for help when they need it.
2. Teachers openly offer help when it's asked for (not seen as showing off)

H: Unfortunately, most non-tech-savvy educators silence themselves in technology discussions.

Educators need 3 major supports to hasten adoption of technology

1. A positive learning climate that encourages non-tech-savvy educators to *lead* technology planning.
2. Practical, jargon-free information on promising and proven technologies keyed to educators' priorities to improve their practice and their students' learning.
3. Technologies that are affordable.

1. Fostering a positive climate for non-tech-savvy educators

- In five-year \$10 million US tech innovation challenge grant project (1998-2003) we fostered tech integration in 30 schools across 8 states and USVI.
- We found a strong correlation between schoolwide conversation identifying shared priorities for improving learning and rate of tech adoption by newbies.

Schoolwide conversation identifying shared priorities to improve learning

- Look at data on students' learning opportunities, learning results and learning climate
- Engage each teacher individually and as a faculty in identifying their priorities for improving some of these indicators
- *Then* point them to tech app's relevant to these priorities.
- Thus educators control the tech plan's goals.

2. Information on promising and proven learning technologies

- ISTE's Connecting Curriculum and Technology: practical tech app's searchable by grade and subject, keyed to content standards & NETS standards.
http://cnets.iste.org/students/s_book.html
- ISTE's CARET database: meta-analysis of what research says about how and under what conditions technology contributes to learning (<http://caret.iste.org>)

ISTE's 1st International Leadership Summit on Technology Development, Research & Dissemination

- June 2007: ISTE's annual conference in Atlanta
- Agenda:
 - Highlight educators' priorities for improving professional practice and student learning (NEA, NSDC, Aspira, NABSE)
 - Showcase 1 to 2 dozen effective tech app's keyed to some of these priorities (SRI, Concord Consortium, SIA, ED's Tech in Education Programs)
 - Engage in planning long-term relationship between (a) educators and (b) those who invent, research and disseminate about learning technologies, to make it much easier for educators to learn about relevant effective tech apps

3. Making technologies more affordable

- Digital Equity Portal and Toolkit (<http://digitalequity.edreform.net>)
- ISTE's special interest group on digital equity: www.iste.org/sigde
- Pooling buying power to enjoy cost savings realized by Fortune 500 firms
 - Virtual Library Co-op: www.vlibrary.org (OED, Britannica in English and Spanish, Encyclopedia of Science & Technology, OCLC First Search, Wilson Select Full Text...)
 - Hardware & Software Co-op: <http://ourstore.digitalequity.org> with CDW-G, Gov Connection, and Promethean

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