Why Educators Need To Embrace Internet Technologies

Reason No. 1: Professional Development
As the world continues to embrace and evolve the Internet, businesses and organizations are increasingly looking to tap into this resource. It is in the best interest of educators, and professionals in general, to be aware of what the Internet has to offer. We can choose to sit back and wish it would all just go away because it’s too hard to find the time for it, or we can choose to embrace it, and look for simple ways to learn more about it. Another unavoidable fact is the growing desire for experience and familiarity with the Internet and other computer technologies as a hiring requirement in the educational field.

Reason No. 2: The Power To Engage
Internet tools can be fun! Internet tools are interactive! What a great way to engage students in the classroom. Many of the tools are collaborative, and they are all hands-on. Applications that allow for the creation of cool looking timelines, videos, or other dynamic presentations can be a lot of fun, and when a student realizes that they can easily make the resulting creation available for viewing on the Internet, it can be pretty exciting!

Reason No 3: Students Use Them Already
“Meet them where they live!” We’ve all heard this, and there is a solid undercurrent of wisdom in it. Many students use Internet tools on a regular basis. If you use some of them in the classroom, you will be talking to them in their language. And for those who have not been exposed to a given technology, you’ll be teaching them something they are probably predisposed to learning more about.

Reason No. 4: It’s Not Going Away (It Will Only Grow)
The Internet is here to stay. It’s been well over a decade now that ‘average users’ have had access to the Internet, and we’re now knee deep in the Social Media revolution that has defined Web 2.0. It isn’t going away. It isn’t a fad. It’s only going to grow and evolve. It’s already woven into the fabric of the daily lives of millions of people. Yes, a lot of folks are wasting a lot of time doing things on the Internet that don’t contribute to society or offer much in the way of personal growth, but at the same time, there are countless ways in which the multitude of tools and technologies available on the Internet are being used in wonderfully constructive ways. Come and be a part of it, and contribute your voice.

Reason No. 5: Businesses Want to Hire Workers Who Understand The Internet
Yes, they do. If you introduce your students to technologies like Blogs, RSS Feeds, Wikis, and so on, you will be helping to build their resume. Businesses and organizations are more interested in these types of tools every day. They’re thinking about how to get on board and get ahead of the curve, and how they can offer value in the workplace. Blogs are being used to provide updates about new developments, Wikis are being used as knowledge bases, RSS Feeds are being used to capture a steady stream of information about topics of interest, Social Bookmarking tools are being used for research, and the list goes on and on. Name any Internet technology, and there is a growing list of business applications for it. Go to Google and search “Twitter for business” and see the list of articles on the subject.

~www.emergingedtech.com

“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.”

~Alvin Toffler

http://www.hpschools.org - over 400,000 hits! Please do your part to make sure visitors to our webpages find what they’re looking for by keeping your webpage current and relevant!
GroupWise Tip:
The Personalize tab on messages allows you to enter your own subject and/or category for an email. This makes emails easier to find and to sort.

To change the subject of a received or sent item:

1. Open an item from your Mailbox or Calendar.
2. Click the Personalize tab.
3. Type a new subject in the My Subject text box.

\[\text{File} \quad \text{Edit} \quad \text{View} \quad \text{Actions} \quad \text{Tools} \quad \text{Accounts} \quad \text{Window} \quad \text{Help}\]

Add on for Firefox or Chrome

iReader gives you the option to view news stories and other articles in a single clutter-free page. It removes the ads and extraneous layout and displays the article in an easy to read, scrollable display.

\[\text{http://samabox.com/extensions/iReader/}\]

Interesting Ways to use Audio in your Classroom

* Record an audio version of a written assignment. Ex: Students write a report, record their completed report in Audacity, Import audio into MovieMaker or iMovie, turn into newsflash by adding photos.

* Have students think creatively about a famous person, (historical figures, authors, characters from novels, etc.) they’re studying and create a playlist of what music that person might have on their iPod. Be sure to have students justify the music they’ve chosen.

* Produce a regular podcast-this gives students opportunities for writing, talking, listening, collaborating and decision making.

* Listen to famous speeches
  \[\text{http://www.learnoutloud.com/Free-Audio-Video/History/Speeches#1}\]
  \[\text{http://www.americanrhetoric.com/top100speechesall.html}\]

* Old Time Radio can bring history alive.
  \[\text{http://www.archive.org/details/oldtimeradio}\]
Come share your “SMART” ideas!

HP has a SMARTBoard Users’ Group! Once a month we get together to share ideas and help new users. Everyone is welcome. Join us and check out the amazing things you can do with this exciting technology.

Our next meeting is October 14th at 3:45 in the Teacher Center. A representative from Tequipment will be on hand to demonstrate SMART tips and how to use the Treasures reading program pdf files with your SMARTBoard.

In the meantime, check out the resources assembled on the HP SMARTBoard webpage (www.hpschools.org, click on Technology in our Schools. Feel free to leave share your own ideas and tips on our blog!)

Questions? Email Krista DiCesare or Margaret McNamara.

The Invention Playhouse has four flash-based interactive activities for your students to use at the SMARTBoard.

- The Cloud Dreamer activity lets students create their own cloud image and then see it float across the sky.

- The Puzzle Blocks is a fun activity for manipulating shapes to create an image.

- Word Play lets students create and change unique stories in a fun and collaborative manner.

- Tinker Ball activity lets students move and manipulate tools to solve a simple gravity problem.

http://www.inventionatplay.org/playhouse_main.html

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http://www.tagxedo.com/

Do you love Wordle? Here’s another great word cloud tool for your SMARTBoard!

Import a document, webpage RSS feed, or use your own text. This image was created with John Riemenschneider’s SS 8 webpage.

We now have 14 certified SMARTBoard trainers in our district! These staff members are a wonderful resource to anyone looking to learn more about their SMARTBoard. (and, there’s always something new to be learned!).

Have a question or need help? These are the experts!

Kristine Arcuri, Lisa Buchanan, Anna Carnevale, Krista DiCesare, Rachel Grower, Jamie Heiser, Nedra Isenberg, Heidi Knopp, Margaret McNamara, Christine Morgan, Shannon Noonan, Jennifer Parzych, Kristen Riemenschneider and Brenda Toussaint.
“On the Internet a digital footprint is the word used to describe the trail, traces or "footprints" that people leave online. This is information transmitted online, such as forum registration, e-mails and attachments, uploading videos or digital images and any other form of transmission of information -all of which leaves traces of personal information about yourself available to others online.”

From www.webopedia.com

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**How to copy personal photos and videos from iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch to your mac.**

If your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch has photos or videos on it that have been acquired directly from the device, and has not been purchased from the iTunes store, you can import that content to your computer by following these steps:

1. Connect the iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch to your computer. iPhoto should automatically launch into its import window with your device's images and videos listed.
2. Select the images and videos you would like to import into iPhoto, then select the "Import Selected" option.