

PAC Meeting Oct 26th 2010

Smart Board intro by Laurie Cassey (Teaches at Livingstone school)

Purpose of session – Introduction of Smart Boards to aid PAC to vote on use of PAC funds from 2009 to pay for more smart boards.

Points to consider:

When projector is lower and further away some shadowing occurs, requiring teacher to teach from the side (no turning back).

Can use it as a white board or to show movies, (but very expensive white board). Can use for precreated lessons and pupil developed work.

Laurie is working with UBC to research the use of the tool. The study is showing that students are more involved and on task, introduces kinesics learning. **Raises**

Retention and enthusiasm

- Kids can lead classes, giving the teacher the opportunity to assess. Kids get involved in the presentation because they become so involved e.g. “just pull up an item e.g. can pull up a clip on WW1 to show what a trench is. Kids get to investigate topics from any area.
- The software is extremely flexible. Everything is digital. Kids can download the software and build their own materials at home, then load this at class. It has handwriting recognition. This motivates kids to learn to write correctly.
- The software comes with a gallery of pre-defined lessons, e.g. tell time, short A/Long A, what angle is the line. Smart are continuously updating lessons, with email updates to download.
- Other great features: Many map collections, with snap to fit technology. Can create games with sounds, like a game show. A screen shade acts like a blind over sections of the screen to keep kids focused on specific material. Links to youtube, so can show 3min videos (something VSB would not purchase).
- Smart Technologies is a Calgary company. They have 30k lessons available for download. Enter their database. Search by subject, region etc. Anything downloaded can be modified.
- Smart board has sential (remote devices), kids text results onto the board. Kids log on as themselves, and then use the devices. Really engages kids. \$1500 for a class set of 32 devices.

- Can take students work and place under a video and show on the board e.g. for sewing, dissecting etc to share detailed items. Can then capture the image and then make notes on the board.

Mary Locke from the library demonstrates how she engages the students and enhances her lessons presently using the library smart board.

Margaret would like to support C21st learning. It builds a natural collaboration with staff to share ideas and bring them to life.

Financial Matters Votes

Vote – Approval for music performances required \$1700. **Unanimous in favour.**

Vote – Teacher gifts of \$2000 – comes from general funds \$100 per teacher.
Unanimous in favour.

Vote – Grocery cards approval to pre purchase \$10,000 in advance of Safeway cards to get max bulk discount of 8%. If bought via progressive fundraising we would only get 3%. **Unanimous in favour**

Motion – Approve \$6000 for technology (to purchase 1 smart board). Money comes from spring fling 2009. Proposed by Roberta Elke, seconded by Elizabeth Inglesis

Any other business

Proposal made to create a fund raising committee to develop a plan to purchase Smart Boards for remaining classes. Five purchased, there are 17 divisions – 12 more required. Matthew Quetton

Student Newsletter – Being kicked off.

DPAC is this Thursday 28th October at VSB – they have empty seats on the executive. Anyone invited to attend the meeting.

Gordon 100 Year Centennial will be, 2011. Margaret will be holding a session to discuss ideas. Tues Nov 2nd meeting for Spring Fling organising @ 3pm in Library.