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2010 NETBOOK INITIATIVE

During the fall of 2010 Eastern will begin a new pilot program integrating technology further into the curriculum. The netbook initiative will be piloted at both the elementary and the high school. One teacher from each school has been chosen by the principal of that school at the request of Dr. Caddell. Students in those two classrooms will have a true one-to-one ratio with technology as each will have his or her own netbook on a 24/7 basis. Throughout the year we will be looking at the effect of the pilot and possibly comparing the netbook access to current technology deployment such as the labs used for language arts at the high school. The netbook initiative will also seek to understand the ability of the corporation to deliver curriculum outside of the textbook format. It will be a new experience for students and teachers alike.

PRODUCTIVITY TIP #15

You may notice that when using Word, the program sometimes completes phrases you are typing for you before you finish typing. This is a feature of Word called AutoText. You can customize AutoText so that only words or phrases you have chosen are completed for you. To do this you have to access the AutoCorrect Option from the tools menu. From there go to the AutoText tab. Delete any items you want and add any words, names, or phrases you type often such as your name, address, or phone number. The next time you type a document you will notice the AutoText feature populates those particular words and phrases as you type them. Simply hit "enter" to use the suggested text and jump ahead.

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Many of you have probably used the adobe add-on that was installed on your computer images which allows printing to pdf files. Well, if you enjoy that functionality and would like it at home there are a few alternatives out there. Two of the best opensource/free alternatives are CutePdf and PDFCreator. Both are individual downloads that install as a printer on your system. To use either program, install, and then proceed to work on your documents as you normally would. If you want to save to a pdf from any program, choose print, select the cutepdf or pdfcreator printer from the list of available printers (depending on which software you choose), and hit print. It's that easy. Well I guess you do have to select a save location and give your file a name when prompted, but that's just about it. You then have a pdf you can take to school.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND TRAINING

*Acuity Test Design SessionUpcoming
*Moodle Planning Underway
*Website Training Planning in Process
*Board Presentation December 8th