

I have implemented technology in two major ways this school year, 2009-2010. I have started a video blog and I also have started using an online classroom to teach.

Video Blog: I have started a Science7, Science 8, and MathCounts video blog (weblog) for students to teach to the world.

Engaging students with authentic scientific and mathematical content leads to higher achievement, especially when they teach to an audience. By posting a small article and a video of the student teaching on the school website, students in my middle school science are much more interested in learning the science lesson. Because this format is a blog (weblog), the blog receives comments that I respond to from a live audience.

Students enjoy teaching the lesson and are eager to learn the material so they can showcase their knowledge. I also hear from parents and relatives of the students in the video and they are enthusiastic about seeing their family member and also what the science lesson is about. Here is the link to our video web log:

<http://dvsd.schoolwires.net/1860201027145649457/Blog/browse.asp?A=398&BMDRN=2000&BCOB=0&C=56843>

<http://dvsd.schoolwires.net/1860201027145649457/Blog/browse.asp?A=398&BMDRN=2000&BCOB=0&C=56845>

Online Teaching: In addition to our MathCounts video blog, I have also started using an online classroom to teach my MathCounts class once a week at Wiziq.

The last few years I have taught the MathCounts club after school. The problem is that during the winter, snow days close the school and we cannot have practice. By using the online classroom, I am able to teach from home and meet my eight students in a private, invitation only classroom where I can present math content on an online whiteboard. I can write numbers and such using my pen tablet. I use a headset microphone so the students can hear me clearly.

The classroom is powerful in that I can upload and access a variety of content. I regularly use power-points, whiteboard, and import the best math teacher videos from teacher-tube into our classroom. Student feedback has been positive and the student easily adapt to this online venue. The classroom is only viewable to me and my students and their parents. I have included a picture of a typical class environment.

The students also can write on the whiteboard, listen to each other and can chat in a moderated box in this classroom. I usually limit one or two students at a time to write or speak. The students are comfortable with this technology and adapt quickly to its operations.

The website for Wiziq is here: www.wiziq.com

Kinetic Energy

Today in science class the students made NAC, the roll back can. NAC demonstrates both potential and kinetic energy. Listen here as two honors students explain how NAC works.



Posted by Mr. Smith at 7:00 PM

28 Approved Comment(s)

George Berkowitz said...

hey mr. smith the lab we did was amazing. this is my favorite class ever

Posted on 11/19/2009

Kevin Smith said...

Glad you like it George, keep up the good work.

Posted on 11/19/2009

Garrett VanDerSluys said...

Recent Postings

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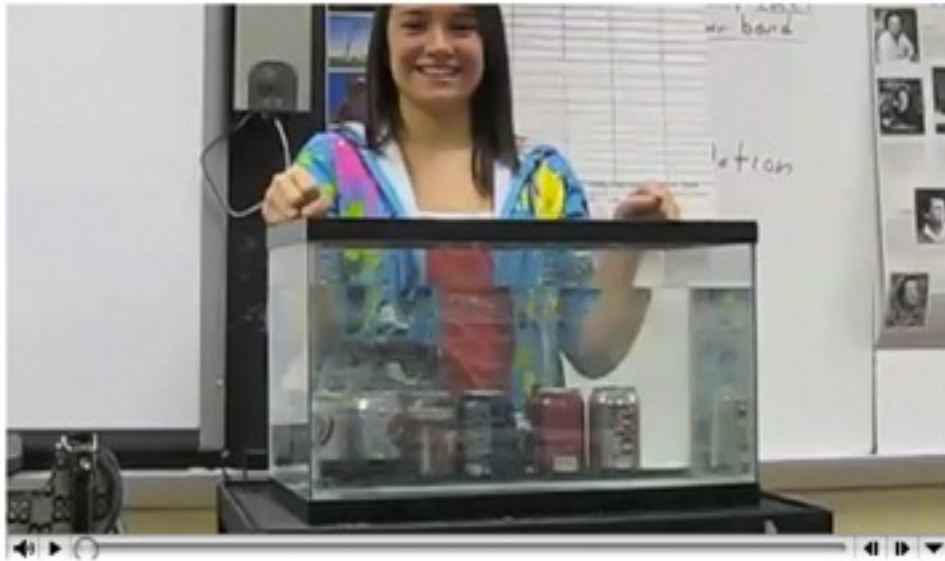
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Postings by Month

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Posted by Mr. Smith at 6:00 PM

11 Approved Comment(s)

jammie said...

donald did a good job!

Posted on 11/24/2009

nikkiuccio said...

Hi Mr. Smith! i love your class! its so much fun. You are a great and awesome teacher.(: i hope i have you next year again!:D

Posted on 11/28/2009

Mr. Smith said...

TECHNOLOGY AWARD SUMMARY AND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR I.U. 20 2009-2010

Kuta Software - Infinite Pre-Algebra
 Least Common Multiple
 Find the LCM of each.

1) 10, 3
 30

2) 14, 6
 $\begin{array}{c} 14 \\ 6 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$

3) 15, 6
 30

4) 15, 20
 15, 2

5) 27, 18
 54

6) 4, 30
 60

7) 24, 32
 96

8) 20, 30
 60

9) 24, 36
 72

10) 35, 25
 175

11) $18x^2, 15y^2$
 $30x^2y^2$

12) $20x^2, 16x^4$
 $40x^4$

13) 18, 6
 18

14) $3x^2, 10$
 $30x^2$

Chat Window:
 Nathanal_White: hi
 Kyeleina: hi
 Nathanal_White: hi
 Sarah_Herlmann: dragon slayer
 Dillon: dragon slayer??
 Jerey_Decker: hey
 Kyeleina: you remember me
 Kyeleina: i don't have my headset
 Dillon: DECKER, Mr MESS!!
 Dillon: SUP??
 Kyeleina: i don't
 Sarah_Herlmann: oh
 Nathanal_White: hi jerey
 Kyeleina: have a headset today?
 Kyeleina: fw. smith
 Sarah_Herlmann: hi
 Kyeleina: i don't have my headset today
 Kyeleina: which is why you can't hear me
 Kyeleina: yeah i can hear you
 Karlich: hi
 Karlich: yes
 Karlich: yes
 Sarah_Herlmann: yes
 Dillon: yes??

$(\underline{3} \times 10^{\underline{2}})(\underline{2} \times 10^{\underline{5}}) = 6 \times 10^{\underline{7}}$

Chat Window:
 phillip_phillip:
 Kyeleina: we get it haha
 Sarah_Herlmann: that's great
 phillip_phillip: mines down stairs
 Sarah_Herlmann: im tired
 Kyeleina: i don't have a microphone
 Kyeleina: yeah
 Sarah_Herlmann: im guessing you have a calculator
 phillip_phillip: nope
 Kyeleina: hmmm
 phillip_phillip: hows everyone doing
 Jerey_Decker: good
 Nathanal_White: i hve a TI-84 plus silver edition
 phillip_phillip: okay
 phillip_phillip: what
 Nathanal_White: good
 Sarah_Herlmann: i would have been able to do it if i knew it was the hour hand i was confused

