TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY: STAFF DEVELOPMENT THROUGH A TURNKEY TRAINER MODEL

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ABSTRACT

Using a PowerPoint presentation, the Associate Superintendent, a fifth grade teacher and a high school English teacher will demonstrate the key ideas and themes of the staff development Turnkey Trainer Model and its applications and benefits within the school district. We will discuss the "administrative" role of the model (budget, implementation of the turnkey trainers—choosing the "Teacher Technologists") and will present the trainers in action. We will explain how the staff development sessions are conducted; how encouraging reluctant staff builds trust and willingness to try and learn; how continuous support and growth enable cooperation among faculty, as well as between buildings. All presenters will discuss obstacles, challenges and strengths of implementing technology into a school district. The discussion will be supported with handouts of successful staff development workshops. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

DESCRIPTION

Continuous training has been the key to keeping up with the advancements and changes with technology in the education field, especially with the inclusion of the Internet in many of the new learning standards. The needs of the teachers must be met if a district wants to successfully implement the use of technology. The Turnkey Trainer model, which supports the technologies and has continual training, can only lead to successful teaching and learning in the classroom. Staff development can make a powerful difference for students and teachers alike. Although districts may have different demographics, the problems facing districts, in regard to staff development and technology, remain the same. Effective teaching with technology can only be accomplished if districts devote money, time and opportunities for further training of the staff.

OBJECTIVES
The presentation will provide an overview of a staff development model that supported a district wide implementation of technology in our school system. Turnkey Trainer Representatives (K-12) and the Associate Superintendent for Personnel and Technology will explain the model. Issues such as: *linkage to curriculum, budget, and variance in teacher technology skills* will be addressed. Other issues that will be discussed are: how staff development activities, in-service programs and summer technology academies increased the skills and use of technology in the classroom by integrating the technology, in particular the Internet and intranets, as tools into lessons. This interactive session will allow for discussion among presenters and participants—the best way to learn about implementing technology and teacher training is to discuss various models and methods that have proven effective.

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