Techno-Savvy Administrators Can Make a Difference

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Abstract: During this presentation, the participants will be presented with an overview of a blended (compressed video, WebCT) educational leadership graduate course that used the NETS*A as the basis for developing an awareness of the need and the skills required to enhance the technology integration within learning environments. The results of a follow-up study that was conducted as to the impact that this course had on the course participants and their respective educational environments, will also be presented.

Last year I presented the first stage of this study. I was in the middle of the semester of a new graduate level course for school administrators. The course used, as a major component, the NETS*A. The participants in last year’s roundtable were excited about the concept but were a bit skeptical of its validity and its impact in an educational administration graduate program. Well, the results are in. The course had many interesting outcomes, including one superintendent using the course as the basis for his professional development plan for all district administrators, both central office and campus-based. He presents one or more of the standards over a two month period. His goal is that all administrators in the district will be competent in the standards by the end of the academic year. Additional stories of the impact of the course will be shared.

The course was developed and facilitated as part of a doctoral program in educational administration at a state university. It is being used as a major component of a master degree program in educational leadership at a different state university this spring. Course syllabi and resources (both on- and off-line) will be shared with the participants. Professors of both courses will facilitate this round two roundtable session.

It is the desire of the presenters to share the components of the course and its impact and get some input from participants as to how the course can better support the integration of technology in the classrooms of today’s schools.