Intranets in the K-12 Arena: Establishing a Process for Developing a Distributed Learning Environment

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Abstract: Corporate America has rapidly embraced the concept of an intranet; however few developers have considered the potential uses of an internet-based communication and distributed publishing system in the elementary and secondary school settings. We will focus on the process of implementing an instructional intranet in a public school system from the evolving conceptual framework to the deployment of a state-of-the-art communication and publishing system.

In this session we will share how we have responded to the challenges of adopting a distributed learning environment, most of which can be broadly categorized as balancing competing demands. Issues related to understanding and committing to the level of support required to maintain the environment, accounting for access issues, and the protection of learner privacy will be explored. In a greater context, we will examine how this powerful technology might be used to revolutionize learning environments and support learning communities.

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