Viewing Successful Partnerships: Teachers and Teacher Candidates Working Together

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The Eastern Washington University and Cheney School District PT3 partnership provides opportunities for EWU teacher candidates to jointly plan and carry out, with classroom teachers, a lesson incorporating technology. Such projects included WebQuests, classroom newspapers, daily school news "broadcasts," and story writing and illustrating.

A professional video (17 minutes) was produced that shows scenes of teacher candidates working with children to help them use computers in school district classrooms for a variety of technology based projects. Also included are interviews with Cheney teachers and pupils. The video portrays successful projects that were facilitated by teachers and teacher candidates working together.

The video was used in October 2001 at faculty meetings in each of the district schools to sell PT3 partnerships with teachers who had not yet participated with EWU candidates helping with technology in their classrooms. Hearing testimonials of fellow teachers, who admitted on tape to being initial technophobes, many teachers responded, "If so and so can do that with an extra set of hands, I might be able, too." Seeing local success was inspirational to teachers and encouraged them to give technology a try. It was well worth the production cost of the video.