There has been a tremendous increase in the use of technology in today’s classroom. With major technological changes occurring at unprecedented rates, it is often difficult for teachers and educators to remain current on software and hardware advances. As software and hardware vendors compete for market share leads and innovation, and as the technological advances continue, the gap between the use of technology and the teacher increases. Everyday teachers are already bombarded with school, district, state, and federal mandates, it is now become almost impossible to keep educators abreast of such changes. Solutions to this ever-evolving problem must be provided and applied to our current situation.

During teacher education programs pre-service teachers are trained in uses of technology, application of various software programs, and taught ways to involve computing power into their classrooms. This little time spent during pre-service programs by no means presents a thorough training of the array of applications found in the classroom. In addition, by the time a student finishes his/her program, the technology has changed. These rapid revisions never give new teachers the opportunity to stay current with the most recent innovations.

Due to the numerous responsibilities a school-teacher must perform, in addition to rapid technological changes, current educators find it difficult to keep current on the most recent advances in educational technology. In-service training programs are trying to combat such occurrences, but have to balances other district needs, financial considerations, and various state stipulations. These issues are addressed by the poster session presented at the 1998 Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE) conference in Washington, D.C.

Issues of focus for the poster session include providing approaches to solve two major issues: (1) how to keep teachers current with today’s technological advances, and (2) identifying what types in-service programs school districts can perform to keep their teachers on the cutting edge of technology.

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