Technology and Innovation in Michigan K-12 Schools:
Findings from the NextDay Teacher Innovation Grant Research Project

NextDay Research Team*
Michigan State University College of Education
East Lansing, MI  48824

Project Overview: Introduction to the Michigan NextDay Research Project

Program Goals

1. Identify and share best practices among grantees and other educators in Michigan and beyond
2. Encourage and document sharing and learning among grantees
3. Encourage and support action research of grantees
4. Document and analyze the impact of the grants on teaching practices, learning outcomes, and
   school culture of technology integration

Overarching Research Questions

1. What impact does the program have on the grantees in terms of technology proficiency,
technology integration, attitude, and most importantly teaching practices?
2. What impact does the program have on the learning outcomes of students in the classrooms of the
   grantees, as a result of the change in teaching practices and introduction of technology?
3. What impact does the program have on the culture of technology integration in the
   schools/districts of the grantees in terms of changes in other teachers and the school or district?

NextDay Proposals

Research Design

Three Level Design

Level 1: All grantees (115) participate at this level. We will:
  • Examine the grant applications submitted by each grantee
  • Conduct three surveys among every grantee to inventory their computer attitude,
    computer use(projected and existing), computer proficiency, self-efficacy,
    pedagogical beliefs, and teaching practices
  • Facilitate and observe electronic communications of participants throughout the
    year on a list server and on a Web-based forum
  • Collect monthly electronic journals throughout the project
  • Collect bimonthly panorama pictures of the classroom or a classroom activity
    and descriptions of the activities

Level 2: Thirty grantees, selected to represent diversity in subject area, grade level,
geographical location, technological level, district size and type (urban, suburban, or rural),
and student SES, participate at this level. In addition to level 1 data, we will:
  • Conduct two face-to-face interviews (one at the beginning and one the end of
    the project) and three electronic interviews throughout the year
Level 3. Twelve grantees, selected to represent diversity in grade level and subject area, participate at this level. In addition to level 1 and level 2, we will:

- Visit and observe classrooms frequently (once-a-month)
- Interview teachers frequently
- Interview students and parents
- Survey other staff at the school

NextDay Teachers
NextDay Research Team*

To learn more about the NextDay Research project, please visit our website at:
http://zhao.educ.msu.edu/nextday

Agt 12/08/98