My Learning Contract

I will ...

* create an interactive website/blog that can be utilized by both students and parents for staying abreast of classroom and school events/announcements, weekly lessons and objectives, allow questions to be posted and quickly answered after school hours and to highlight successful students.

OBSTACLE	HOW TO OVERCOME OBSTACLE
School will say to use e-chalk, system used for planning and student emails. However, this program will limit my capability.	Find a teacher geared program (free) that allows you to create an interactive site. Perhaps research-based or proven results by other teachers. Will stay a week ahead to allow approval from principal.
Using the school site won't allow me to connect to my smartphone which will notify me of postings to the site for which I can provide a quick response.	Get permission to use a site already set up to handle this, such as the Blogger site which has a phone app (cut off time will have to be established, 9p?)
District policies regarding smartphones on campus	Justify it is for the success of my students and I agree to manage, maintain and keep up with the dialogue on the site after-hours. I will accept full responsiblity.

Things I need for my "toolbox":

Internet access (school does not have wifi)	Permission from District for sites blocked by the Firewall
Computer access – home & work	Help, tips & tools to make site development easier and efficient
Lesson Plans prepared to upload to the site	Smartphone that can connect to the site – push notifications and responses
Permission form for parents agreeing to allow me to post information to the site (if	Permission form for students stating they will follow AUP/RUP when using the site

unable to make private users)	
Administration & Tech Specialist approval	Proof that this adds to the success of my students in the class

If I need additional help, I can ask:

NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
P Lowe		Pamloweregion4@gmail.com
S Webber		icandoitbetter@gmail.com
L Coffey		johntbap@gmail.com
M Brady		James.Brady@aliefisd.net

I can also use tutorials from <u>atomiclearning.com</u>, <u>youtube.com</u>, and information available on the site selected.

Path to my goal:

Because this is such a large task and requires permission from Administration, this project would be something I could develop now for effective implementation in the 2013-2014 school year. However, I could test the value of using such a system prior to the end of this school year. This would allow me to work out any kinks for which I had not previously thought about.

TARGET DATE	TASK
September 2012	Find a website (or become more familiar with blogger) that will meet my intended goals
October 2012	Get layout designed for the site. Incorporate key components like lesson plans, announcements, student highlights, tie email account that I give to students to it (msayers2012@gmail.com) and begin dropping in data to preview site

November 2012	Get permission from Administration. Have plan already laid out and site ready to preview in order to sell them on my goal before moving on. Stress that this is a <i>DRAFT SITE</i>
December 2012 – February 2013	Fully build out site by adding more data and kid-friendly, motivating pictures. Play around with the layouts and determine what information needs to be added/deleted. Make sure that it is user-friendly and that I can receive the alerts. Find other relative resources to help students in studying and learning to link to the site.
March 2013 – April 2013	Test out site with my non-GT block. To provide them access to me and other helpful resources as we prepare for the STAAR Test.
May 2013	Re-assess value of site. Poll students and parents thoughts of the site – how helpful it was/was not, what needed to be added/deleted. Make the necessary changes.
June 2013 – July 2013	Prepare site for full launch for the 2013-2014 school year
August 2013	Introduce site to students & parents at the beginning of the year.

I will come back and look at this contract every month and update my progress. I am responsible for my own learning and am a competent, effective learner.

Signature: Lesley Ayers Date: September 8, 2012