Summary Of Learning EdTech

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PLN

PLN- Personal Learning networks is one of my favorite things that I learned in this class. PLN's help connect teachers at a professional level. It allows teachers to help other if needed but also learn from them as well. It also expands your thinking and knowledge. Forming PLN's help connect with other leaders who may be having the same issues or problems. It ranges from Twitter to Yellowdig to Blogs. It creates a wide range of perspective, backgrounds, and experiences. It can also create motivation and encouragement. It is such a great source to have as a teacher and can only be beneficial if used in a positive way.

Blended Learning

I think blended learning, in my opinion, is one of the best ways to teach and integrate into a classroom. It meets the needs of different types of students with differentiated instruction. If you're more of a face-to-face student, you have the option. Like stated above, I love the fact that I can go back and reread or rewind a video if I have to. Everything I have is right in front of me and is easy accessed. It is so important to meet the needs of many students and I believe blended learning offers that.

Digital Footprint/Citizenship

Being a digital citizen means participating in the right manner online or in the virtual world. As a digital citizen I must give my thoughts, opinions, my help, as well as encouragement to others. To be a good citizen online, I must use caution before I post and only motivate or share my ideas to others who may be online as well. I want to leave a positive digital footprint and good digital legacy behind, so even when I may not be around anymore, others can still get online and see my thoughts, ideas, or even receive some educational or even personal motivation.

Social Media

Social Media is a tool that I am sure every student/teacher will have by the time I am teaching. It is a great way to connect with others, as well as integrate technology into the classroom. As long as it is being used in a positive and encouraging way, it can be of great use in the classroom.

Assessments

Assessments are essential to the classroom and is part of becoming an effective teacher. Without assessments, how can you, as a teacher, know and understand where your students are at? It can be as simple as an exit slip, or nodding your head if you understand, to a final exam at the end of a semester. The assessments that the students take show teachers as well as the district (etc.) what they have learned and retained over the course of the day/semester/year, so on. School and teaching would almost be pointless without any type of assessment. There are so many different types of assessments, specifically formative and assessments. I learned the important difference between the two during the weekly video and many websites we had to visit to read about. Both are super critical and important, but formative assessments help out both the student and teacher a tremendous amount during the year. It's more relaxed and only shows where each student is during their learning experience. Summative assessments create more pressure, especially for students who have test anxiety or get nervous.

eBooks

As a teacher, it makes it easier to read and grade because my student's are writing about a prompt they want to be writing about and is so much more personal. It also implements technology as well as makes the classroom more exciting and interesting. The overall biggest benefit of eBooks is that it helps create students who actually enjoy writing and gives them motivation to do so as well. Another big benefit is that it allows the classroom to be more student lead and gives students opportunities to take charge of their learning experience. After watching his video, I will absolutely implement eBooks into my classroom in some shape or form. His video made it seem like eBooks were so beneficial and only helps students in every aspect of writing. It will allow technology to be implemented as well. First, I want to pick a topic or prompt that majority of my student's want to write about, but also give options to the other students if necessary.

Ed Tech

I learned so much information not only about technology, but teaching with technology and how to implement it in the best way possible, from this course and I will definitely use it for my future teaching. This is one of my favorite online courses and I really enjoyed blogging as well as being able to tweet and share my thoughts.