

## **Technology Inventory**

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1. In my classroom I have a Smart Board, a document camera, a VCR, and a DVD player. I have a laptop, and we have a one to one program, so all of our students have laptops. My laptop has Skype, but the students laptops do not. I also have Facebook, but the students do not. We do have a countywide Google documents system. It is only for school purposes, and the students cannot receive any outside emails from it, but teachers may.
2. We have a web system called Fusion that we use as a class website; however, I mostly use it as a calendar, and use Google Docs as my primary system. I keep a running daily agenda as a Google doc that they all can access. The students and teachers can use YouTube, although we have some trouble with safety mode. We also have access to Discovery Streaming and the state of North Carolina pays for an extensive research data base called NCWISE OWL.
3. This year I have begun implementing the use of Collaborize Classroom, a discussion sharing site. We read current events and articles on global issues and start our discussion with a response; then we respond to others posts, similar to the discussion in this class. I use Kahoot, a game based learning site. The kids can enter the number of the game on the also use Socrative for quick little reading check quizzes.
4. The only site that is blocked for students is Skype. All of the other sites on the list work except for UNWorks, but this seems to be the fault of the website. I am intrigued by the others sites, but I do need a few weeks to explore them all in depth, but I finally feel that I am learning how to globalize my classroom in a concrete way.
5. The most commonly used technology in my building is Googledocs, GoogleClassroom. Quia, Socrative, Kahoot, Class Meeting, Audacity. One of the language teachers uses a Google program that has students speak into their phones to be tested on their language ability. Some teachers are discussing and trying to integrate the “flipped classroom.”
6. We don’t have technology assessments for students, but they do send questionnaires to faculty to find out what technology we want to learn and integrate into our classroom. Right now, the technology that students are using depends on a specific classroom teacher’s interest and comfort level.
7. My students like Google docs and Google Presentation. Their favorite technology activity is Kahoot. I do have students who get irritated with some of the technology in our school. We have a help desk for students with pro

## Technology Implementation

This year, I decided to implement the site Collaborize Classroom. With this site students join a page, and we discuss topics and questions that I initiate. I usually give them a current event associated with global issues. Mostly I use an article from Kelly Gallagher's Article of the Week Website. They must respond to the article, and respond to each other's posts. This last week our visiting teacher from Turkey was with us, and he joined the class to discuss one of the questions and how it pertained to Turkish education. My long term goal is to create a joint classroom between my students and maybe Ismail's to discuss topics with each other. I can monitor what is being said, and delete any comments that I feel are not appropriate.

The main thing I learned is that students need a lot of training on how to write a good response. Because "Collaborize" is supposed to be a conversation, they think they can write very informally as if it were a text message. They need training on how to contribute effectively to an online academic conversation. They also need to be taught how to respond effectively to each other. Too many of their comments to each other, are vague and pointless like, "Good point, and I agree." We try to complete a discussion each week, and I do feel they are getting better. It will be interesting to try this with students from another country, and we will talk about communicating with a diverse audience, and how to do that effectively.