

Website created containing all information: <http://www.twoteachers.ca/mike/files/360/>

a) How did you choose your issue and why is this important to consider as future teacher?

- have background knowledge – chose this as our 302 & 303 paper topics
- very interested in technology
 - Robyn background talk
 - Mike background talk
- advances in technology are inevitable
 - to stay relevant to the culture and to TRULY prepare our students for the future we have to provide them with the skills to better survive and provide them options in life
 - students will be using computers anyways – let's help them learn *how* to use them, and learn to use them with “eyes wide open”
 - information to help protect them from the dangers on the internet
- technology can GREATLY aid in teaching (make things easier)
 - research, presentations, curricula, computer programs for LD and ESL students
- interesting and engaging for students
 - something they experience at home and are familiar with

b) What are the different perspectives of this issue (student, parent, teacher, administration, government, cultural, tax payer, etc.)

Student: “I want to learn something that is applicable in my life.”

Parent: “I want my child to be equipped with the skills to thrive in the 21st century.”

Teacher: “I am able to engage my students in ways I haven't been able to before.”

Administration: “Our primary concerns are **safety** and **learning**.”

Government: “How are we going to afford this?”

Cultural: “Stay with the times!”

Tax Payer: “I'm all for technology, but show me the results.”

c) What are the complexities of this issue (why isn't there an easy solution)?

- money for *all* schools

→ equal opportunity

-"Low income schools have a difficult time finding funding for even the simple things like field trips to the Public Library. What do you think are possible solutions for these students to receive technology in their classroom/school?"

- teacher knowledge

→ baby-boomer situation – can't navigate a computer to save their lives

→ they are retiring within the next 5-10 years, why change things now?

-"Is it reasonable to expect these teachers to change?"

-"By embracing new literacy's, how will these teachers help students be better equipped for later grades?"

- interpersonal skills and communication

→ cannot be learned from a machine

→ stereotype "geek who lives in his mother's basement and has no friends outside of the online ones"

-"What do you think?"

- there is importance in learning *how* to read through literacy on the internet

→ critical thinking/analysis

→ making connections outside the online world

-"What is the importance of becoming computer 'literate'?"

- knowledge and technology turnover

→ there is new technology coming out everyday – schools are a "mirror of a society which no longer exists" (1968, Blaney)

-"How can a school/classroom stay current and not become a 'mirror of a society which no longer exists?' "

- computer games – competitive in nature – "win, loose, compete"

→ reduces the English language to its most primitive form

→ Number Munchers / Oregon Trail / other Math/Reading/Spelling

-"Young children and/or ESL students have a fairly weak grasp on the English language already. How do these games affect their learning of the English language?"

- technology for administration vs. technology for teaching

→ attendance, e-mail to parents, communication with principal, test scores, etc.

-"What are some problems that come about when teachers are expected to *only* use computers for administrative purposes?"

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