Program Focus

Kim Mulkey

Describe your experience with instructional technology, noting what you see as personal strengths as well as areas where you hope to improve. Describe your program and career goals and how this course might help you achieve those.

My experience with instructional technology began while working on my master’s degree from 1999-2003. I became fascinated with the technological aspect of the library media program. After graduating, I incorporated as much technology as I could into my fourth, fifth, and sixth grade social studies classes. At the time, I used technology to instruct and assigned projects for students to use technology in their learning process. After four years, I moved into a technology position for a K-3 school. During the past two years, I provided instruction to both students and teachers for technology integration. For examples of our work, visit <http://blog.woodward.edu/waps>. The projects through spring of 2009 were projects that were accomplished collaboratively under my leadership. I moved back to upper elementary aged students in August of this year to continue with this endeavor.

I would consider my personal strengths to include my background in teaching and my attitude toward learning. I have been teaching since 1991 including children from ages three through sixth grade. I am a firm believer that the content comes first and the technology is a tool to enhance the curriculum and learning. My biggest weakness at this time is lack of information technology skills. Even though, I am able to troubleshoot most problems, I still need assistance and directions. My goals include teaching both teachers and students the benefits of using technology, and that I will continue to be a lifelong learner to aid others. I feel that my goals as a technology specialist are attainable. I plan to provide “best practice” instruction, staff development opportunities, and continue attending professional development classes, as well. Finishing my specialist’s degree in instructional technology will also assist me with these goals. This class will help me to affirm or correct what I am already doing.