Emerging Technologies Discussions

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<http://www.education-world.com/index.shtml>

This website covers everything an educator could possibly imagine. It has lesson plans, articles for professional development, an administration section, technology integration, and school issues. I like this website because it is written in easy to understand terminology, has articles and ideas for all ages, and has a special section for technology integration. If I need information or ideas on a topic, most of the time I can find something here.

I would like to share my favorite communication and collaboration tool, Googledocs. I have used Googledocs to work on a number of documents with the assistant director of technology (housed in a different building.) We both added and made changes until it was finished. More than one person can contribute at the same time. My favorite part of this application is the spreadsheet. I have created a “form” or questionnaire and sent the link to the faculty to collect data such as, Gmail addresses, “who has had Edline training?”, sign up for training classes, and recently to collect data for this class. The people you share this with…answer the questions and it goes straight to a spreadsheet. We created a transportation document for the teachers to fill in each morning with changes in children’s daily transportation. Our transportation/bus director can pull it up and see up to the moment changes. Another great feature is that you can use any computer to work on the document. This is wonderful for students to work on a document at home and pull it at school with no flash drive, and it doesn’t matter if you have Vista, Macs, etc… Some of our high school teachers are using this for this purpose. It is not as feasible for the early elementary students. It is also great for teachers to go back and forth from home and school.