Discussion 4

In order to think about where you’re going, it’s important to think about where you’ve been. This discussion hopes to get you thinking about the technology integration you have already observed and to then consider how that fits into the Georgia Technology Vision.

Objectives:
• Become familiar with the LOTI Framework through reflection on a personal example of technology integration.
• Become aware of the expectations of teachers as per the vision expressed in the Georgia Technology Plan, 2007-2012 (page 91).
• Discuss with your peers where we seem to be with technology integration versus where we “ought” to be going.

How Many Posts?
Over the course of this discussion, you will want to make at least 3 postings to garner full points:
• your initial post
• and two responses to classmates

Discussion Prompt for Your Initial Post

Part A: School Example and LOTI Rating
Think about a K-12 school that you are familiar with. It could be a school where you’ve taught, student-taught, subbed, volunteered or a school you or your children have attended. Now, think about the types of technology used. Were there pencils? overhead projectors? computers? Smartboards? Who was using these technologies and how? Consider how you would answer this question. Then, visit and read over the Levels of Technology Integration Framework (LOTI). Rate the school on the LOTI Framework from 0-6.

Part B: How This School will Fulfill the "Vision" of Georgia
The second element to this posting is to look at p. 91 of the Georgia Technology Plan, 2007-2012. Read this entire page to learn about the “Vision” of Georgia for technology use by students, educators, parents, and members of the community. (Yes, folks, they want schools and teachers, students, and parents looking and acting like this within 4 years!)

How close is the school to fulfilling Georgia's Technology Vision? What does the school administration and faculty (and any others) have to do to bring the school (or schools in general) up to speed so that they are in-line with the Vision?
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In the subject line of your initial posting, please indicate the LOTI level (0-6) as well as the age level of the school (elementary, middle, etc.)

Part A

I think Lakeview Fort Oglethorpe High School falls in the LoTi Level 2- Exploration. Most of the teachers still deliver content in a traditional manner and use technology to support that delivery. Students design and present using technology for most classes. There is considerable technology implementation in our career and technical education classes. We have 30 or more computers available for student use in the media center as well as several labs which are available for general class use. Every classroom has one or more computers. Digital tools are commonly used by students for extension, enrichment, and information gathering. A number of classes and programs use online programs, such as SkillsTutor to remediate English and math deficiencies, which students may access from anywhere. Our credit recovery program is online. Even though there are frequent opportunities for students to demonstrate their course content mastery through a digital medium, few if any opportunities exist for them to publish or share with learners outside our school.

Part B

LFO is approaching Georgia’s technology vision, but I am not sure it’s there yet. Students are engaged in the use of technology to find synthesize, analyze, etc. Teachers are aware of trends and new technologies, yet they are limited to how much they can utilize those technologies by limited budgets. Some parents use various technologies to communicate with members of the school community and monitor their child’s progress, but not all parents have access. We have students who live in homes without a working phone. On the other hand, we have students who have computers and Internet access for every member of the household. With such social and economic diversity in schools, I doubt that only the most affluent school districts will ever realize complete Georgia’s Technology Vision.