Barbara Powell-Schager's HRRB Team 2009-2010



Academic Uses of Google Docs

There are many benefits to using <u>GoogleDocs</u> in education. Some of these benefits are:

- Faculty can collaborate with one another on things like developing common lesson plans (Docs), and student handouts. It can be seen as a common planning period extender. Or, media specialist, teacher lesson, technology specialists, and others can collaborate.
- Staff can use it to collaboratively develop mission statement documents, share committee minutes.
- Teachers can collaborate on developing event documents (i.e., parent letter regarding field trip).
- Because there is a translation feature in GoogleDocs, teachers can translate their newsletters, assignments, etc. into the language that the student and his/her family speaks. ***Translators don't work-many times they just come up with some crazy jibberjabber that doesn't make any sense...they can translate a word or possibly two, but they are not a good tool to suggest for use as a way to translate for teachers and students....(sorry, just my opinion, I speak 3 languages, and have an issue with students using these and wonder why they get an "F" on assignment...our school nurse has tried to use it and it came up with some weird inappropriate stuff, and she was going to send it home to a parent...)
- **Teachers** can use it to share edit and give feedback to their students while students are working on a project or paper.
- Teachers can have students use it as a tool to peer edit each others' work. Or co-author scripts, stories or reports.
- Using the equation tool bar it can be used as a place where **students** can work out math problems and show their "thinking.".
- By clicking on the "define" tool students can easily look up the meaning of any word.
- The fact that it's on the Internet means anytime, anywhere. So, students can collaborate when away from school.
- Students who are long term sick can use it to have contact with their class.



- The drawing tools can also be used for geometry math concepts or for simple designing work spaces or classroom spaces.
- Teachers can use google docs to make announcements to parents, students and colleagues.
 - Barbara Powell-Schager
 - Angela Pieniaszek
 - Kathy Cobb
 - Traci Williams

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