J. Sherwood-Hill MEDT 6401 Unit Plan – The Holocaust Fall, 2008

## **NETS Standard 2: Design and Develop Digital-Age Learning Experiences and Assessments:**

Teachers design, develop, and evaluate authentic learning experiences and assessments incorporating contemporary tools and resources to maximize content learning in context and to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes identified in the NETS•S. Teachers:

**A:** Design or adapt relevant learning experiences that incorporate digital tools and resources to promote student learning and creativity.

**B**: Develop technology-enriched learning environments that enable all students to pursue their individual curiosities and become active participants in setting their own educational goals, managing their own learning, and assessing their own progress.

This unit plan about the Holocaust serves to teach children about the horrific events that surrounded Jewish children and their families during this time period. It is a plan that meets these standards because of the contemporary digital tools used such as using word processing to create a class journal, PowerPoint presentation to learn literary terms, completing a United Streaming resource sheet to build prior knowledge and an online timeline maker. Using these digital tools will help students maximize learning in context to fully understand the Holocaust as well as increase student creativity and analytical skills.

We read six class novels and it is important to utilize technology so that students are motivated to learn. As I was compiling the plan, I was thinking what tools I could use that would engage my sixth grade students. One important aspect is that the the plan is organized so that I have what I need at a moment's glance. After completing the assignments along with reading "Milkweed" by Jerry Spinelli, students fully understand the challenges the characters faced in the story. Furthermore, students are responsible for researching current events to gather information about other countries where people are faced with ethnic cleansing and violation of human rights. As a result of the children presenting their findings regarding these current issues, several class discussions occurred with many students expressing their concern about the tremendous amount of hate that still exists in the world.