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EDEL 624

McCracken

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**Personal Reflection**

I really enjoyed the online format of EDEL 624 and the content that was covered in the class. This technology course has given me a renewed interest in learning about different forms of technology and how they can be implemented within the school and classroom setting to make things run more efficiently and to engage learners. I have utilized several of the strategies that were discussed and covered in the content modules within my classroom to bring technology to the forefront in my class. I have really bought into the concept of utilizing new forms of technology on a daily basis so that I stay ahead of the curve.

I have used blogging the most in my class so far as a way to engage students at the beginning of class to provide feedback in the form of a opener or bell ringer question. It is amazing how much information and knowledge students are willing to share in the blog format. It has proven to be a much more effective way for me to gage my students understanding of concepts that we have covered in class. I can also see blogging as an effective way to get feedback from staff without having to meet for a faculty meeting. The fewer meetings teachers have to attend usually helps to boost or maintain moral. I have also used the online survey approach at the end of units to get helpful feedback from students on what worked, what didn’t work and how I can improve in years to come. This, again, can be used as a school leader so that you can constantly reflect and assess what worked and what didn’t. I have also used a wiki within my department as an informal department meeting. Department heads in my building were advised to create a wish list for improvements that can be made to the building during our renovation so I conducted this in the form of a wiki. Each teacher went in and added their own ideas to help improve the functioning and efficiency of the building.

EDEL 624 was the perfect class for me to introduce how the Leadership Program at Radford works while providing me with valuable learning experiences that can be incorporated in the school setting as both a teacher and a school leader. I absolutely love the flexibility of the online format and the opportunity to create our own pacing guide. This online program has the right balance of rigor and flexibility to help me grow as an educator and fit my busy lifestyle as a teacher and coach.