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Rationale – Teacher Standard VI

In order to demonstrate that I have met Standard VI, Technology, I have chosen the following artifacts: my lesson plan created in ED 310, my personal website, and my Wiki page detailing multiple assistive technologies. My lesson plan was prepared for one of Taylor County Elementary School’s fourth grade reading classes. The plan included a PowerPoint presentation, use of a document camera, a SmartBoard activity, the University’s clicker system, and Excel for data purposes. My website, which includes a page covering various assistive technologies, was created using Wikispaces.

I have learned how to successfully use multiple applications of technology to support student learning. Through the use of my Smart Notebook activity, students were able to apply what they were taught, and the needs of kinesthetic learners were met. My class Wiki includes many resources for students including websites which are academically beneficial. In addition, I created a class blog using Blogger so parents and students can be informed about various trips and activities.

In order to enhance my instruction, I selected appropriate forms of technology. PowerPoint, Word, and Excel were all used to strengthen my instructional strategies. PowerPoint allowed the concept to be explained in an effective manner. Word was used to create worksheets that the students individually completed, and Excel gave me the opportunity to compare pre-assessment and post-assessment results gathered from the use of the clicker system. Also, my Wiki includes the lesson’s PowerPoint presentation for students to review if needed.

My lesson included two key opportunities for students to utilize technology. The students were required to complete both a pre-assessment and post-assessment using the provided clicker system. All of the students enjoyed submitting their answers through this form of technology. In addition, the students liked viewing their results immediately. Students were individually called to the SmartBoard to complete a Smart Notebook activity during my lesson. The purpose of the activity was to give the students a greater understanding of both first person and third person point of view. I was sure to include instructional strategies that involved student technology use.

I addressed special learning needs through technology by utilizing a microphone system and providing a detailed list of assistive technologies on my class website. One of the students in my class had a hearing impairment; therefore, I spoke into a microphone as I taught so that the disability would not hinder the student’s learning. Also, my Wiki includes a list of various assistive technologies with specific descriptions about the function of each form of technology.

I included an Acceptable Use Policy on my class website in order to promote ethical and legal use of technology by my students. It is highly important that all students are aware of proper technology use. All student must know what is acceptable and expected in regards to the use of school technology. I will demonstrate ethical and legal use of technology in my classroom so that my students will know what is acceptable. I will model proper technology use on a daily basis.