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Overall Use of Technology

After taking the technology self-assessment and learning more about the NETS-T, I decided to focus on online collaboration in my classroom. I noticed that I use technology was a one-way outlet of communication with my classes. I post weekly schedules and attach assignments on Communicator. I use PowerPoints in class to show the daily schedule and review vocabulary and grammar concepts, but it is like technologically advanced snail mail. It stops there. There is no back and forth; I don't ask my students interact with each other or with me using technology. My students use technology to type papers or create PowerPoints for presentations again these get turned in like a paper rather than changing and transforming through collaboration. I realized that this was a void so I decided to begin to address this through my technology goal.

My goal states, "I would like to collaborate with my students using digital tools and resources to support student success and innovation as described in NETS-T 3b. I would like to collaborate with my students through modeling to foster collaborate between students." I decided to use Communicator to achieve this goal. I plan to use the discussion board, blog including voice, online quizzes, and homework assignments to make technology more interactive rather than just a one sided place to take information or materials. I am striving to use this one a week either in class or as homework.

Starting this goal at the beginning of the year made it easier because I was able to make this use of technology a habit in my classroom. It was important to

train my students on using Communicator and feeling comfortable with tools. I find it important to allow students to have access to computers whenever possible while working on this goal, however for the homework this is not always possible. Some students may not have access to a computer at home so this is a possible barrier. I try to provide a variety of opportunities for students to come in and use computers at school if they do not access to a computer or the Internet at home.

I began my endeavor with a discussion board question, an online quiz and homework assignment. The first discussion board question was done in class as part of a class period devoted to learning Communicator. The students discussed how they will use the online resources that they explored to help them study French. These technologies included the online textbook in addition to Communicator. The discussion board is great because I was able to respond to students and they were able to comment on each other's posts. The quiz was also taken in class because it was an assessment. The quiz was based on presentations that they had given the week before. After working with the technology two times in class, I gave my students a homework assignment to write three sentences using a new grammar concept. I used similar assignments in my French I and French II classes. I gave one class feedback by making corrections on their sentences and in the other class we corrected sentences together as a way to study the concept.