

## **School 2.0: Technology Lifestyles for Learning**

Dear Technology Committee participants,

As co-facilitators of the Technology Committee, Mary Wegner, Anchorage School District Elementary Technology Coordinator, and John Monahan, Alaska Distance Education Consortium, are looking forward to an enlightened discussion concerning technology across the State of Alaska.

We debated about suggesting a reading list for everyone to read prior to arriving, but in the end we decided that it is in the best interest of the State and the project if each of you comes to the education summit sessions with your unbiased thoughts and ideas of what Alaska needs in order to have a robust virtual learning structure.

While our dialog will primarily focus on the K-12 through postsecondary students, I'd like to encourage us to think boldly and broadly of the Alaska learner from birth through the golden years.

Mary and I have been strategizing on how to hear from everyone, incorporate your ideas and cover a lot of territory in a condensed couple of days. Here's what we're thinking for flow of the technology sessions.

On the first day, when the full group of education summit participants breaks into the eight topic groups, Mary and I will hand out 3X5 cards to each person walking in the technology group door and ask you to jot down three big category issues that need to be addressed. We're talking broad, big, overarching issues that can serve as subgroup topics.

We're going to take all your subgroup categories and type them into a fancy, free piece of software that swirls them around, (think of a powerful blender for words) then analyzes similarities and spits out the major categories in the form of "tags and/or clouds".

We should end up with around ten categories to briefly discuss to make sure that we've accurately captured what we think the categories mean.

Next, because we are on a short time line, we'll use clickers (provided) to identify the top-ranking categories for discussion purposes. Then we'll break into subgroups and for each category we'll identify three or four goals and some measurable action steps.

Toward the conclusion of the education summit we're going to share our results to the full conference group. After the education summit, this information will be the baseline used by the work groups to develop comprehensive plans.

Here are some questions to consideration as you prepare for Education Summit 2008:

What are some of the things that need to happen in order to realize your vision of technology-infused learning?

What does the integration of technology look like in the future for education and learning?

What are the limitations that are keeping us from getting to this vision?

What needs to change in order to realize the vision?

What does the collaboration between the K-12 community and postsecondary look like?

What specifically needs to be worked on for alignment?

What have we done right? What can we do better?

What opportunities exist to harness energy and move closer to our vision?

Who are the natural partners and how might they be engaged?

Thinking about a time line, what would/could we expect to see in the next 2-3 years, 10 years?

What are the major areas that need to be addressed to reach this ideal?

What are the measurable action steps that can be monitored in our march toward this vision?

*Co-facilitators: Mary Wegner, Anchorage School District Elementary Technology Coordinator; John Monahan, Alaska Distance Education Consortium.*