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CET 720: Eval Ed Tech Outcomes

1/3/09

Phase 1 of Evaluation Plan

**Description of the Huron School District**

The Huron School District, home of the Tigers, lies within urban Huron, which was named after the Huron Tribe that once resided in the area. Huron, Beadle County’s seat, is located in South-Eastern, SD. According to EPodunk.com, approximately 11,377 people occupied Huron in 2003. According to a Schooldatadirect.com census document posted in 2007, the most current documentation available, the Huron School District had approximately 2,037 students, up 48 students from the previous year. Huron has ten schools that range from preK-12. Of these ten schools, four are private schools: two are religion-based and two are colony-affiliated. Our evaluation will focus on Huron’s six public schools, four elementary schools: Washington, Buchanan, Jefferson and Madison, one middle school: Huron Middle School, and one high school: Huron High School. Of these schools, 86.9% of students were Caucasian, 7.4% were Hispanic, 2.8% American Indian, 2.3% Black, and .6% were Asian (Schooldatadriect.com). Of these students, 35.4 % were in the economically challenged category with the state’s percentage at 29.8% (Schooldatadirect.com). Also documented in 2007 by Epodunk.com, was the teacher to student ratio of 1:15.5.

Huron School District’s Technology Plan (pg. 7) states, “The model elementary and middle school classroom consists of four PC networked lab with one-networked printer. The teacher has one PC at his/her desk for attendance and grading purposes. The high school classrooms consist of one PC at the teacher’s desk for attendance and grading purposes. The high school has three computer labs for teacher/student use. In addition to these classroom setups, two schools have mobile computer labs for Internet use and assessment purposes.”

The priority for professional development activities is to collaborate with and meet the needs of students, faculty, and staff and to support the curriculum (HSD Tech Plan, pg 4). They will meet these needs by using professional development days to provide district-level trainings and provide on-going support by having staff on hand to help in day-to-day needs and by offerening courses for further training.

The Huron School District’s Technology Goals (pgs. 8-11) are as follows:

1. Classroom learning environments will be collaborative, and projects will require involvement to promote engaged learning.
2. Students will have opportunities to use a variety of modern technologies.
3. Teachers will utilize professional development to work with students on inquiry, design, and development supported by technology tools.
4. Administrators and teachers will focus on the integration of learning and technology.
5. Staff and students will be provided with the knowledge, skill, and insight necessary to adapt successfully with technological and societal change.
6. Communication, learning, and management will be enhanced through the use of technology.

These goals were implemented in 1996 and carried through to 2005 and are on-going.

References

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