Ashley A. Ivins

Week 4

**Create a Digital Learning Environment Inventory**

*What tools, software, operating systems, and equipment are available in your school and classroom? (including but not limited to: videoconferencing, streaming, photos sharing sites, video sharing sites, document sharing sites, podcasts, blogs, wikis, social networking sites, etc.)*

How does your school make use of school and/or teacher websites?

**My school let’s teachers choose the platform and style for their websites independently. We have a school website** [**www.capitantigers.org**](http://www.theaskacademy.org)**. My school is transitioning to a new website which will allow teachers to utilize the website better for communication.**

How are you currently utilizing technology for learning?

**Each one of my scholars has a laptop. We currently use them for the basics such as word processing and internet research. Each scholar also builds and maintains a digital portfolio in my courses using** [**www.weebly.com**](http://www.weebly.com) **to showcase their work in the class. We also create videos and multimedia presentations. My robotics course uses a variety of programming platforms and also uses Skype to coach other robotics teams throughout the state.**

From the list of global e-learning sites, which are available and which sites are blocked by your firewall?

**No sites are blocked by our firewall for instructors. Rarely we encounter a site, which might be blocked for scholars, and I am able to have that block removed within a matter of minutes.**

What sites and tools are colleagues in your building using?

**Many of my colleagues use the same tools and in addition I know that some make more frequent use of wikis. In CAD and Engineering they are using a variety of design packages such as Autodesk Inventor, etc.**

Is there a system for evaluating student technology literacy in your school?

**No, but I wish there was. It is certainly something we should be measuring.**

If so, how effective or helpful have you found the assessment?

Gather suggestions from students on their ideas for integrating technology into their learning. What tools that are not presently available, would help to achieve district objectives?

2. Using your Digital Learning Environment Inventory:

a) Suggest an improvement or solution to technology/technology use in you school or district.

**Currently our biggest stumbling block at school is waiting to have software installed on laptops to run. We run into problems even with simple things that they should have like adobe shockwave, java, etc. that the tech guy says we have and then we really don’t! I also would like to see data collected about technology literacy and growth as part of our strategic plan.**

b) Submit a paragraph describing a potential use of technology in your unit plan.

**I think that technology would be great to facilitate communication between students on the project. I envision my lesson as a collaboration with students separated by long distances so I would like to see them connect with some type of social networking tool, Skype, or a minimum a platform for discussion. I truly believe that interaction between students is going to be at the heart of learning in my lesson.**