Connected Classroom Program
NSW DET

Presented by: Ann-marie Furney

“Enhancing Student Learning Using Video Conferencing”
Background

Connected Classrooms Program
- Major NSW Government election commitment
- $158 million investment (2008-2011)
- 3 key projects: Interactive Classrooms, Learning Tools and NGEN

Underpinning DET ICT Strategy

To build a trusted, collaborative learning community that leverages the NSW Department of Education and Training’s size, diversity and excellence.
Interactive Classroom Project

- $66 million investment
- Delivery of a fully installed interactive classroom to every school in NSW (2,200 schools)
- Interactive Classroom Equipment: video conferencing, Interactive Whiteboard, PC, audio speakers, desktop collaboration and IWB lesson creation software

The Interactive Classroom

Connected Classrooms Program
NGEN Project

- Upgrade to DET network across the state providing a 10Mb/ps link to all school and office sites. (Current link 2Mb/ps)
- Upgrade and improvement of DET internet filtering environment
- Key goal: to improve speed, reliability and security across the entire network

Learning Tools Project

- To provide an adaptable and scalable system that will be able to deliver the latest Web technologies to staff and students as required
- To provide a suite of learning tools applications to enable and enrich teaching and learning practices in NSW DET
- To provide a secure online workspace for staff and students
Underpinning DET Research

- “Exploring Pedagogy Using Interactive Whiteboards” (June 2007)
- “Supporting Student learning Environments in a Digital Age: Listening to Young People” (December 2007)
- “Interactive Whiteboard End User Study—Listening to Teacher’s Voices” (December 2007)
- “Video Conferencing and Students”

Professional Learning

- Learning Systems Training Program – accredited with the NSW Institute of Teachers
- Regional Support models: Western NSW Example – iTeach 21
Keys to Implementation Success

- Need for in-house enthusiast/expert
- Use of pressure and support
- “Just in time” learning
- Coaching
- Mentoring
- Some time/own time balance
- Home access to software
- Ready access to IT support

Collaboration

Providing opportunities and purpose for teachers and students to work together

Example 1: Postcards from the Ed (A student collaboration project supported by video conferencing)

Example 2: WNSW Region Virtual IT Conference 2008
Collaboration

A collaboration of five secondary schools to offer every student, every opportunity, every day.

Connections

Reaching out to the world:

Example 1: NASA

Example 2: Tottenham Central School goes dog sledding in Alaska
Communication

Ready access to interactive communication

Example 1: Regional Director’s Message

Example 2: Getting IT Organised for Leadership
Thank you for your interest in our project

For further information please contact:

Ann-marie.Furney@det.nsw.edu.au