

Moodle

Collaborative
Tools



MOODLE HAS THE POWER TO REVOLUTIONIZE THE WAY STUDENTS LEARN!

Our students live in a media saturated world.

National research indicates that:

- nearly half of online teens use the Internet everyday.¹
- teens today spend an average of nearly six and a half hours a day with some type of media.²
- ninety-four percent of twelve to seventeen year olds report having used the Internet to help them with school work in some way.³
- Three-quarters of online teens use instant messaging. Of this group,

seventy-eight percent say they use IM from time to time to ask classmates about schoolwork.⁴

- students want better coordination of their out-of-school Internet use with classroom activities.⁵

Schools & the Internet

Despite the enormous influence the Internet is having over the private lives of our students, the vast majority of teachers do not yet give assignments that require them to use the Internet outside of the classroom.

When assignments are given that require use of the Internet, that use is typically set aside by teachers as "lab days" - in which the entire class visits the school computer lab until the assignment is completed.

Username

Password



Even exceptional teachers, who see the potential of the web in education, have difficulty guiding students in collaborative activities because they lack the foundation from which their activities can grow.

Moodle is a multi-purpose tool. It contains activities that will help connect your students online using forums, wikis, and even writing workshops.

More than that, Moodle creates a community from which teachers can introduce students to anything on the web! With Moodle, teachers can discuss, inform, and shape the Internet into a manageable unit that fits the needs of their course.

While this session will focus on the specific Moodle tools that aid in collaboration, keep in mind that its potential lies beyond the software itself, in its ability to create an online learning community around your school.

Who is Patrick Malley?

Patrick Malley is a full-time teacher at Niles High School, where he also manages over 1000 students on his

school's Moodle installation.

As part of his classes, Patrick uses Moodle for:

- giving tests and quizzes online.
- holding weekly forum discussions.
- posting slideshow presentations from class.
- keeping students updated on due dates, assignments, and events.
- collecting and grading student work.

¹ Pew Internet & American Life Project. *Teens and Technology: Youth are Leading the Transition to a Fully Wired and Mobile Nation*. 2005. http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_teens_Tech_July2005web.pdf.

² Ibid.

³ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. National Telecommunications and Information Administration. *A Nation Online: how Americans Are Expanding Their Use of the Internet*. 2002. http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/dn/nationonline_020502.htm.

⁴ Pew Internet & American Life Project. *The Digital Disconnect: The Widening Gap Between Internet Savvy Students and Their Schools*. 2002. http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Schools_Internet_Report.pdf.

Vocabulary Words

backup, restore, database, e-mail, server, Apache, Open-source, software, hardware, application, network, VoIP, Internet, Intranet, graphics, pixel, spyware, peripherals, bandwidth, BitTorrent, cache, TCP/IP, dual-core, phishing, spam, HTML, RSS, BIOS, broadband, browser, bug, byte, CD-Rom, clipboard, CMYK, compression, cookie, CPU, cyberspace, digital, Domain Name Server, download, upload, driver, encryption, ethernet, FAQ, file permissions, filter, font, FTP, gigabyte, hacker, home page, host, hypertext, icon, IP address, Java, JPEG, KiloByte, LAN, WAN, listserv, mainframe, Megabyte, memory, MIDI, MIME, modem, motherboard, netiquette, newsgroup, PDF, port, QuickTime, RAM, resolution, router, RTF, screen saver, scroll bar, shareware, spreadsheet, syntax error, tags, thread, UNIX, URL, virus, WHOIS, WYSIWYG, zip

“The fates guide those who go willingly; those who do not, they drag.”

- Seneca