Connecting Teachers and Students through Skype

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What is Video Conferencing?

- The use of telecommunication technologies to allow two or more locations to communicate by simultaneous two-way video and audio transmissions.

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Standard 2: Mathematics as Communication

In grades 9–12, the mathematics curriculum should include the continued development of language and symbolism to communicate mathematical ideas so that all students can-

Provide opportunities for discussions about issues, people, and the cultural implications of mathematics reinforces student understanding of the connection between mathematics and our society

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Why use it?

- Connecting to the outside world

- Peer observation

- Observe lessons in action

- Save on resources

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Connecting to the outside world

- Kids are more connected to the world outside their immediate community (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.) – you can't think just locally anymore – kids are in touch with the world outside the school community – they are interested in what's out there – use that to your advantage.

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Peer Observations

- Physical boundaries aren't the same as before. You don't have to physically be some place in order to have a presence there. You can observe or provide commentary to a class as a guest speaker. You can have others in your field observe your work who cannot physically be there.

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Observe lessons in action

- Have you ever been to a presentation where you loved the lesson that was proposed, but wished you could see it in action?

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Save on resources

- Bring in a guest lecturer
- Local college rep
- Virtual Field Trips
- Handling Absences

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Components necessary

- Software (Skype, Google+, etc.)
- Web cam
- Computer Mic
- Bandwidth
- Permission??? ☺

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How it works – make the connection

- Coordinate with other teachers
  - Local
  - Conferences
  - AP Readings
- Match similar classes (connecting classes)
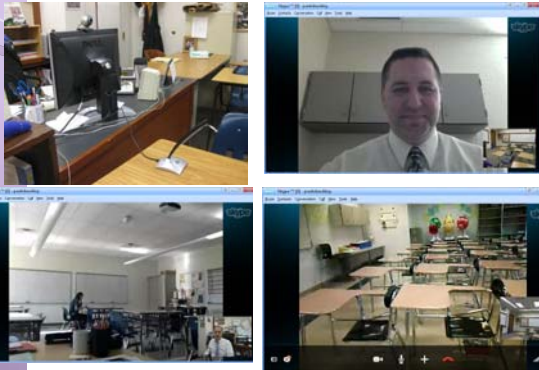- Match single class (observation)

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Set up the hardware

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