

How These Five Schools Sustain Innovation Through Technology

What technology initiatives are other schools and districts proud of? Schools and districts are launching new technology initiatives and programs designed to improve teaching and learning.

Educators love to share their successes, learn from the success of other schools and districts, and they also love to share lessons they learned along their journey.

eSchool Media and Xirus have teamed up on the Innovate to Educate Awards to give a national platform for educators to share what they're most proud of in their schools or districts. Here are the successes of five awards program applicants.



West Iredell Middle School Rachel Oakley-Gregg, MathCast

Mathcast is an innovative initiative that I have been working on for a couple of years. The concept is that students work collaboratively to digitally record their understanding of mathematical concepts via voice-recording, on-screen writing, video recording. Mathcast has allowed my students to show me digitally their understanding of concepts. They are able to share their methods for understanding with other students to help

them better understand and grasp concepts. Since the projects are digital, the students are easily able to access them to review concepts as they move to future classes and need a quick review.



Mountain Heights Academy Sarah Weston, Director of Technology and OER

ONLINE DIGITAL OPEN COURSEWARE—Mountain Heights Academy is an online, public charter school in Utah. Mountain Heights is the first secondary school to develop its own online curriculum as open source content and share it with the world. Mountain Heights remains one of the most innovative and cutting-edge digital academies today, providing equal access to high-quality digital resources all over Utah and beyond. We have released these digital resources under a Creative Commons Attribution licence. This means that any teacher or student can reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute the materials. This gives teachers the freedom to do what teachers do best—tinker, adjust, and adapt their teaching materials to meet the needs of their students. Course development began in 2009 with nine courses being produced. Since then, an additional seventy-three courses have been created and publicly released, bringing the total to eighty-two.