

ELEARNING MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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Online Teaching...

Training

Knowledge
useful abilities
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today

Need Training?

Have new district staff?
Need a refresher? Have
questions? Just need a
little assistance?

Please contact Lori
Carselowey to setup a
time to visit, via [email](#)
or phone 620.669.9756.
Or contact Kim Eddings
with the helpdesk at
866.464.3669.

We spend lots of time helping our students be successful as they plod through online courses. First and foremost, we communicate to them the exact requirements of the course work, whether they are in a VPL Lab or taking a college level class. They are expected to manage their time, complete the activities as assigned, and ask for clarification when needed.

What about the teachers? Do we strap a bungee cord around their ankles and toss them off the cliff into the virtual unknown realm of online teaching? Of course not! We arm them with tools they need because their experience must be as robust as the student's experience.

If your district is tapping its toe in the water of a virtual school, or if you are re-vamping your VPL Lab, here are some tips for online teachers by [Melissa Kelly](#):

1. Find a mentor for the teacher. Look for someone that has successfully taught an online class.
2. Keep abreast of student progress.
3. Call and speak with parents and students often.
4. Check comprehension and course integrity through oral exams.
5. Require progress from students.
6. Be flexible.
7. Schedule around student availability.
8. Use available technology to make life easier.
9. Talk with your administrator about problems you may be facing.
10. Require high standards for assignment completion.

Please feel free to contact members of the Greenbush VPL Team for additional information or tips for online teaching.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our staff to yours!

Career & Technical Education News

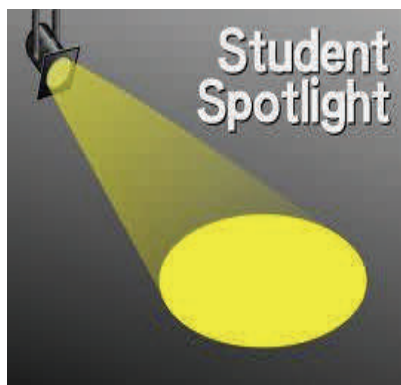
e2020 and Giant Campus join forces to provide comprehensive online offering for career and college readiness

Scottsdale, AZ (Sept. 28, 2011) – E2020, Inc., one of the fastest growing providers of online curriculum, and Seattle-based Giant Campus Inc., which offers high-interest elective courses, will combine to deliver the most comprehensive selection of online courses available for middle and high schools. Together, the firms provide schools and districts with the curriculum needed for core and elective courses to prepare students for college and STEM-focused careers.

The acquisition of the assets of Giant Campus by e2020's parent company, Weld North Education LLC, includes more than 20 semester-long elective courses in technology, digital arts, business, and engineering, along with two virtual schools: Giant Campus of Washington, a state virtual school, and Giant Campus Academy, a private-pay virtual school accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC). e2020 will now have the most comprehensive online STEM curriculum, combining e2020's rigorous suite of math and science courses with the best in technology and engineering electives from Giant Campus.

"Today an unacceptably large number of students fail to graduate high school, often because they don't see their coursework as relevant," said Sari Factor, CEO of e2020. According to a Civic Enterprises study, *The Silent Epidemic: Perspectives of High School Dropouts*, 47% of students surveyed said a major reason for dropping out was that classes were not interesting.

"Online learning enables personalized solutions to help students achieve their educational goals. With the addition of the Giant Campus courses, we can meet the needs of a broad range of students by providing meaningful instruction to enhance the connection between school and work, and to prepare students well for their post-secondary experiences." Factor said.



THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON YOUR STUDENTS!

Thanks for all of the work you do encouraging students to succeed. Please share your stories with us to be published in upcoming editions of the newsletter. We have some fun prizes to give to the districts whose articles are published. Write up a sentence or two, or a page or two and email to Lori. These successes do not have to use VPL, we would just like to celebrate & congratulate you! Submit between now and the end of December 2011.

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What it's All About!

Virtual Prescriptive Learning (VPL) is an individualized learning program designed to provide equal educational opportunities for students. VPL is committed to improving student achievement at all levels.

VPL provides schools with a cost-effective tool to create individual learning plans and to monitor student progress. Skill assessments, which are benchmarked against State Standards and assessment delta indicators, are used to diagnose skill gaps, document mastered concepts and create individualize learning plans.