



Project
Tomorrow



Speak UP

Administrators "Speak Up" About Leveraging Technology to Drive Student Outcomes

Julie Evans
CEO, Project Tomorrow
Special Webinar
November 1, 2011

Today's Discussion: The Big Questions

- What are **top challenges** administrators face today?
- What **new technology solutions** do administrators believe will improve student outcomes?
- What can we learn from today's successful **online learning initiatives**?



Discussion Agenda:

- Introducing the new white paper
- Key findings from the research
- Expert panel discussion
- Audience Q&A



Meet our Expert Panelists!

Rick Fast

Nevada School District, MO

Barbara Cruse

*Washington Academy of Arts and Technology
East Valley School District, Spokane, WA*

Bruce Lovett

K12, Inc.

Introducing the new white paper:



Leveraging Technology to Close the Achievement Gap: A critical peer survey

A special collaboration with



White paper goals:

- *Examine Speak Up research*
- *Share insights from administrators*
- *Provide input and guidance into new discussions*



White paper methodology:

- *Special analysis of Speak Up 2010 data from 3,578 administrators*
- *Input from K12 clients*
- *1st in a series of special Speak Up white papers*

Speak Up National Research Project

Annual national research project

- Online surveys + focus groups
- Open for all K-12 schools and schools of education
- Institutions receive free report with their own data

Collect ideas ↔ Stimulate conversations

- K-12 Students, Teachers, Parents, Administrators
- Pre-Service Teachers in Schools of Education

Inform policies & programs

- Analysis and reporting of findings and trends
- Consulting services to help transform teaching and learning



Speak Up National Research Project

Empowering authentic voices – since 2003:

- 1.9 million K-12 students
- 180,000 teachers and librarians
- 124,000 parents
- 15,500 school and district leaders
- 30,000 K-12 schools – from all 50 states, DC, American military base schools, Canada, Mexico, Australia, int'l schools . . .



2.2 million respondents

Speak Up National Research Project



A sampling of Speak Up data from Administrators:

- Administrators' challenges
- Solutions that will drive greater student outcomes
- Audiences for online learning
- Approaches to providing online learning
- Value proposition of online learning



Leveraging Technology to Close the Achievement Gap: A critical peer survey

Key Findings



What are your top challenges?

Besides funding concerns administrators say:

Administrators' Top Priority Challenges	School Site Administrators	District Office Administration
Closing the achievement gap	41%	26%
Addressing student behavior and attendance issues	34%	11%
Serving diverse student populations	21%	17%
Increasing high school graduation rates	13%	15%



Why new interest in tech solutions?



Administrators are increasingly interested in tech solutions

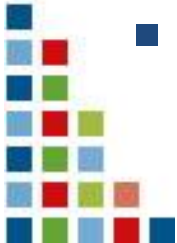
1. Administrators are more tech-enabled
2. New demands from students and parents for tech learning environments
3. Financial and budget pressures



How to improve student outcomes?

Besides traditional approaches administrators say:

- Leveraging technology for seamless learning in/out of school
- Implementing mobile learning initiatives
- Setting up a virtual school
- Providing access to online courses
- Digital textbooks
- Using data to track student performance



Advantages of online learning

Per administrators, two primary benefit categories:

1. Addressing the diverse learning needs of particular student populations
2. Achieving specific desired instructional outcomes



Advantages of online learning

Address needs of specific student populations	Administrators
Remediation	32%
Scheduling	30%
At-risk students	24%
Homebound students	16%
Dual enrollment / college credit	16%
Advanced Placement courses	12%
Gifted students	11%
After school	10%

Advantages of online learning

Facilitate key instructional outcomes	Administrators
Increase student engagement	39%
Increase graduation rates	34%
Increase personalization	13%
Fill hard-to-staff courses	12%
Provide a consistent curriculum	5%



Creating New Models: Case Studies



Broward Virtual School – Fort Lauderdale FL
Better Assessment, Better Individualization, Better Test Results

The Youth Connection Charter School Virtual High School
A Solution for Dropouts

East Valley School District – Spokane WA
Serving Multiple Needs in a Rural District

Nevada School District – Nevada MO
Early Intervention

Meet our Expert Panelists!

Rick Fast

Nevada School District, MO

Barbara Cruse

*Washington Academy of Arts and Technology
East Valley School District, Spokane, WA*

Bruce Lovett

K12, Inc.



Leveraging Technology to Close the Achievement Gap: A critical peer survey

Special thank you to:



Is your school participating in Speak Up 2011?



New online surveys for students,
parents & educators open for input:

October 10 - December 23

Data back to schools & districts:

February 2012

Learn more at

www.tomorrow.org

*Enable, engage, empower
your stakeholder voices!*



Thank you.
Let's continue this conversation.

Julie Evans
Project Tomorrow
jevans@tomorrow.org
949-609-4660 x15
Twitter: JulieEvans_PT and
SpeakUpEd

Copyright Project Tomorrow 2011.

This work is the intellectual property of the author. Permission is granted for this material to be shared for non-commercial, educational purposes, provided that this copyright statement appears on the reproduced materials and notice is given that the copying is by permission of the author. To disseminate otherwise or to republish requires written permission from the author.