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More schools using technology to teach character skills

February 19th, 2015

Instructors from Texas emphasized three key aspects of integrating Great Expectations practices into iPad classrooms:

- Harness the excitement of new technology. Incorporating new technology, such as mobile applications, in everyday instruction can infuse excitement into classrooms. Use that excitement to nurture a love of learning and respect for others.
- Empower students to take control of their learning with technology. Presentation technology and apps enable students to create projects and publish them for the whole class to see, fostering a sense of pride and ownership.
- Provide timely feedback to encourage student growth. Education technology makes providing feedback nearly instantaneous. Take advantage by communicating regularly with students about their progress – move learning forward.

"Technology can sometimes distract from the basic tenets of healthy classroom management," said Sarah Firsching, educator at Westlake Academy IB World School. "The tips we're sharing today will help educators nurture respectful, supportive 21st century classrooms."

The Great Expectations educator-training model is guided by six basic tenets and 17 classroom practices. The tenets and practices provide guidelines for program training and implementation and they serve as standards for evaluating Great Expectations schools. The basic tenets include: High expectations, teacher attitude and responsibility, building self-esteem, all children can learn, climate of mutual respect and teacher knowledge and skill.

Material from a press release was used in this report.

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