

DII-Technology at Work



DII, ECN, NMO, AAS, CCC, ISA, and Campus Techs we are all so busy. We work hard upgrading wireless, answering calls, changing out network equipment, solving software issues, maintaining servers, printing report cards, doing inventory and the list goes on and on. Sometimes we hear of how kids or teachers are using technology and we think cool but we are busy and so we move on.



But this week, I want to highlight a student and teacher from Langham Creek High School for whom technology is making an important impact.

The teacher is Susan Lancaster and she is one of our NAC (New Arrival Center) teachers at Langham Creek High School. She helps students who come into the district and do not speak English. Her job is to get them to learn English and then move into regular classes. This year she had a student from another country that spoke a form of Spanish as well as an indigenous language, but had no literacy skills in either language.

Susan contacted Nancy Grella and asked for help loading apps on an iPad. Nancy helped the teacher load software which the student they started using.

On the following slide is her letter to technology. Also to learn more about NAC click [Here](#).



Technology Opening Worlds



November 17, 2015

Technology: Opening Worlds, Not Just Doors

I have a 17 year old student who came from a rural area in his home country who never attended any school prior to entering the NAC program at Langham Creek this August. He speaks a form of Spanish as well as an indigenous language, but he has no literacy skills in either language.

I had been giving him Pre-K level work, with one-on-one assistance from myself as well as our paraprofessional. We noted that he was making a little progress but that his interest was low. I spoke with our ESL helping teacher, Bridget Evans and Kellie Bennett, and they suggested having him use one of the school's iPads with apps at the appropriate level for the student to use. They both worked with technology to find the apps at his current level and get them installed. Since he has had use of the iPad, he is now more interested in his work, can identify a few letters and sounds, and can identify more numbers.

This student now knows how to use technology - something that he did not even have access to in his native country – and he is making incremental gains. Adding the technology has been hugely motivating for him. I've noticed a big difference in his attitude and he seems much happier because he's able to do work at his level that he enjoys. It is extremely gratifying to see a student who is trying to learn a new language, new culture, and learn new literacy skills, making gains due in large part to adding technology.

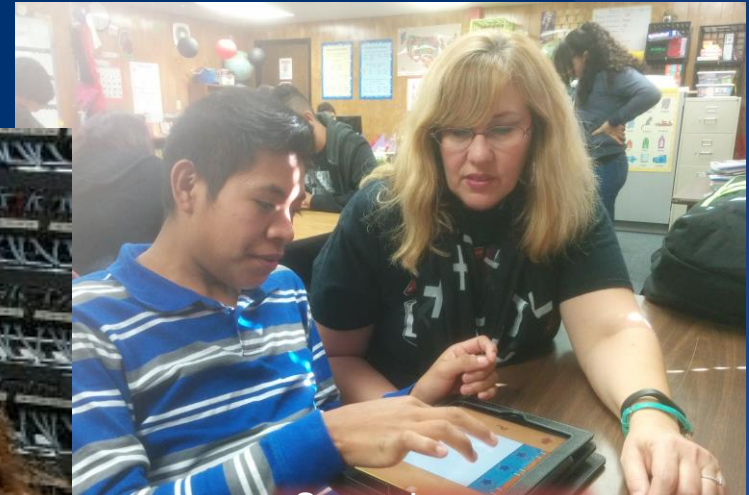
Technology at work



Susan Lancaster
with Student



Nancy
Grella



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