

John Stanford International School Language Planning Committee Portfolios

Meeting with Prof. Stephen Kerr, UW College of Education (Educational Technology)
December 4, 2000 12:00-1:00 PM

Purpose: To discuss electronic portfolios and potential for them at John Stanford Intl School

Prof. Kerr has been working with electronic portfolios that his pre-service teachers have been creating for the past couple of years. Usually, the portfolios reside on a UW website for some period of time. (Or, they may ask teachers to burn a CD with the portfolio.) Here is a link to some examples at the UW:

<http://depts.washington.edu/tepacct/>
esp. <http://depts.washington.edu/tepacct/bjw/webportfolio/home/homeframe.html>

These are really portfolios of the pre-service teacher's work (i.e. not student classroom work), but they often include sample video or audio from the classroom, where appropriate, as well as scanned-in student work or digital photographs (of bulletin boards, for example).

I described that at John Stanford International School, we would like to collect a portfolio reflecting the students' growth in Spanish language in the partial immersion program. We have a sample Portfolio Checklist from Key Elementary in Arlington, Virginia, that includes:

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST

Sampled three times a year (e.g., Sep, Feb, May)

- oral language sample
- written language sample
- self-selected best work of student
- teacher-selected work
- end of unit evaluations

plus optional items:

- running record (of reading)
- anecdotal record
- self-portrait
- parent questionnaire
- attitudinal questionnaire
- learning log
- writer's workshop
- final parent evaluation

Right now, we are particularly interested in collecting some oral language samples so that we'll be able to show growth across time in the program.

Some of Prof. Kerr's suggestions:

- * Decide on who's deciding on the content (the kids? or the teachers?)
- * Provide examples of what you're trying to create
- * Provide some structure to it, e.g.,
how to do it, how to edit it, how to keep it up to date
- * Provide safeguards or security (esp. if putting it on the web)
- * Use clear naming conventions for files, e.g.,
Name - Date - sample description
(otherwise you have chaos trying to find things)

We also talked about the WAVES (WA Virtual Education Space) project at OSPI, headed up by Diana Moon (360) 664-0670 dmoon@ospi.wednet.edu. Prof. Kerr suggested that I contact her to see if John Stanford Intl School might participate in a pilot with them. (Although their initial focus is on how to give schools and teachers more specific information from the WASL results, they also want to eventually support other types of classroom-based assessment.)

Finally, we talked about whether Prof. Kerr might be able to locate an Education student who would be interested in working on the Portfolio Project at the Stanford School. We agreed that I would send him an email message describing what we're asking so that he could forward it to students in the Department. Most likely a student might do this as part of an independent study course or internship.

NEXT STEPS:

1. I will draft the email message about helping with the Portfolio Project for Prof. Kerr to distribute.
2. I will contact Diana Moon at OSPI to get more information about WAVES.

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