

Interwrite Excitement

Pearland Jr. High East, Texas

A Success Story

Motivating students is a problem that many junior high school teachers face on a daily basis. For Pasha Goodman, an eighth grade teacher at Pearland Junior High School East, inspiring students to learn was at the top of her list of obstacles. Not only were her students showing signs of boredom in the classroom, but they also joked that their school lacked any real new technology for them to utilize in the classroom.

Technical Dilemma

Trying to figure out what is going on inside the heads of 13 and 14 year old kids can be quite challenging, but there was one thing Goodman was sure of—her students seemed to be very interested in anything technology-based. The kids loved everything from video games to calculators. Goodman had long sensed that her students felt as if their school’s technology was old fashioned and out-of-date, leaving them somewhat discouraged and uninterested in class projects and homework.



After learning about eInstruction’s™ Interwrite PRS® clicker system, Board and Pad through the school’s technology specialist, Goodman decided this innovative technology could be the motivation her student’s needed to become more engaged in the classroom. She believed it would improve their

performance in school, give them a competitive edge in the real world and hopefully a little bit of school pride.

Interwrite Excitement

Goodman implemented the Interwrite® products into her classroom at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. The students were very excited about the appearance of this new technology and were eager to begin using it. Goodman’s students referred to the PRS clickers as “Nintendo® controllers” because of their slick design and cutting-edge technology. “Every day the kids walked into the classroom and asked if they would be using the ‘Nintendo controllers,’” Goodman said. “When I told them yes, we would be using the [them], they became excited and quickly found their seats.”

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The use of eInstruction's products has not only been exciting for the kids, but it has been very beneficial for Goodman as well. The Pad has revolutionized her interaction with the students, as it allows her to be more mobile and get away from the front of the classroom. By constantly moving around the room, she noticed her students were paying more attention to her. The mobility also allowed her to check on their work as she passed each desk – something she never had the ability to do before.



The immediate feedback provided by the PRS clickers has also changed the way she teaches. Goodman is now able to immediately assess whether or not the kids understand a concept. As a result, if she sees that they do not understand it; she can quickly come up with a new strategy to re-teach the concept. Additionally, the behavioral problems have declined.

"The kids are kept on their toes," Goodman said. "They realize they have to pay attention because they will be asked to answer questions over the material they are being taught by using their clickers."

Goodman has also noticed a profound change in the classroom. Her students are now learning material quicker than ever before. In the past, it took Goodman four to five days to teach a lesson on calculating the surface area for various geometric shapes. With the new technology in hand, her students were able to master the concept in just two days.

"The progress my students have made in the classroom is extraordinary," Goodman said.

Texas Testing

Each year, eighth grade students in Texas are required to take and pass the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test in order to advance to high school. Goodman's students took the practice test version of TAKS in April before they began using the Interwrite products. When she received the results, Goodman was unsatisfied and knew more had to be done to get those low scores up to par. She began preparing her students for the official TAKS test, taken at the beginning of May, by using the Interwrite products. The results of the May TAKS scores were more than pleasing to Goodman. The passing rate increased by 17 % from the practice version to the final TAKS test.

"I give credit to my Interwrite PRS clicker system, Pad and Board for the improvement I have seen in my students both academically and attitude wise." Goodman said. "The technology has helped them feel more prestigious and take pride in their school and their own abilities."

Several other teachers at Pearland Junior High School East have noticed the promising results that Goodman has experienced by using Interwrite PRS, Board and Pad. Many of them have expressed interest in implementing these products into their own classrooms with the hopes of having the same success as Goodman.



About eInstruction™

eInstruction pioneered the first student response system for the education market during the 1980s. Its Classroom Performance System (CPS) provides instructors and students with real-time feedback on comprehension during instruction. Today CPS remains the leading student response system in education, being used by millions of students in more than 60,000 K-12 classrooms and over 400,000 students in more than 1,300 colleges and universities. In 2006, eInstruction acquired FSCreations and integrated its ExamView® and Learning Series content into CPS; so instructors can seamlessly use publisher and proprietary question banks in lesson plans, quizzes and tests with eInstruction technology. The result is an integrated system for instruction and assessment with real-time feedback. In 2008, eInstruction joined forces with Interwrite Learning®, another premier global provider of interactive learning solutions to the primary, secondary and higher education markets.

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