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Technology Workshop Narrative

On April 15, 2014 a technology workshop was held at Holcomb Bridge Middle School with 10 teachers in attendance. The workshop is being offered over several weeks to meet the needs of the teachers. Due to school being closed for snow for a couple of weeks, teachers at the school are using their morning and afternoon time to hold sessions with students to prepare them for the CRCT test next week. In advance of preparing for the workshop, I sent a survey out to the staff at the school gauging their familiarity on using and creating Webquests and social media in their classrooms. Using the results of this survey I developed the workshop.

The workshop included a lot of information on both of these topics and could have been more than the hour. I wanted to engage the teachers in new ideas and tools in the classroom. I developed a website where there was extended learning for the participants and which they would refer to later. Several teachers were very excited about what saw especially Symbaloo and create new ways to use the tool at the school. The participants were asked to complete an evaluation on the workshop at the end. Based upon the survey, everyone who attend plan to use Webquests more in their classrooms. The majority plan to create their own Webquest using a tool such as Weebly. The majority of the participants use social media for personal use but they are still unsure about using social media in the classroom even though they felt it could increase student engagement. Many felt they could use Twitter in the capacity of study session using a Tweet Chat. It will be interesting to see how they integrate these tools in the future. The majority of those surveyed note that the session was beneficial, technology coach was knowledge and applicable to their classroom needs.

Follow-up support will continue with use of the website created for the workshop. The website has how to videos, cheat sheets, and additional information about the tools. Participants are aware they can contact me directly for additional coaching sessions individually to help with integration.