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CEP 810
Class Goals

By attaining a masters degree in educational technology, I would like to gain comfort and ease with computer programs that will enhance my classroom and create new avenues to teach information. I believe that this class will allow me to increase my knowledge of computer applications and my effectiveness as a teacher.

As a music teacher, technology is essential in the classroom to keep classes organized and aware of their progress through the year. I believe that Microsoft Access is an incredible resource that will enhance my ability to keep records of the instruments in my class, as well as all of the music within the program.

From a teachable perspective, I would like to familiarize myself with all of the possibilities in Microsoft Powerpoint. I believe that there are many ways to educate students about music history and music theory that I haven't explored. I think that I could utilize playing short clips of music to explain dynamics, tempos, and other musical ideas within a slide presentation.

In addition, I think that finding resources through youtube and other music related websites are incredibly beneficial to the class so that my students can gain a love for music in many different ways. It is one thing to play music, but something completely different to hear and see the greatest musicians perform. There is even software that allows the students to record themselves and playback instantly to hear what they sound like. Once again, I believe that these resources could be beneficial to teach the students musical ideas. I even see this being useful as an assessment tool. The students can self evaluate and can help take ownership of the class by identifying what needs work and what we need to do to fix things in the class. I can also use technology to record individuals and give tests. Much of my classroom is performance based, and technology is a great way for me to have evidence for students and parents about improvement and ability in the class.

Finally, I see this class as an opportunity to gain knowledge that can be used as a way to take leadership roles in my school. Technology is evolving and requires individuals to take the time to embrace and learn about its value and possibilities. As I learn about new programs and ideas for the classroom, I can pass along these ideas to fellow teachers and teach "best practice." As I've read in articles already, students are learning all the time through technology at home, and they have the ability to learn in a more effective way at school if we can garner their attention and keep them learning all the time in class. It's amazing to believe that students will "learn" a fake instrument through guitar hero for hours a day, so what can I do to encourage students to learn a real instrument? I believe that making the students accountable and engaged in the process of learning utilizing technology will be a huge step in the right direction.

I would like to take full advantage of the resources being offered in this class. I truly believe that being more comfortable with technology will help me become a better teacher and colleague in the school, and being surrounded by others with similar goals will be extremely beneficial.