



Handheld computers

Getting your students back through
engagement

Kulm High School
Kulm, North Dakota

Tom Nitschke
Kulm High School Principal / Health Teacher
tonitsch@kulm.k12.nd.us

Keith Knudson
Social Studies / PE teacher
knudson@kulm.k12.nd.us

School Facts

- Grades 7 – 12
- 68 Students
- Very rural
- Great mix of staff (Male / Female and Young/Mature)
- CTBS, NWEA, ACT, PSAT

Kulm High School (7th – 12th)

- **Content without engagement is worthless**
- All students are issued a Handheld.
- Software – Discourse, HLE, PAAM, e-chem, GIS.
- Extras - GPS, digital cameras, Science probes.

Ipaqs – what have they done for us?

- Anytime anywhere access
- Engages ALL students
- Flexibility (do homework anywhere – games, bus, lunch, etc.)
- Co-curricular activities
- Students have gained a great pride in themselves!!
- National attention (Blue Ribbon Award)

The Result

This year's Class	Spr 04 – Fall 04	Spr 05 – Fall 05	Spr. 06 – Fall 06	NWEA approximate expected regression
7th	-12	+3	-7	-2
8th	-12	-5	-1	-2
9th	-1	+4	+1	-7
10th	-7	+2	+3	-10

ND State Assessment Data

Year	05-06	04-05	03-04	02-03	01-02
Testing Month	October	October	October	October	October
% of students tested.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of students alternatively assessed	0	0	0	0	0
% of student alternatively assessed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SCHOOL SCORES					
% Meeting Plus exceeding state standards in Reading	86.96%	73.00%	56.52%	68.00%	58.06%
% Meeting Plus exceeding state standards in Math	78.26%	53.33%	52.17%	44.00%	35.48%
SUB GROUP SCORES					
Economically Disadvantaged					
% Meeting Plus exceeding state standards in Reading	91.67%	60.00%	60.00%	72.73%	No data
% Meeting Plus exceeding state standards in Math	66.67%	50.00%	26.67%	27.27%	No data

General Ipaq usage

- Notes (easy to read, review and organize)
- Organizer (calendar)
- Do homework anywhere
- Make up work (Videos, worksheets)
- Paam

What do you use your Ipaq for other than what teachers make you use it for?



Discourse

- Engages EVERY student, EVERY time!
- Students would rather be part of the discussion when using discourse since it is very non-threatening.

Discourse in Action



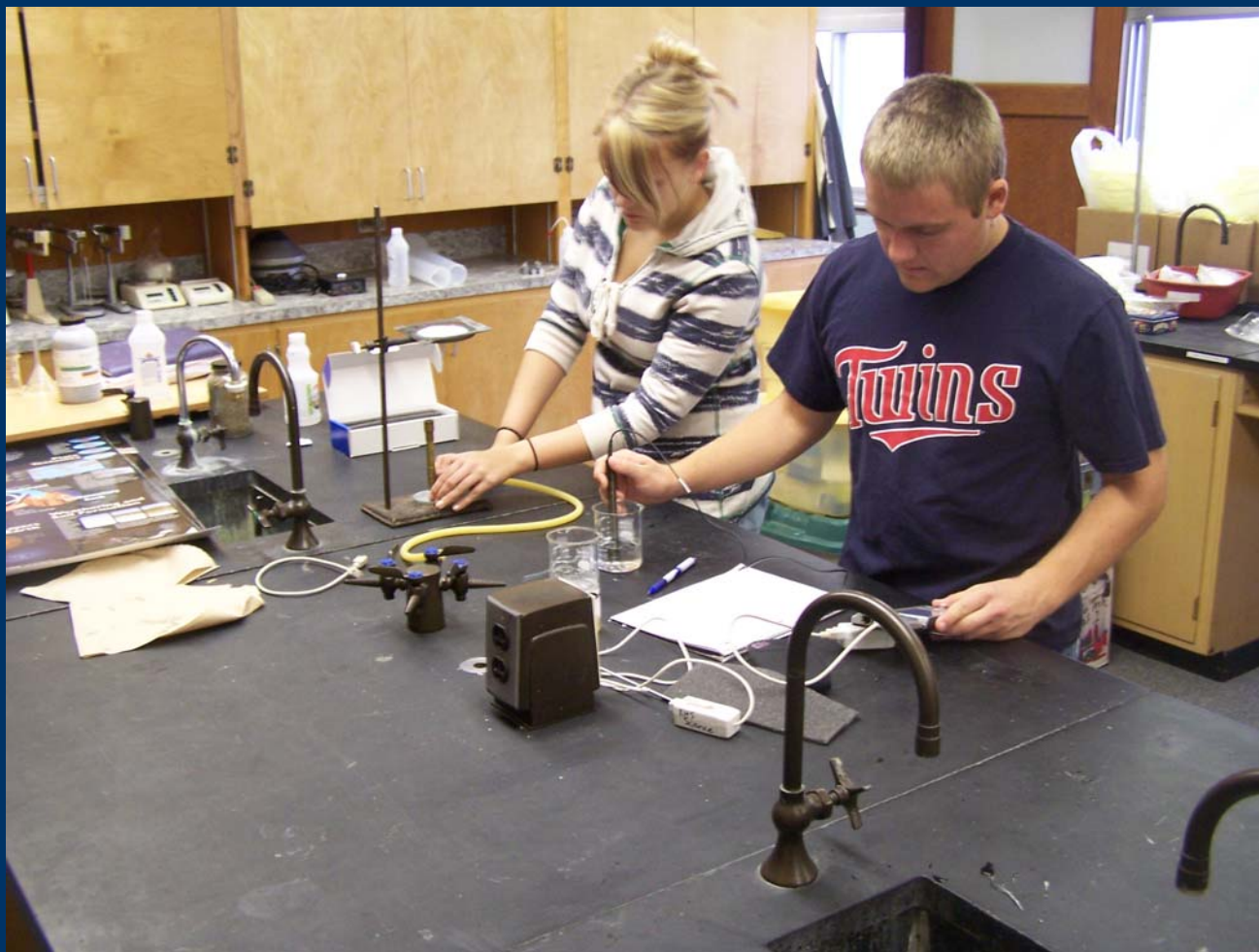
Why do you like to use Discourse rather than a traditional classroom?



Science Probes

- Portable (the world has become our lab)
- VERY accurate data
- Excellent lab reports

Chemistry class



HLE

- Portfolio that brings numerous programs together. This allows students to do multi dimensional project.
 - Pico Map
 - Sketchy
 - Excel
 - Word
 - Internet sites

Black Board

- Great tool to stimulate discussions (times have changed)
- On line reviews (Night before test)
- Great when student or teacher is absent

What makes it work

- Administration, Tech person, teachers, and School board ALL working together.

Do you have what it takes to make a difference??

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

-Theodore Roosevelt

My question

- How do we get the last 10% in order to have 100% profecceint?