



"Technology has taught me to use Photoshop. I didn't know how to use it at all before this year. During Art class we learned how to make different layers and touch up photos. I also learned how to perfect NoodleBib citations which totally saved me this year especially in Saunder's class."
– Amanda

"The use of technology has helped me this year in many things such as our Spanish movie project, my Art PhotoShop project, Civil War and Decades Powerpoints and D.C. photo journal. I learned how to edit a movie and insert sound. I learned how to edit a picture in Photoshop. I learned how to insert multiple pictures into Powerpoint. All of these and more have helped me do well in my classes and get my work done efficiently and well."
-Alexa

From Fortmando

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

As has been customary for the past four years, I enjoy sharing students' reflections about their technology use in my last Fortmando of the year. Besides the routine MS Technology Competency Expectancy Checklist, students responded to questions about how technology has assisted them in their learning this year and what projects/assignments they most enjoyed and why. As in past years, I find their comments sincere and well expressed. Here are just a few. Thank you all for the work you have done to assure your students have acquired the technology skills we find important for them to have and for the meaningful use of technology demonstrated in the great projects you planned for your classes this year. I salute you!

6th Graders

"The use of technology helped me on my humanities, math and science projects. In my humanities projects it helped me know how to put my writing in the Dropbox and to connect to the server. For math the technology helped me make charts by using Excel and to put the charts in the Powerpoint for science. The technology helped me cite my sources and to use the internet." –Elle

"The use of technology has helped me in many ways. When I learned how to use Excel, it really helped me in math and the water project. I also can now draw cartoons with the drawing and line toolbars. Soon I might be able to submit one for the Monday Memo. My brother was an expert at Garage Band, but I had not a clue about it. When I learned how to use it, I realized it was quite simple." – Rachel

"The use of technology helped me learn PowerPoint during the Genetics and Water Project. Ms. Fortman helped me with Garage Band to write a totally new song as background music for Knight Club. I also learned to use Excel to create charts and graphs." – Meiri

"I enjoyed learning how to make interesting songs in Garage Band when making a mini musical, because it allowed me to express myself in a song. I also enjoyed making a PowerPoint in science because it turned out to be very creative and amusing." –Alex

"I most enjoyed learning how to draw in Word, because it was fun and I could make better drawings on the computer than I can by hand." –Dylan

"The use of technology helped me during our Water and Genetics projects. PowerPoint really helped us present and teach information. Word also really helped us with citations." – Brett

"I was really happy when I learned to use Excel. Excel is a really quick and easy way to create professional graphs. I also like learning about PowerPoint. I like that I know how to make an attractive, professional slideshow." –Lindsay

"I most enjoyed learning how to use PowerPoint because it helped complement my written speeches in both my genetics and water projects." – Isaac

"I most enjoyed learning how to use Word for art. I like to be creative and I like to draw, so I had a lot of fun doing both." – Henry

"I think my confidence level is a 4 out of 5. I'm not the best with very technical things, but I know how to do the fundamentals and some pretty cool stuff. I definitely learned a lot this year!" –Pete

7th Graders

"The use of technology this year greatly helped me with my Darfur project. Without this use of technology, I wouldn't have been able to make my Powerpoint and my presentation wouldn't have been as effective. I also wouldn't have been able to create my awesome drug Powerpoint." -Jacob

"I most enjoyed learning how to use Inspiration because it was very useful in organizing my thoughts. It was extremely helpful in History when we did our project with Inspiration. Inspiration makes your ideas very clear and you can easily see them, which is helpful." -Taylor

"The use of technology this year has helped me create my "Dude That's Wrong!" project Poppowerpoint and letter and it helped me do all of my research for my Spanish Art Project and essay." -Hailey

"The use of technology this year has helped me make cards for the holidays in Word Art." -Eve

"The technology has helped me so much in this last year. First was my medieval letter in History. We used laptops everyday and I even had to do a computer outline. I also used the computers for my drug Powerpoint. I learned how to put music in it. These computers have been so helpful." -Eliza

"I most enjoyed learning about creating a song on GarageBand. This way, I can record myself playing the violin and can make CDs for my family during the holiday. Whenever I needed help with something, I could come into the computer room and Ms. Fortman would help me. I would learn until I knew everything we needed to know." - Jeremy

"I most enjoyed learning to use Noodlebib because it is really easy and fast to use. Instead of having to follow a long list of instructions, it just puts the citation together." -Annie

"The use of technology has helped me because I type most of my homework/assignments, so the use of technology has saved me a lot of time in that regard. Also, the use of technology has helped me because I get to school at 7:00 in the morning because of my parents' work, so I just go to the computer lab and use various types of software." -Jackson

"Over the course of this year, technology has helped me on various occasions. The first time was in music class, where we had to create songs on Garageband. Another time was during the DTW project, where I created an important Powerpoint presentation." -Patrick

"Technology has helped me make presentations more effective. Putting music in a Powerpoint makes it send a more powerful message. I never knew how to make a graph in Excel, but now that I can, it shows stats better. By using these tools it makes a presentation more professional overall." -Philip

"I most enjoyed learning how to word process in Japanese. It is an interesting way to do homework and helps me with my Japanese spelling." -Caroline

8th Graders

"The use of technology has helped me with many of my projects and homework. I used the computers with my D.C. Journal and learned more about i-Photo and Word. For my French i-Movie, I learned how to really use i-Movie. With Decades I worked on Powerpoint and learned how to work with resources and Internet cites." -Zoe

"The use of technology has helped me create good presentation visuals for projects, also, it has broadened my range of things in my tool belt." -Vikram

"I most enjoyed learning how to make a self portrait using PhotoShop because it was really entertaining to create art on the computer. I hope you guys do it again next year!" -Elizabeth

"The use of technology this year has helped me to create a French i-Movie. I learned how to use sound and music to insert into the movie. I learned how to use transitions and effects. It has also helped me with creating my Decades Powerpoint." -Tess

"I most enjoyed how to use GSP, because we could make cool fractal designs." -Danny

"I most enjoyed creating my D.C. Journal because it was so far from anything I'd ever done. It was an enjoyable, fun, and colorful project that I loved doing and doing it on the computer made it 20 x better." -Daisy

"I most enjoyed learning how to use i-Movie when we made them in Spanish, because it was something completely new to me and turned out OK." -Sydney

"Technology helped me understand my decade better. This is because I was able to look on the Menlo library website for helpful research websites. These websites were very resourceful and reliable. Technology has also helped me write citations by using Noodlebib. I now know how to write citations for almost anything." -Anjali