The advantages of a Computer literate society.

What defines a efficiency within an individual in the 21st century? Is it the competency of oneself, or maybe the willingness to adept to any problem and solve it with ease. In todays world with so much technology open to anyone, being computer literate is an important aspect to get through todays tech jungle. The use of technology brings many useful application such as communication between cultures, and specialized programs to solve work related issues. Everyone, including schools need to adept to this new way of thinking. The older generation which includes older teachers need to become more aware of technology and its benefits in order to keep students stimulated and interested, leading to a computer literate generation. Being up to date with technology is an important ability needed, starting as soon as high school.

So with this immense tech boost that is happening all over the world many jobs require advanced communication skills, which many students in high school have acquired on their own time, without the help of teachers. Many students are self-taught and can enjoy making stuff like sound-videos to even more hi tech products(Johnson, 2002). By the time students are in their senior year most of them have mastered Microsoft Office. With all these skills that are being introduced at an earlier age, we need well trained staff to make more viable projects to suit the needs of a growing society. When teachers aren’t able to satisfy the needs of this progressing marketplace for students, the interest in the classroom begins to dissipate. Slow paced classrooms make students eery and bored, creating interactive updated classroom experience keeps students entertained and interested. A report from 1987 states as many as 77% of high school grads and 87% of university grads in 1987 had taken a computer course or on-the-job computer training before getting a job (Harvey, 1989). The world has become an exponential growing place, with so much potential for technology. If these are the kind of numbers that we are seeing from 1987, how many jobs require computer training for todays society? Whether your a cashier at target or a bartender at the hottest club in LA, most job’s require the use of some sort of hardware of technology.

With technology at our fingertips, computer literacy is becoming a fourth contender for our other top ranked subjects such as reading, writing, and math. Even more important than science is the usefulness of a computer. Behind a keyboard you can easily access information online, and find articles and even videos of what you need. Websites like KhanAcademy provide science and math online tutoring. Other websites can explain why is the world round, or even how cook the most amazing hamburgers, everything that humans have found is accessible simply by searching online. Adding a skill such as communication with computers make it possible to even go as far as finishing a GED online, and getting a complete college degree completely on the web!

Since 2002 a group in North Carolina have been — and successfully accomplished — attempting to bring online classrooms to the public schools(Gallagher, 2011). The purpose of these classrooms is to offer classes for students, even parents, that weren’t available through their school or curriculum. These classrooms have replaced many old home schooling techniques. With so much incredible stuff happening in the world in such a short period of time. It becomes increasingly necessary to keep up with the surrounding world. Going to these online schools alone can help learn communication. Without communication in these online classrooms, it can be easy to fall behind. Once someone falls behind in this tech mess, they may get lost and stuck forever.

Laura Latzko believes that knowledge of a computer opens up many different possibilities for you. Using instant messaging programs or social media sites to solve issues on projects with other co workers (Latzko, 2011). With this simple computer knowledge you can start to obtain the ability to communicate information in an organized manner to others, using multimedia presentations. This skill is a needed skill to increase your performance on assignments or even perform better on simple tasks that you set out for yourself. When you have the ability to communicate over the web, problems becomes as easy as just finding a solution via the web. These are profitable skills that can make any individual seem like a professional, making it easier to obtain higher level positions. Laura explains that using programs like Microsoft office or specialized programs that make repetitive tasks less repetitive such as quickbooks or sort of email system, you could obtain a leadership position training other to be as proficient as yourself in these tedious skills. (Latzko, 2011) Having more than one skill in todays world is a much needed ability. With todays tech boost there is no better skill to pick up than proficiency in computer systems, with these skills you can put yourself in position for leadership roles moving up in any company fast, and making it look easy.

So how efficient does mastering the computer make an individual? First off many jobs require some sort of specialized skill whether it be proficiency in Microsoft or knowledge of how to manage data using quickbooks. A good example is the idea of sending 5000 emails. This could become really repetitive and obnoxious, but eliminating repetitive task is exactly what an efficient computer literate person would do. This individual could use the power of databases with a mail-merging program to send out 5000 different emails, with different names and different addresses embedded within. It could takes weeks if not months for someone to finish sending 5000 different entitled emails. This includes being able to keep track of things. Organization becomes a very important skill, and is easily maintainable using a computer. Rather than having to frivolously run around the house looking for a loose piece of paper, using the computer can be an effective way to sort and organize files and information.

CV tips a website about higher learning and education explains that a computer literate is more likely to self-diagnose problems that would otherwise be hard. They would use a computer to quickly find the problem, once identified, properly handle and eliminate it, with the use of a computer. In turn making him or herself more appropriate for leadership roles delegating issues and problems throughout others. Being able to navigate through the computer makes their time more efficient when researching topics they may not be sure about. Knowing how to skim through online material is a useful skill for anybody, whether it be a student, teacher or an adult looking for a job!

With all this talk about computer literacy we can’t forget about the importance of understanding the information being thrown in the air. Computer Literacy helps one to be more literate with information, being able to decide what is useful and what is not useful. Nursing world explains what an effective information literate is by describing them as the 5 following qualities; a Literate determines the nature and extent of information needed, gets information effectively and efficiently, with less search options and more time to preview text, An information literate doesn’t just grab information but critically examines the sources deciding whether or not they are ethically acceptable, understands the informations economic, legal and social issues, and than of course uses all this information effectively to feat any trial.The information literate person is an effective information consumer for both personal and professional needs and is empowered for lifelong learning. "It is common to all disciplines, to all learning environments, and to all levels of education. It enables learners to master content and extend their investigations, become more self-directed, and assume greater control over their own learning”. (Schloman, 2001)

Literacy in America is part of the 21st century, whether it be reading or writing skills or computer skills. To keep up with todays society one must acquire some sort of specialized skill, because in this information age we, people are more competitive than ever. Being able to communicate with technology becomes critical unless you don’t want a job! In conclusion, todays society heavily relies on the internet for much of the needed day to day information. Learning these skills at a young age makes an individual a top contender in any field of expertise.

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