Technology and education go hand-in-hand. Without a solid educational system, advancements in technology would not be possible. Those advancements transform the way teachers can do their jobs while providing young students with a solid background in technology at the same time. Using technology in the classroom enhances traditional educational practices, even simple ones like taking attendance, and transforms them into hands-on lessons that students don't know their participating in.

Geography Class

Teachers can combine social media and Google Earth to teach students about geography. The game goes something like this. One of the teacher's twitter followers tweets their longitude and latitude. Students manipulate Google Earth to find the follower. Teachers can change the game by having one of her followers use place names.

Attendance

Taking attendance is part of every teacher's job and the boring five minute-long task eats up valuable class time. To change up this age-old task, ask students to send a one-word answer to a question asked at the conclusion of class via a twitter each day. It's a great way to show parents what kids are learning about each day.

Guest Lecturers

Guest lecturers have been restricted to local experts. With Skype and other video conferencing technology, experts from all over the world can step into the classroom and educate students.

Parent-Teacher Conference

Parents can't always meet teachers on the designated meeting day. From whatever location, parents and teachers can meet up on Skype or another video conferencing software. The parents don't even need to be in the same country.

English Class

The Internet offers instant publishing. Students can post poetry or other writing assignments on a school blog.

Grade Books

The old-fashioned paper grade books have two major faults. First, teachers have to calculate each student's grade manually each marking period. Electronic grade books cut the time teachers spend calculating grades by up to 75 percent. Secondly, the paper book is easily damaged and accessible to students, who might want to change their grades. Electronic grade books are safely behind a password.

Games

Game shows are an entertaining way for teachers to review the curriculum and prepare students for tests. Teachers can use software, like powerpoint, to create their version of Jeopardy or Family Feud. Plus, teachers can reuse the games without having to store it. Teachers can also use Foursquare as a way to keep track of which person is winning the scavenger hunt.

These common activities and practices are just the tip of the iceberg. Technology has a role in teaching today's students. Exposing students to technology prepares them for the future. And that's the primary goal for teachers and school administration.

What other ways can teachers and school administration use technology to enhance the learning experience?