

Mark Vance
Artsonia

Reflection:

I met with the PTG board of the elementary school I teach at to discuss the use of online student portfolios as a fundraising option.

Impact:

I was excited to meet with the PTG board to introduce the online portfolio site (Artsonia) to them. I have a real passion for using this site with all my students. I teach K-5 art and all my students can benefit from use of this technology. Students can photograph their own art with an Ipad and upload it into the site. Once their artwork is in the site parents can see the work and can even make comments about the individual art projects. I can create writing prompts and have students do artists statements that get the students thinking on higher levels about their artwork. PTG can also benefit because there is a gift store where family members can have the students artwork printed on many different things and a percentage of all sales comes back to the school art program. I presented to the board an idea I had about them helping me photograph student work. I teach 3 sections of each grade so I have 18 total sections. That is close to 500 students. I try to have students upload their own work when time permits but it is not possible to have them photograph every project. This is where PTG can help me get this done. The offer I suggested was that if they help me photograph the student artwork and help me promote the site and its benefits I would split any money raised with them.

Intent:

I plan on teaching the members of PTG how to photograph and upload student work. This way I can have more artwork in the site and give more written timely feedback to the students. My hope is the PTG will help educate parents about the site and its benefits. It is important that parents are involved in their child's education and Artsonia provides a great platform for family involvement. Grandma or an Uncle that lives out of state can easily have a direct connection to the student's work. This will open communication between the family members and the students and help reinforce the learning goals of the particular assignment. The funds raised will be used to help fund new technology in the art room like Ipads.