PODCASTING FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Ideas from Podcastercon: See also http://www.unc.edu/webaccess/training/podcasting/

1. How do we attract funding & attention of administrators?
   * Anyone can create a podcast, so create one. (Do it first, then ask forgiveness.) And show how students will be creating these on their own anyone, so teachers can provide important guidance.
   * Create a case study about the sustainability of podcasting in education
   * What is it about podcasting that would make it sustainable?
   * Show examples, show outcomes (to counter notion that teachers are being "seduced by technology")
   * Show how podcasts can be used by students to prepare for exams
   * Podcasts as senior projects
   * Podcasts as marketing and recruiting tool to raise public awareness of the school
   * Start at the schools ready to take challenges, such as charter schools and magnet schools
   * Be diplomatic about how you talk about podcasting, blogging - buzzwords can turn off administrators
   * Educate the educators

2. How do we gain needed skills?
   * Subscribe to other podcasts (teach42.com, Mr. Blake's Classroom Podcast e.g.) and when you find yourself yelling at your radio, it's time for you to create your own to add your voice to the conversation.
   * Staff development (will need to show time- and cost-effectiveness and value of adopting this technology)
   * Learning from students or other youth about how, why they use podcasting
   * Conversation between instruction and tech dept.
   * Putting tools in the hands of educators who are ready to use it
   * Read Podcasting for Dummies

3. What are the fundamentals that make podcasting useful to teachers & students?
   * Good language and writing skills
   * Natural speech and expression
   * Is recordable (and offers way for students to assess their speaking skills, learning and work)
   * Access anywhere
   * Becomes an information product that can be assessed by the teacher
   * Multi-sensory
   * Offers teacher new way to teach, can leverage recordings (but need to gather as much material as possible; freeing up classroom time for interactive experiences)
   * Offer teacher way to assess student learning, performance and engagement
   * The technology gets students interested in information technologies
   * The technology and skills are empowering
* Will podcasting change the social interactions and hierarchy in the classroom?
* Can use podcasts from around the world as teaching tool

4. What are logistical & technical barriers?
* Lack of technology
* Lack of money, time, resources
* Accessibility mandates and related cost, technical hurdles
* Teachers need to be encouraged and taught how to do this. Teachers may be concerned about how they’ll be perceived because of the quality of the podcasts
* Learning styles of students? Will public nature of podcast keep some students from wishing to participate? Can put those students in non-speaking roles such as editor or producer of the podcast. Will students be hesitant to speak in classes that are being recorded for a podcast?
* Parents opposed to or fearful of technology, concerned about privacy, security and self-esteem dangers
* Technology not available in home
* If you cast it, will they listen?

5. What problems does podcast solve for teachers & learners?
* Students love using technology
* Classroom management and time management
* Asynchronous

6. What is the solution to content ownership?
* Creative commons, public domain (what are liability issues?)
* School policy
* Flexibility to remove content if the person who created objects to it
* Anonymity

7. What are possible assignments for a classroom podcast?
* Oral histories
* Field trips and field recordings
* Original storytelling

8. What are the models of education podcasts?
* Class-produced
* Student-produced
* Teacher-produced