**K12 Conference**

**Chandra Martz**

**Authentic Voices**-

Recording students voices using Audacity, then posting them online.

Authentic Voices uses technology to make students’ writing come to life. Dunbar Uses Wikispaces to post the student work because it is free. She had students use wikispaces which was nice because they could use it without needing email addresses.

The students used Audacity. It looks intimidating, but it was very user friendly after they figured it out.

 Using these programs to record voice, students *wanted* to revise. It made kids want to improve their work, which can be a challenging task. “Recording leads to revising,” Dunbar mentions.

She said that 48 states and multiple countries had logged into her students poetry.Authentic Voices helps writers blooms.

 In the future she thinks blogs might be easier to use that Wikispaces, but all in all she wants to continue to record students work. She mentioned that student

writing turns into a contribution to the world versus a project they have to turn in.

*Personal Reflection*: Although I rarely had the student record poetry or stories that they had written, I did have my students record their voice a lot last year while they were reading. I saw huge improvements in their expression and fluency because they were able to hear what they needed improvement on and what they were already doing well.

**Speak Up- Transforming Classroom Discussions**

Some people like discussing aloud while others don’t. There are two different type of discussions in this video: Face-to-face, and Virtual Discussions. Which one do people like more? The loudest people in class were sometimes the least vocal in virtual discussions and vice versa. Virtual worlds will be used more in the future than face-to-face. Virtual discussions were more off task in virtual settings, because they seemed more invisible. Yet, people who are shy like virtual because it makes them feel valued and more comfortable.

 There needs to be a balance between virtual discussions and face-to-face discussions. Using only one or the other does not meet the needs of all students.

*Personal Reflection*: I think blogging could be a great way to get students involved in virtual discussions. I think I am going to try to get a few teachers involved in a project where their students have to get onto their blog and answer a “question of the week.”

**Video Story Problems**

Video taping real life problems can be very beneficial to students. Here are the steps:

1. Carry a Camera
2. Be Observant
3. Capture Curiosity
	1. Helps students to be more curious and gets them more excited to continue to learn.

Or

1. start with a simple problem
2. write a script
3. shoot your video story problem

Anything can be used as real world problems. For example he had students try to figure out/estimate how much syrup students used for breakfast.

Tips

1. Model thought process by talking out loud
2. Try to find real world examples of math or science in action
3. ask open-ended or multiple questions
	1. Textbooks usually have one answer
		1. Video questions can have multiple answers

Many kids go out to dinner, and their parents have smart phones. The parents can help the student video tape real world problems that go along with going out to dinner.

The best things about problem solving videos is that they can be shared online. You can share videos on youtube, vimeo, or school tube.

Video story problem channel is a great way to share problems. It is on the Vimeo website. The channel can be shared amongst schools all around the country.

Video story problems are a fun way to get students to think critically about real world problems.

*Personal Reflection:* I love the idea of having students video story problems. I think it would be fun to do a couple examples in my own life first, then have them start to think of some on their own. I could see the students having fun figuring out how much snow is needed to make a snow fort or how many chicken nuggets the kitchen needs to make for students lunches that day. They could go investigate how many people eat school lunch, how many nuggets each person gets, etc.

**Creating Learning Experiences without a Textbook**

It is not easy. It takes a lot of vertical planning and collaboration. They are making videos. They are also making QR codes which they have added to picture books. These QR codes have been created to teachers and they will link students to videos that will help them with their curriculum. You can put QR codes along a walking field trip or around the room to create centers. It gives something for students to work on during their walking fieldtrip. Students can also be given sheets of QR codes if needed.

 This is a great way to create virtual field trips as well. Many zoos and aquariums have web cams so they can see animals.

Socrative is a great resource in your classroom as well. You can create quizzes and more.

Edmodo is a way to create a facebook type program for education. Teachers can get on the website and can collaborate with other teachers to get better ideas.

*Personal Reflection:* I really want to teach the teachers at Sunrise how to use Socrative. It is so easy to use, and the school is getting a class set of iPads. The one thing I like about Socrative is that it is free, and it doesn’t take a lot of set up. I would like to teach this to upper grades, because I think they could do a lot of it.