Annotated Bibliography

Tablets in Schools  
 Curtis Kula

Ivy Tech English 111

Many times when looking back to my days of grade school I realize that it could have been much easier. One way that would have been possible is if we had the technology that we do today. The main piece of technology that would have been the best for school would have been the invention of the tablet PC or e-readers. In this annotated bibliography I am going to find sources and evaluate the merit of each of these sources. I am looking to find credible sources that relate to tablet use in school. I am not looking for tablet use in any one type of schooling whether it be pre-k, elementary, middle school, high school, or higher education.

Clarke Dr., B., & Svanaes, S. (2012, December 4). Tablets for Schools. Retrieved March 26, 2014, from <http://tabletsforschools.adheredev.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/2011-12-Final-Report.pdf>

This article at first looks like it will have a lot of useful information in it. It is a report that summarizes the findings of a study that looked at the convenience of giving every student in schools a tablet. This study was performed between September 2011 and July 2012 so the findings used are still relevant. During the course of the study three schools decided to give all of their students tablets. This study also looked at the performance of another local school. This was designated at the control school because this school did not give students tablets. Overall the study found that by giving students tablets many areas associated with learning improved. It increased motivation to learn in students. It also got parents more involved in their children’s school work. The study also showed that tablets increased the amount of monitoring of progress between student and teacher. This article/presentation seems have good credibility. It was created by Dr. Barbie Clarke who was the head of research at tablets for schools conference 2013. The information is also endorsed by many high level people in the education sector including the Secretary of State for Education. This article was also performed by our friends across the pond in the United Kingdom.

Drinkwater, D. (2011, October 31). Schools will have more tablets than they do computers by 2016 | TabTimes. Retrieved March 26, 2014, from <http://tabtimes.com/news/education/2011/10/31/schools-will-have-more-tablets-they-do-computers-2016>

This is an article that outlines what the future of schools and tablets will be together. The author (Drinkwater) is an expert of PC’s and tablets and is a writer for PCWorld.com. PCWorld.com also has a print magazine called PC World and is a respected source of information on topics related to PC and tablet use. I am not sure how ever if this is a good source to use because it has very little information dealing with my topic. It could how ever be a great stepping stone that leads me to other respected studies on the topic that I am researching.

Enriquez, A. G. (2010). Enhancing Student Performance Using Tablet Computers. College Teaching, Retrieved March 26, 2014, 58(3), 77.doi:10.1080/87567550903263859

This article looks at how tablet PC's are better on the whole for teaching. They say that it is improved because it allows for teachers to receive feedback in real-time. This article seems like it is more focused on the teaching benefits more than the learning side. The abstract states more facts based on teaching opinions than those based on student opinion. However it does talk about how students enjoyed using the tablets more than using text books. Some of the subjects said that the tablets were distractions when learning but I believe is was a minority of the study that claimed this. The merit of this reference seems to be very good. The author of the article is a professor of engineering and mathematics. He has also been awarded the US Presidential Award for Excellence. I am not sure if I can use this article to its full potential because you have to pay to see the article in its entirety.

Evers, M. (2013, June 28). Druckversion - Radical Reform: Dutch iPad Schools Seek to Transform Education - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International. Retrieved March 26, 2014, from http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/new-ipad-schools-in-holland- hope-to-revolutionize-education-a-907936-druck.html

This article is more on speculative than facts I felt after first glance. This does however talk about and looks at statistics of tablet use for education starting at age 4. This information comes from the Steve Jobs schools that were to open in Europe and more specifically the Netherlands last fall. Every student in these schools was to receive an i-pad. Most government officials liked the idea with the exception of a few who wants more structure in teaching and learning. This article may be good it might not I'll have to look into it further to see. The author of this article is a German Journalist for Spiegel Online. Spiegel Online is a European news outlet so this source is still up in the air on credibility because as we all know news outlets are all biased in some way or another.

Worm, B. (2013). Learning from Simple Ebooks, Online Cases or Classroom Teaching When Acquiring Complex Knowledge. A Randomized Controlled Trial in Respitatory Physiology and Pulmonology.*Plos ONE*, 8(9), 1-5. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0073336

This journal does a good job of talking about the effects of using tablets/e-readers for higher education. It studied a focus group made of three areas: traditional teaching with textbooks, classroom sessions with e-reader usage, and a completely online e-reader group. I don’t know if this would be a good source to support tablet use in grade schools but it does prove that they do work better than textbooks and classroom learning for higher education. The study group was made up a nursing students. The data also recorded amount of time spent learning the material and number of times each student logged into the program. The main goal of this study was not to look at the benefits of e-readers or tablets but to see the effects these devices have on simple recall and complex problem-solving when compared against traditional classroom learning. This article was published in September of 2013. The credibility of this looks to be very good. This was a research article and has also been peer-reviewed.

In all the sources that I have found so far seem to be of good sound research and facts with the exception of one. The one source that I listed that does not have very much information does give other studies to look at so it will help in the end. Most of these articles that I have looked into are research articles and most of them come from Europe and the United Kingdom. I found most of these sources using the ebsco host which has many more articles that I may look into. With the sources I have listed here I will have a good start to my argumentative paper but I feel that I will need a couple more sources.