

SMART Champions

BOCES Munroe

Fairport, New York, United States

Around the globe, teachers, principals, superintendents and other educational professionals are using SMART products to engage students, support learning and encourage interaction in the classroom. This profile highlights just one example of the many solutions SMART products offer.

Learning Comes Alive with SMART Products

Converting technophobes to tech-enthusiasts, Instructional Technology Specialist Bonnie Nizamis enjoys training teachers to use high-tech learning tools in the classroom. At Monroe #1 Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in New York State, Nizamis uses interactive technology to inspire teachers to spice up lessons across 10 school districts.

When she saw the SMART Board™ interactive whiteboard at a tradeshow Nizamis knew right away that it was the perfect tool for her classes. With the interactive whiteboard she wouldn't need to go back to her computer to operate programs during classes. She could control programs from the front of the classroom using the touch-sensitive whiteboard.

"Teachers like the fact that they can stand at the front of the room and simply touch the screen to move to the next slide. They aren't anchored to a computer."

That first look was enough. With the help of a SMARTer Kids™ Grant, BOCES purchased a SMART Board interactive whiteboard for Nizamis' classroom.

Working SMARTer

Later, when BOCES also integrated SMART Board interactive whiteboards into some K-12 schools, Nizamis jumped at the opportunity to help teachers optimize their use of the new technology.

Nizamis' enthusiasm was soon mirrored in her students. Once teachers learned how to create lesson plan slides with Microsoft® PowerPoint® software and the interactive whiteboard, they were eager to incorporate the technology into daily classroom activities.

"Teachers like the fact that they can stand at the front of the room and simply touch the screen to move to the next slide," says Nizamis. "They aren't anchored to a computer."

Using the interactive whiteboard, she shows teachers how to teach computer applications by using technology in fun and interactive ways. Nizamis incorporates game show-inspired learning activities such as Jeopardy!® into her classes.

The touch-sensitive interactive whiteboard saves Nizamis time because she can write notes over top of computer applications, save them in a file and deliver the notes electronically to all of her students. The interactive whiteboard also facilitates lesson planning.

"I can save the file so that if I'm teaching a second class, I still have those notes from the first class right there," she explains.

SMART Lends a Hand

"All teachers wish they had a SMART Board interactive whiteboard in their rooms because it makes teaching easier," says Nizamis. She encourages teachers to apply for a SMARTer Kids Foundation grant to help them purchase SMART products. "It makes learning come alive," explains Nizamis.



Bonnie Nizamis, an Instructional Technology Specialist, trains teachers to use high-tech learning tools with the SMART Board Interactive whiteboard.



The SMART Board Interactive whiteboard allows teachers to write notes over top of computer applications, save them in a file and deliver the notes electronically to students.



Interactive Whiteboards



Multimedia Furniture



Whiteboard Cameras



Software

SMART
Technologies Inc.

SMART Champions Speak Up

"The SMART Board interactive whiteboard allows me to maintain the attention of my audience, be more resourceful, integrate other technologies more efficiently and allow for greater time-management."

Abdel Gutiérrez, Teacher and Computer Specialist
Harrison Elementary School, Trenton, New Jersey, United States

"I use the SMART Board interactive whiteboard every day, every hour. I don't even use a chalkboard anymore."

Sally Walker, Science Teacher
Cousino High School, Warren Consolidated Schools, Warren, Michigan, United States

Visit Some of Our Education Resources

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EdCompass

Join an online education community that's been built for you! Interact with other educators and with SMART Technologies Inc. through EdCompass – a community for you to exchange ideas, strategies and successes. Discover new ways of using SMART products to improve learning in your classroom.

Talk to your peers on the EdCompass bulletin board, take advantage of learning resources (such as Notebook software lesson activities) submitted by your peers and become involved in a variety of programs supporting your professional development. EdCompass is where you'll find the resources to help you integrate SMART products into your classroom and the support from your peers to take you further.

www.EdCompass.smarttech.com.

Profiles

Read about other schools and organizations that are benefiting from SMART products.

www.smarttech.com/profiles

SMARTer Kids™ Foundation

SMARTer Kids Grants

Learn about grants and programs to help fund your technology purchase.

www.smarterkids.org

SMARTer Kids Research

Submit a proposal to research the effects of technology on teaching and learning, or visit the online project library to read about innovative studies already completed.

www.smarterkids.org/research

Connections Collaborative Exchange

Learn how students from across North America can interact using donated interactive whiteboards and projectors.

www.smarterkids.org/connections



SMART Technologies Inc.

Suite 600, 1177 - 11th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB CANADA T2R 1K9

Toll-free 1.888.42.SMART

Tel. 403.245.0333 Fax 403.228.2500

info@smarttech.com www.smarttech.com/education

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