

Neene's View: New Tech Skills 2012 Edition

I. Keyboarding:

Full keyboard touch typing will be important. I know next year I will need help students focus on this important skill. However, I believe an even more necessary skill will be able to use a QWERTY display for mobile devices. The skill is similar but slightly different. Thumb exercises here we come.

II. Summarizing:

Can you convey an essential thought in 140 characters (Twitter) or less (135 text message)? I am not suggesting text speech replace written English. "K r u goin?" should not be the educational norm. But composing "Columbus discovered America in 1492" (35 characters by the way) will become crucial

III. Documenting:

Can you capture a moment and express it in a way that someone not currently experiencing it can envision what you experienced? Write notes from a class or special event. Snap a picture to convey information in a digital, visual way. Record video for yourself or others to replay later.

IV. Connecting:

Students will need to be able to seek the right experts to ask information. Decipher the difference between credible sources. Make digital social media connections that add to your personal learning. There are PLN resources for both students and teachers. The ability to find these reputable sources and carry on a dialogue in real time virtual life will quickly become an engaging tool for gathering new information on various topics.

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