Tracy Richter

Reflection 1.4

**1.4 Integration of twenty-first century skills and learning standards**

Candidates advocate for twenty-first century literacy skills to support the learning needs of the school community. Candidates demonstrate how to collaborate with other teachers to plan and implement instruction of the AASL *Standards for the21st-Century Learner* and state student curriculum standards. Candidates employ strategies to integrate multiple literacies with content curriculum. Candidates integrate the use of emerging technologies as a means for effective and creative teaching and to support P-12 students' conceptual understanding, critical thinking and creative processes.

**Artifacts**

 1. [ISTC 789 Science Fair Collaboration](file:///G%3A%5CSpring%202014%5CInternships%5CGlenwood%20Middle%5CScience%20Fair%20Collaboration.docx) & [Science Fair Portal Page](https://gmsmedia.wikispaces.hcpss.org/Science%2BFair%2BResources)

 2. [ISTC 541 Tech-Integrated Lesson Plan](../../Summer%202013/ISTC%20541/TracyR_InstructionalPlan.docx)

 3. [ISTC 651 Slam Dunk](../../Fall%202013/ISTC%20651/ISTC651_KeyAssignment_SlamDunk_tracyr.pptx)

**Relevance**

 In a school community, there are many standards that need to be upheld in order to support students with their learning needs. AASL *Standards for the 21st Century Learner* promote and stimulate students in areas that are crucial for their future success, such as critical thinking, digital citizenship, inquiry learning, making informed decisions, and more. As a school librarian it is essential to promote these skills alongside the Common Core State Standards, to supplement and enhance students learning even more. Collaborating with other teachers to integrate these skills and standards together is an extremely effective way to meet the needs of our students.

 One of the ways I was able to support this process, was by collaborating with a science teacher at my middle school placement. Students were in the process of developing their science fair projects and needed to do research in order to complete their objectives. We worked together to ensure that the students were exposed to the 21st century skills that they needed to be successful with their research. For example, we determined that the students needed to have instruction on the online databases that we available for them to use and how to use them effectively, how to evaluate websites that we not accessible through online databases, and how to use scholarly search engines to find even more resources to use for their research. To assist students even more, we decided that a portal page, through the media center wiki, would be a great way for students to have all of their resources they needed in one place, and it would enable them to have access to it at any time and in any place. I set-up the wiki for students, and provided them with screencasts on how to use the online databases, and how to evaluate websites, to help reinforce the skills they learned in class. These technology and research skills will be vital for their science fair research needs, as well as any other research tasks they will have to do in the future as well. Those series of lessons, as well as the wiki, were successful in providing students with the 21st century skills they need to be successful for their science fair project. Students no only learned how to access the resources, but they learned how to use them and how to apply them to their research. In the future, I will collaborate as much as I can with other teachers in the school to provide students with the instruction they need to develop their 21st century skills, especially with research needs and how to use technology tools effectively and efficiently.

 In my ISTC 541 course, I designed a technology integrated lesson that supported both the AASL *Standards for 21st Century Learners* and the Common Core State Standards. In this lesson students learned about fables and morals, and created a web 2.0 tool presentation to explain the moral of the fable they chose the read. Students would be able to express their learning through a multitude of formats, allowing their creativity to thrive. In addition, once students would complete their projects they would post it in on a class wiki, so that other students could view their work and leave positive feedback or questions for their peers. All of these aspects support many of the 21st Century Leaner Standards and the Common Core State Standards, by allowing students to express their creativity through various technology formats, and being able to share their expression with others. I will definitely use the principles of this lesson in my future instruction as a media specialist because I believe that letting the students explore their creativity is incredibly important, as well as exposing them to the emerging technologies that constantly arise. Additionally, I want to provide my students with a way to communicate and collaborate with each other in a safe online environment to become ethical digital citizens, that will be vital for their futures’.

 I created a SlamDunk in my ISTC 651 course about how individuals in Maryland contributed to America’s society. This SlamDunk greatly supports the AASL Standards and the Common Core State Standards because it emphasis the importance of critical thinking, digital research skills, and creative processes. Students not only have to research the impactful individual, but they have to inquire deeply about how this person contributed to America’s society as a whole. They are then able to choose the web 2.0 tool of their choice, to express their understanding creatively about this topic and answer the essential question completely, thus meeting both the AASL Standards and the Common Core State Standards. This SlamDunk is a great way for me, as a future media specialist, to collaborate with their classroom teachers and with their social studies curriculum, to explore these important individuals and broaden the students’ thinking about why their contributions have carried on to today’s society, making it more relevant and meaningful to their lives. This SlamDunk will be very useful for me in the future because I could structure many different topics around this type of format, in order to meet standards, collaborate with teachers, and expose students to the 21st century skills they need.