Reflection Paper #1

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In the article, The Education of Technology Revolution Is Coming, gave insight to several good points on how technology should be incorporated into the classroom. Active learners are heavily present in this era of technology. The article expressed the need for teachers to incorporate as much technology in the classroom for the active learner, so they do not shut down for the traditional methods of teaching that are currently used in the classroom. According to the article, technology was introduced to schools in the 1990s. While this is true, the changes that technology is bringing about now in 2014, are more drastic, than they have ever been before. The article also touches on the changes technology has brought to businesses and consumers. Most importantly, students demand for more technology in the classroom.

I agree whole heartedly that technology is at a turning point. The advances of technology is affecting the way our society is run. You cannot walk down the street, or more or less drive down a street for that matter, without seeing someone glued to their smartphone. A few years ago we were lucky to have pagers, now we carry around mini computers with rumors of drones, or robots, delivering our packages. Not only does it affect our personal lives, but also businesses have modified standard operating procedures to the technological advances.

The technological advances do directly impact my life in several ways. It affects my ability to advance within my job, the amount of downtime I spend using technology and the amount of technology that is required of me to obtain a degree of any sort, specifically teaching.

At work there are new standard operating procedures that in past were done with managers, one to one, which are now done on the computers. As my job is a company that sells mainly cards, they have altered their products to appeal to the eye of a consumer, which is consumed by technology. The product that I fill on the filling floor has changed or even at times disappeared due to the fact that several of the new inventive ideas are digital based. To move up in the company I am required to pass tests that display the amount of skill I have, in given computer programs. Everything that surrounds me, seems to be pushing me to know more and more about technology.

I personally have done everything in my ability to learn new computer programs. I have studied online instructional videos of computer programs. I have even went as far as to take additional adult education classes to better understand the computer programs that have become a necessity of my life. I have learned how to better use, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel through all of these methods. I have been vaguely taught how to use Outlook at work for job duties. I only now realize that there are several computer programs available to me that I do not have any idea how to use. I hope to become more versatile in the world of technology after taking the class, Technology for Teachers.

There is information in this article that was very informative and useful. I had not known the term active learners before reading the article, nor did I know how to distinguish the difference between active learners and those who were not. As I hope to become a teacher someday, I do believe that it is very important to know this and how to adhere to the needs of every student, especially active learners, as the article mentioned that the majority of students are active learners. I as a teacher, want to reach the students in the best way that I possibly can, and if we are in an era of technology, than what better way to reach the students than with technology.

I was not extremely surprised to the fact that technology is at a rise to the education consumer, as it is a rise in general to everyone. We want more technology, faster technology and better technology. It seems to run our lives, as well as run businesses. Technology centers every aspect of our life, so why shouldn’t it be a part of our classrooms as well. I do not want to be teaching students of the millennium with materials from the time of the dinosaurs. I want to be up to date on as much of the technological advances as I possibly can, so that I can prepare the students for whatever they aspire to be in future, along with the fundamentals they will need to reach those goals. Considering the experiences I have with technology in my work place, I was not terribly shocked by the fact that Education institutions are feeling the need to adapt to their consumers also. Every other business or institution is facing the same dilemmas, of how to appeal to a consumer that is driven by technology. I do believe that everyone will continue to change their life around the changes in technology. No one wants to be left behind.