Adriene-Noele Moore

Dr. Newberry

ETEC 542

Quick Write

Google Drive has only been around for a short time but has already greatly impacted the way we learn and teach. Google Drive allows users to edit documents, presentations and much more with the help of other people. This fairly new technology has been very helpful with collaborations. Now when someone needs the input of other for a document, they simply upload it to their Google Drive account and add the emails of the collaborators. This gives the original user and the collaborators full access to the document. They can all edit and change the document from their separate locations. They are also able to edit at the same time. Long gone are the days when each contributor has to email the document to each other and wait for the response. With Drive they can all edit at the same time and can even chat with each other.

This technology is even more useful when used in online classrooms. When the option of meeting face to face is almost nonexistent, groups and teams can still contribute same quality work without having to coordinate schedules. This technology can also be utilized with instructors because several teachers can collaborate. Many times throughout a school year, departments are asked to create curriculum for their students. A lot the times, these are extra outside of work meetings that teachers are not paid overtime for. When teachers begin to utilize Google Drive, they won’t have the hassle of meeting outside of school hours and staying late after work. The chat feature is also very helpful because they can all make changes to the documents and have discussions. Of course this is not a fool proof system but it certainly is the path schools are moving towards.

Besides collaborations, there are many new and innovative features for learners and teachers to explore. A simple and yet overlooked feature of Google Drive is that the documents automatically save on their own. Any time the document is edited by any of the collaborators it will automatically save so there is no more worrying about data loss. This will put all contributors at ease when completing an assignment. Another feature of Google presentation documents is that the slides can be made and then the order can be switched around. If need be, during a lesson, an instructor can simply rearrange slides if they find something out of order. Instead of having to wait and go into the original document and change them.

Google Drive is a great tool for its convenience. Its designers understand there will always be a group project to work on or a presentation to turn in and they have met that demand by making it easier to collaborate on the same document at the same time. Learners and instructors can reap the benefits of this innovative technology