**Project LIVE**

Use of student videos to demonstrate skills results in dramatic test score increases

**Escondido Union Elementary School District (EUESD)**

When student performance on standardized tests rises two to three points, it is considered statistically significant by the educational community.

So when Escondido Union Elementary School District (EUESD) students’ exam scores skyrocketed more than 30 points, everyone wanted to know how they did it.

The response came in the form of an award-winning program called Project LIVE which promotes critical and visual literacy skills through the use of Apple digital media tools and allows students to become proficient in technology and create videos that demonstrate their understanding in subject areas.

An offshoot of the San Diego County Office of Education iVIE Awards, Project LIVE (Learning through Instructional Video in Education), is geared to increase student achievement through the implementation of technology and to provide high-quality professional development for teachers in the integration of advanced technologies into curriculum and instruction. Project Live was launched after Kathy Shirley, Escondido Union Elementary School District’s Director of Technology and Media Service, received a grant through Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT) to improve student achievement and promote the use of engaging learning environments in EUSD. She and 20 other teachers launched Project LIVE and were given training on the use of video equipment and software in their classrooms. Teachers received extensive instruction on how to examine their student data to identify where students need assistance in meeting the California academic standards.

Once a curricular focus was determined, teachers worked with students to develop and produce a video using the curricular focus as the theme. Once the production was complete, the video was shared with other classes and at

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The California Department of Education (CDE), Education Technology Office administers the EETT Competitive and Formula Grant Program under Title II, Part D, of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Funds from this grant are used to assist districts to utilize technology to enhance teaching and promote learning. Funds are distributed equally to the EETT Competitive and Formula Programs. The CDE distributed $62 million dollars in 2005-06 to local educational agencies (LEAs) and will distribute $33 million dollars in 2006-2007.

EETT Competitive Grants (EETT-C) provide funding for grades four through eight to assist eligible local educational agencies in using technology to enhance teaching and learning. It is a competitive grant process for which LEAs must complete an application which is scored and ranked against other competitors. The top scoring applications are funded.

EETT Formula Grants (EETT-F) provide funding for grades kindergarten through twelve to assist eligible local educational agencies in using technology to enhance teaching and learning. Funding amounts are based on the LEA’s proportion of their eligible Title I, Part A amount applied against the Title II, Part D total available amount of money to be distributed.

At least one video per classroom was submitted to participate in a county-wide showcase event. Students participating in the project received a PowerBook notebook computer, digital camcorder, microphone and external hard drive.

A comparison was made between fourth grade students of teachers participating in the project for one year versus students in the same grade who were not in classes of participating teachers.

Data revealed consistently higher CST scores across all subgroups in classes implementing Project LIVE.

For additional information, visit http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/et/ft/eett.asp

“For our teachers, Project LIVE created a culture that allowed them to really extend themselves and explore things that were unknown to them, in a very fun, safe environment. That’s probably the highest value of Project LIVE—and the increased student achievement, which is always our bottom line.”

Jennifer Walters, Superintendent, Escondido Union Elementary School District