CRAFTING MEANINGFUL RELECTIONS FOR ePORTFOLIO
by Kris Sward

Evidence: Tool Review Survey

OLTD Outcome Addressed: Identify appropriate use of cloud tools in an online or flipped classroom

In order to show evidence of my learning in 507 I chose to share the Tool Review Survey that I created. This form can be filled out by any teacher and submitted for inclusion on the livebinders list of acceptable tools. It provides a snapshot of a tool and answers some important questions about access, use of student information, storage of student data and actual value of the cloud tool from a teacher's perspective.

Though the form itself, I feel, provides a comprehensive overview (when filled out) of the pros and cons of any cloud based tool, the real value in this document for me comes in the explanatory notes after the one page survey. Entitled "Why is this important?", it provides teachers with the reasoning behind each of the topics covered in the review. Having had the benefit of numerous classes dealing with topics ranging from tools to use to online safety during the use of those tools, I understand the importance of knowing where student data is kept and what information is being stored, whether there is a minimum age restriction for use of the site and why it is in place, etc. However, most teacher use a variety of tools in their classrooms without fully understanding the potential for harm that could occur because of introducing their students to a particular site. This tool could help avoid legal issues and concerns by providing teachers with a resource guide to safe and potentially dangerous online tools.