



Connected Classrooms Program

No 39 December 3, 2010

FROM THE CCP OFFICE

DIMI PAPADAKIS, DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the Connected Classrooms Program (CCP) Bulletin is the last for the year and the last in its current format as we wind down to transition to 'Business as Usual' (BAU).

The scale of this Program has been massive with many challenges along the way. And now, in just over 3 years, the rollout of the Interactive Classrooms, Network upgrades and development of Learning Tools is almost complete.

A summary of the achievements, published in this final Bulletin, is a true testament to our people's commitment and incredible hard work in making a real difference by providing world-class teaching and learning environments to NSW public schools and TAFE colleges.

Nothing has inspired me more than the "stories from the field", actual narratives from our teachers, students and other DET officers engaging in innovative ways with the technologies we have delivered.

As teachers and students across the state are now demonstrating, these tools are creating new ways to engage, to collaborate and share ideas and to provide new learning opportunities.

NETWORK
UPGRADES
98.5%
COMPLETED

INTERACTIVE
CLASSROOMS
91%
COMPLETED

7502
TEACHERS TRAINED
IN LESSON CREATION
SOFTWARE

blogED
RELEASED TO ALL
SCHOOLS AND TAFE
INSTITUTES

A compilation of these stories has been captured in the CCP 'Compendium of Practice' with live footage illustrated in ten video recordings available on the CCP intranet - <https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/lists/directoratesaz/ccp/index.htm>

I would like to take this opportunity to **CONGRATULATE** and sincerely **THANK** all of you for your contribution, commitment, energy, drive and unflinching dedication

in making the Program's vision into a tangible reality.

I hope you too are just as proud as I am, to have been part of this most transformative Program.

Farewell and best wishes to all for a happy and safe holiday, a well deserved rest and an enjoyable festive season ahead.

Best wishes,
Dimi Papadakis

A BRIEF RECAP OF THE PROGRAM

The Connected Classrooms Program Initiative, was a NSW State government initiative to deliver 3 major projects, over four years to June 2011

Network Enhancements Project

- To provide increased bandwidth, speed security and reliability of DET's Wide Area Network (WAN) for over 2,500 NSW government schools and TAFE colleges
- Upgrade and improve the filtered internet environment

Interactive Classrooms Project

- To provide every public school in NSW with one fully installed and equipped Interactive Classroom, (comprising of an Interactive Whiteboard, Video Conferencing facilities, a PC with internet connection and preloaded lesson creation software and data collaboration capabilities)

Learning Tools Project

- To provide:
 - an enhanced Student Email Service;
 - an adaptable and scalable system able to deliver the latest Web 2.0 technologies to staff and students, eg blogED;

- a secure online workspace for staff and students to create, store, edit, reuse, manage, view and deliver learning content, known as the 'eBackpack'; and
- parent/caregiver online access to Student reports.

Program Achievements to December 2010

- **2,527 locations (98.5%)** of schools and TAFE colleges have had their bandwidth reviewed and upgraded
- **2,049 schools (91%)** have had a full Interactive Classroom installed;
- **'blogED'**, the DET online collaborative learning tool was delivered with ongoing enhancements throughout 2010:
 - blogED R5.0 - Cross Schools Blogs (Dec 2010)
 - blogED R4.0 - Multiple Locations (Aug 2010)



- blogED R3.0 - All TAFE Institutes (Jun 2010)
- blogED R2.0 - All Schools (Mar 2010); Note, blogED R1.0 – was trialled in May 2009

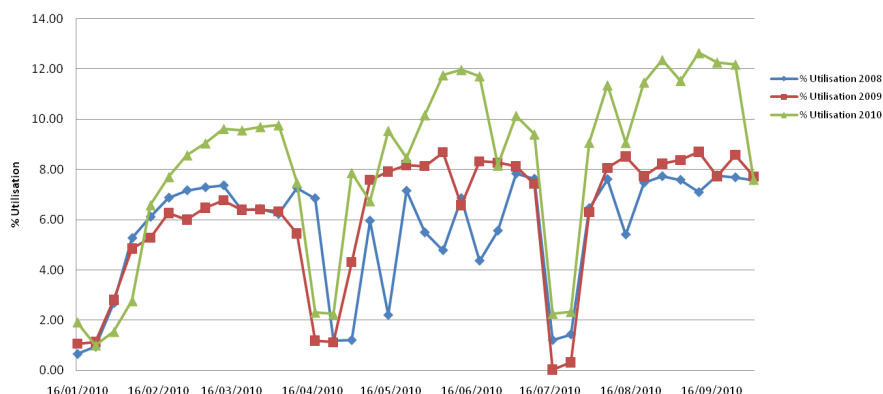
- Completed development of the new enhanced Student Portal, in readiness for a "phased" implementation in Term1, 2011
- Completed development of the schools-based 'eBackpack' online personal file storage and shared workspaces solution, in readiness for a "phased" implementation in Term1, 2011
- Completed development of the Online Access to Student Reports for Parents (K-12) solution, in readiness for a "phased" implementation in Term1, 2011
- Deployed the improved desktop collaboration software ("Bridgit") authenticated from the DET portal in January 2010)

blogED

Between April and November 2010 ...

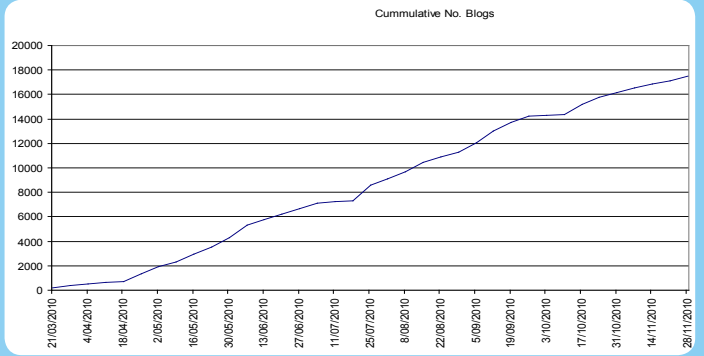
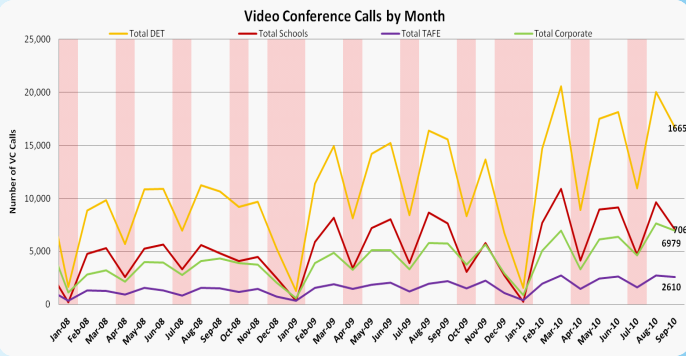
- 17 000 blogs created by school teachers
- 142 500 student active users
- 21 000 teacher active users
- 16 000 'private' audience
- 200 'All DET' audience
- 600 'Public - Internet' audience

Student Email % Utilisation Comparison - 2008/2009/2010



Program Achievements during 2008 - 2009

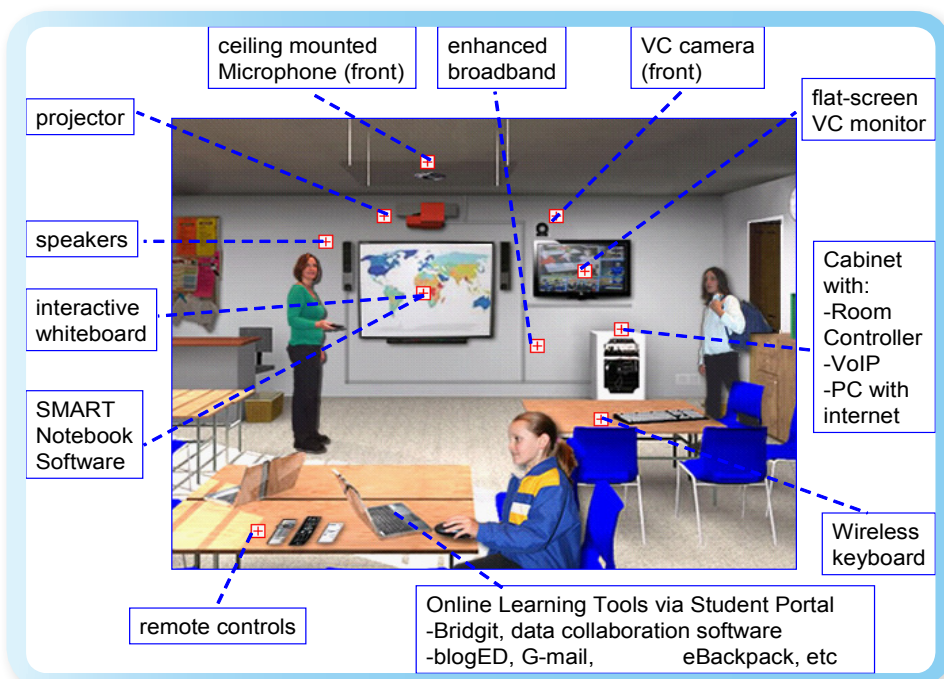
- Upgraded the DET Core Network Infrastructure environment (Oct 2009)
- Implemented the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) infrastructure to provide immediate classroom Service Desk support for video conferencing via the VoIP handset (Aug 2009)



- Provided approximately **1.2 million** school and TAFE students with a new and enhanced email service, Google's G-mail (Dec 2008)
- Migrated approximately **122,000** teaching school and TAFE staff to the DET "in-house" email service (Dec 2008)
- The new Filtered Internet Browsing environment was upgraded and improved with the acquisition of "Bluecoat" in Dec 2008;
- Enhanced the IT infrastructure by – acquiring and integrating the Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) in December 2008 in preparation for the delivery of online learning tools.

Training Support

Support in using the CCP technologies was provided by the Learning Systems



Implementation Team of RICs and RIOs across the ten regions:

- 7,502 teachers** from **2,128** schools were trained in using an Interactive Classroom, including lesson creation software, SMART Notebook (over 14 months)
- Over **1,500** participants attended the NSW "blogED Familiarisation Session" (over 9 months)

Online Support Resources

A range of online resources, including video tutorials, User Guides, FAQs were made available to support teachers and students in:

- blogED: <https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/learnsyssupport/bloged/index.htm>
- Interactive Classrooms: Interactive Whiteboards, Video Conferencing,

"Bridgit" data collaboration, SMART Notebook lesson creation software

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/learnsyssupport/index.htm>

- Students and Staff Email: https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/learnsyssupport/student_email/index.htm

blogED - support resources



CCP Procurement Activities

- Completed a number of Major Procurement Activities including:
 - Interactive Whiteboards & Associated Equipment
 - Systems Integrator (DELL)
 - Video Conferencing (VC) Endpoints (Tandberg)
 - Student Email Services (SMS/Google G-mail)
 - Enterprise Service Bus (Tibco)
 - Broadband Upgrade (Telstra)
 - Network Core (Cisco)
 - Core VC Infrastructure (Tandberg)
 - Filtered Internet Browsing (Bluecoat)

CONNECTED CLASSROOMS PROGRAM IN ACTION

An ongoing resource on new ways to engage students

In the three years we've been producing the CCP Bulletin we've captured hundreds of stories from the field on the many ways teachers are using the tools and technologies to create new ways of teaching and learning and new ways to engage students.

These stories, co-authored by the contributing teachers, have now been compiled into the CCP **Compendium of Practice** that summarises the benefits achieved, for use as an ongoing resource.

The **Connected Classrooms Program in Action** report begins with a detailed analysis of the benefits captured in the compendium, evaluated in the context of broader developments in the use of digital technologies in teaching and learning.

Ten distinct benefits are identified across a range of outcomes, such



as collaboration, access to external expertise, virtual excursions and events, extending subject choice, providing opportunities for gifted and talented students, additional transition strategies from Primary to High School and encouraging curriculum development and sharing.

Each benefit area draws together a collection of stories from the field, including video footage compiled in the CCP DVD resource, which document the real impact of the technology suite, as it is being used in classrooms across the state.

Together, these stories offer a wealth of practical ideas and advice that serve as a valuable resource for teachers and students into the future.

Connected Classrooms Program in Action, the Compendium of Practice and the DVD resource will be available online. Details will be posted shortly on both the CCP intranet and web pages:

CCP intranet - <https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/lists/directoratesaz/ccp/index.htm>

CCP web page - <https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/about-us/how-we-operate/connected-classroom>



LEARNING TOOLS PROJECT

PETER ROBERTS, BE

Congratulations to the CCP Learning Tools Team

With the release on Friday 3rd December, of 'cross schools blog' and 'end of year archiving' the Learning Tools Team has now delivered the final project requirements for blogED.

The Connected Classrooms Program is now considering the next phase of the life cycle for blogED which involves determining a business owner for the application and an appropriate governance model.

With the delivery of student email in 2008 and now the completion of blogED the Learning Tools Team will continue work on the remaining projects.

Each is making sound progress. The next two learning tools to be released in 2011 include:

SPortal (Student Portal enhancement)

- customisable, personalised portal page for students
- summary of the student's most current activities on learning tools
- display of important dates and activities
- four different user interfaces designed to meet the needs of different age groups and students from schools to TAFE.

ebackpack
dashboard

Many functions of the current student portal will continue, such as secure login with DET username, search and centrally managed links. Further enhancements will be possible.

eBackpack

- online personal file storage for every teacher and student in schools and TAFE
- online shared workspaces able to be created by teachers, and containing files, announcements and web content.

All Learning Tools for students and teachers are accessed via their DET portal.

Thank you to the Learning Tools Team for their continued efforts in working to provide quality applications for students and staff.



CONNECTED CLASSROOMS PROGRAM

INTRANET: <https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/lists/directories/ccp/index.htm>

INTERNET: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/strat_direction/schools/ccp/index.htm

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