

**TILT** stands for Teachers Integrating and Learning Technology. It uses a small study group approach. TILT teachers are assigned a team and work with each other throughout the school year to become more technology literate. The emphasis is on providing teachers with time and training, as well as opportunities for collaboration while they are exploring technology integration.

- The TILT program provides each teacher with six days of release time for technology training
- TILT members are expected to share their new-found literacy with other teachers in their buildings and act as mentors for others wishing to learn about technology integration.
- TILT members use the professional development time to explore new technology, share classroom projects and ideas, and create lesson plans and/or resources.
- Each TILT member participates in a culminating event: a Technology Showcase at the end of the school year. This event will focus on integrating technology into the classroom. Showcase presentations might include:
  - \*Student work
  - \*Lessons created that integrate technology
  - \*Tutorials for using a specific technology
  - \*Classroom project ideas using technology
  - \*Personal project using a new technology literacy

### **The Three Phases of TILT**

#### **Phase 1: STUDENT**

- Teachers are placed in the "student" position. The goal is to explore & learn in a safe environment.
- Teachers explore a variety of technology and work on improving their overall technical skills
- Teachers collaborate with each other to learn and expand knowledge about a given technology
- Teachers share the skills they have learned with colleagues in their buildings
- Teachers create a project that is evidence of their newfound knowledge

#### **Phase 2: TEACHER**

- Teachers continue to explore and learn new technology
- Teachers look at existing curriculum & see how technology can enhance a given activity or lesson
- Teachers experiment with integrating technology into existing activities & lessons
- Teachers communicate with each other about how a delivery or technology worked (or not).
- Teachers share the skills they have learned with colleagues in their buildings
- Teachers create a project that is evidence of their newfound integration methods

#### **Phase 3: MENTOR**

- Teachers continue to explore and learn new technology
- Teachers become models for the integration process; their classroom is used for observation
- Teachers teach with each other or the Integration Specialist to enhance the integration process
- Teachers continue to experiment with integrating technology into existing activities & lessons
- Teachers observe other teachers for best practices and integration ideas
- Teachers share the skills they have learned with colleagues in their buildings
- Teachers create a project that is evidence of their newfound integration methods

**Note:** Each phase ends with a showcase, where teachers present projects that illustrate the culmination of the learning for that particular phase.

### **Benefits of a staff development program such as TILT:**

- \* Teachers can verify with each other any confusing or complex subject
- \* Learning technology has become more fun
- \* Teachers have a chance to dialogue with each other about classroom ideas; feel less isolated
- \* Fellow teachers can be a source of encouragement
- \* Teachers gain an increase in confidence of technology ability

### **Technology Integration Goal: Provide High Quality Staff Development**

- \* Provide teachers with time for training
- \* Place teachers in the role of student
- \* Provide teachers an incentive to learn a new technology - equipment & software in this case
- \* Provide follow up to training
- \* Provide assessment and feedback
- \* Provide time for reflection of learning
- \* Provide time for planning the implementation of lessons
- \* Allow for "play" or "exploration" time