



Providing additional quality professional development to support the district goals

The Client

Greene County Schools is a medium sized, rural district in the northeast corner of Tennessee about 70 miles north-east of Knoxville. Its 17 schools and 600 teachers serve 7500+ students, including 400+ at the Pre-K level.

The Challenge

Providing quality and relevant professional development for their teachers is vital to Greene County School Administrators. To this end, they carve two teacher professional development days out of the calendar each year: one in May and one in November. Their challenge was to supplement in-house professional development while staying within their budget.

The Solution

In 2009 the district acquired a portable videoconferencing unit through a USDA RUS grant. Shortly thereafter, they partnered with CILC consultants to plan how this new technology could bring benefits to teachers and students. After connecting to a number of content providers for students, they began to explore professional development opportunities. Integrating these sessions into their current professional development days enabled them to bring experts into the district without travel costs, thus keeping within their budget. All sessions were paid for through a CILC Content Dollar Bank.

CASE STUDY



Tangible Results

CILC consultants worked with Greene County Schools personnel to establish goals and priorities in using their newly acquired videoconferencing equipment. Thus the district was able to launch this initiative in keeping with the rest of the district's goals.

The results speak for themselves:

- Professional Development sessions delivered via videoconferencing
 - supplemented in-house training on Literacy, the district's #1 goal.
 - provided training in the use of Tennessee's Electronic Learning Center (ELC) to explore free resources on iTunes U.
 - helped teachers explore numerous web 2.0 tools.
- Videoconferencing Professional Development sessions have been successfully integrated into current district professional development days since May 2010.
 - May 2010—4 sessions
 - November 2010—3 sessions
 - May 2011—3 sessions
- Approximately 460 teachers have participated in these sessions.
- 95% of teachers deemed the sessions worthwhile.
- All sessions were paid for through a CILC Content Dollar Bank.

"CILC gave us our start. Their consultants showed us how their website could work for us and helped to motivate our staff. The PD providers did a fabulous job for us. They worked to engage our teachers to make the sessions very interactive."

Jason Patrick, Technology Coordinator
Greene County Schools