

## Final Reflection for EDU 601

This class has excited me and given me tools to continue to use technology in the coming years. I already used many tools, but it was limited to what I could figure out on my own or read about from other teachers. In this class I was able to discover a lot about blogging, weebly, iMovie, and other useful tools. Even the simple exposure to these tools helped me to feel they were accessible and useful.

While we may be limited in technology at our school I feel that I will be able to use weebly a lot in my classes. I can see myself using it as a way to communicate with students, keep myself organized, share with other teachers, and share student work. I also would like to use it to help students navigate lessons and projects. I also really think I will be using more photo and movie making apps. I have stuck with audio a lot in the past because it was easier and I was more comfortable. I would like to expand now by using story apps, iMovie, animoto, and the Stop Motion app. One of my goals in this is to at least try having students make an In Plain English movie. I need to improve my competence in this by making one or two and trying to get down some of the tips and tricks for students. I also need to be open to them exploring their own tools, even if I am not comfortable with the tool yet.

Challenges for me will continue to be feeling overwhelmed by things I don't have time to learn. I remember, at the first school I taught in, we were all given iPads and tons of "talk at you" training where we were given a million ideas but no time to explore. I need to perhaps dedicate a certain amount of my planning to explore tools I'd like to use to chip away at my feelings of being overwhelmed. Doing this during planning can also help me to stay up with those that I follow on twitter since I won't feel as overwhelmed by their awesome ideas and suggestions. My dad sends me constant emails on ways I can use technology in amazing ways for assessments, cooperative learning, syllabus writing, etc. If you can think it up he has probably sent me an article on it. I have a whole folder worth of information from him that I still need to read. I plan to do that by trying to get to two a week. I would aim higher, but I know that with each article I need time to reflect, and explore. I also know that sometimes it is challenging teaching Religion when there aren't as many resources out there in the technology realm. While it is a challenge it can also be seen as an opportunity to help pioneer some more attractive and useful ideas and share ways that I have used technology in my classroom.