

INTERWRITE®PAD SUMMIT PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA A SUCCESS STORY



The Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) was searching for a method that allowed their teachers to gain proximity to their students in the classroom, while providing visual cues to enhance learning. Lee Grafton, instructional technology specialist for PSUSD, decided that the **INTERWRITE®PAD** was the only solution that could fulfill the district's needs.

Grafton discovered the **INTERWRITE®PAD** at a math conference and was immediately impressed with its ability to visually prompt students and improve test scores, attention rates, retention, engagement, amount of time spent per task and the amount of interaction between students and teachers.

STEPPING UP

With funding from Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) competitive grants, the PSUSD's middle schools implemented the SUMMIT (Step Up to Math Mastery Integrating Technology) program. The SUMMIT program was designed to improve student achievement of California's sixth to eighth grade math content standards and support the delivery of the district's state-adopted math curriculum through the use of 21st century technology tools.

To meet the goals of the SUMMIT program, Grafton implemented the **INTERWRITE®PADS** throughout the entire district's middle schools. It was chosen because it allowed Palm Springs' teachers to work closely and interact with their students, while stimulating visual learning and creative thinking.

Coupled with a computer and an LCD projector, the **INTERWRITE®PAD** was integrated into the instructional day as an integral learning tool. The teachers moved about the classroom and focused student attention on the academic content with the use of electronic highlighters, drawing tools, graphics, and animations.

TEACHING THE TEACHERS

PSUSD also took part in faculty development that consisted of coaching and mentoring to develop teacher expertise, assessment of instructional activities related to student achievement, access to differentiated professional development opportunities and access to high quality curricular resources.

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"The learning curve was so fast for getting acquainted with the **INTERWRITE®PADS**. The trainers got our teachers up and running with the technology, and shortly after the faculty started teaching themselves and eventually each other," said Grafton. "It was a great collaborative effort. To see teachers embrace technology like that is really amazing."

The teachers caught on so quickly that the benefits of the **INTERWRITE®PAD** was immediately noticed.

"Classroom observations and interviews revealed that the SUMMIT program was extremely successful," said Grafton. "The program not only made a positive impact on the participating teachers and students, but also could serve as a professional development model for the district, as well as for other communities."

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Dr. Amy Leh from California State University, San Bernardino, conducted a program evaluation with classroom observations and interviews. Leh found significant improvement in both classroom management and student engagement.

All of the teachers who used the **INTERWRITE**®PAD during instruction felt it was important in enhancing instruction, particularly for classroom management and providing visual cues. Leh also noted that students exhibited a high degree of student engagement (86-92 percent) and were motivated, engaged, focused, active, involved and excited during class when using the **INTERWRITE**®PADS.

In short, Grafton sees the noticeable difference Interwrite® products have made in her district and believes that other have noticed the change as much as she has.

“We love it and cannot say enough good things about [eInstruction],” said Grafton. “People are coming from all over to see what our district is doing with Interwrite’s amazing interactive classroom technology.”

ABOUT eInstruction

eInstruction is a premier global provider of interactive learning solutions for primary, secondary, and higher education markets. Interactive solutions, including the eInstruction® **INTERWRITEMOBI**™, and **INTERWRITEDualBoard**™ all come with eInstruction® Workspace, a next generation educational software application for creating, teaching, and assessing student performance using digital content. eInstruction® assessment solutions include, **CSPulse**™ **INTERWRITECRICKET**®, and **INTERWRITEPRS**® clickers, members of a powerful student response system that combines interaction and assessment to enhance classroom productivity and improve student results. eInstruction has a rich history of delivering interactive solutions that are changing how

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