

Benefits of Training and Professional Development

A number of academic papers and articles highlight the factors that contribute to the successful implementation of interactive whiteboards (IWB). One key finding in almost every research paper is that ongoing training, appropriate to the needs of the teachers, is essential to ensure that educators become effective practitioners with their IWB.

"There are clear implications for teacher educators and school leaders when introducing technology such as this to the repertoire of teacher resources. These include fusing technology with pedagogy to ensure that teachers are not merely equipped with the resources and technical capability, but also have a clear understanding of children's learning and how this may be facilitated within lessons."

The use of the interactive whiteboard for creative teaching and learning in literacy and mathematics: a case study - British Journal of Educational Technology
Jean Ashfield 2008

"Eighteen months after installation of their interactive whiteboard, the majority of teachers in the case study schools had become highly competent users of the interactive whiteboard as a basic resource, and many were beginning to experiment with using it for a wider range of purposes. However, only those who had received continuing professional development, for example through seeking accreditation with one of the IWB manufacturers, had developed high-level interactive whiteboard skills.

Teachers require continuing professional development in higher level use of interactive whiteboards to bring about the kind of pedagogical changes that are possible with interactive whiteboards. Accredited courses should be provided to encourage teachers to acquire expertise in the use of interactive whiteboards as a multi-modal portal."

Evaluation of the Primary Schools Whiteboard Expansion Project - BECTA - July 2007

"A major personal success for the teacher was becoming a much more confident user as time passed. The four training sessions helped her gain more practical knowledge and this had an exponential effect on the ways she could use the board.

Once the technology was 'tamed' she was able to move forward and exploit it to better enhance learning by developing the children's thinking skills, creativity and independence"

Interactive whiteboards: boon or bandwagon? A critical review of the literature
Journal of Computer Assisted Learning - HJ Smith, S Higgins, K Wall & J Miller - 2005

"Teachers with continuous use of an IWB rapidly become confident, skilled users of ICT with a level of competence in IWB use. Advanced use of IWBs requires sustained training over time."

The impact of IWBs on standards and pedagogy in primary school
Bridget Somekh and Maureen Haldane - October 2007

The five stages of teacher development that are crucial to successful adoption of technology in schools:

1. **Teacher as learner:** Teachers learn the necessary skills for using technology in the classroom.
2. **Teacher as adopter:** Teachers begin to experiment with technology and share their experiences with their peers.
3. **Teacher as co-learner:** Teachers focus on developing a clear relationship between technology and the curriculum.
4. **Teacher as reaffirmer or rejecter:** Teachers begin to assess technology's impact on student learning and adjust accordingly.
5. **Teacher as leader:** Experienced teachers go on to build capacity within their school and among their fellow teachers.

Five Stages of Successful Professional Development abstracted from New Insights on Technology Adoption in Schools by Lorraine Sherry and Shelley Billig, Fern Tavalin and David Gibson - February 2000



'Where high tech
meets human
ingenuity. Where
we connect tools to
technology,
technology to users,
and students and
teachers to each
other.'

Customer Feedback

"I was very satisfied with the content of the training. There was lots of variety and was pitched at an appropriate level, was easy to follow and user friendly."
Bev Perry, Manurewa West, Auckland "The training from ACTIVboardNZ was absolutely awesome, we were shown all the possibilities there are on the Activboard - definitely on the dot... However there is not enough time in the day to be able to take in all the information!"

Crystal Talati, Mary Mackillop, Auckland

"I feel the training gives teachers a lot of value, as you can really find out how much you can do with the Activboard – making it more interactive for the children"

Bryer Lea, Waiiau Pa, Auckland

"ACTIVboardNZ responded to our many questions with patience and understanding; and the professional development for staff was superb with all skill levels catered for. The Facilitator presented the professional development in clear, comprehensible terms enabling staff to feel confident while learning about this new technology."

Gary Pearce & Trish Harrison, Titirangi Primary School, Auckland

"After deliberation we decided to install the new board in the school's professional development room. ACTIVboardNZ were extremely supportive, providing training so that I could utilise the full capabilities of the board. The fact that the ACTIVboardNZ trainers are also teachers means they have a great understanding what works in classrooms."

Jan-Marie Kellow, Opoutere School, Waikato

"The training, professional development and support from ActivboardNZ has been all we could ask for. We are very happy with the Activboard solution and will continue to add them into our school."

Paul Irving, Riccarton Primary, Christchurch

"The Activboard training was invaluable. We were able to have our questions answered by an expert and then take our learning back to the classroom. It was great to see the reaction from the children when I was able to show them all my new learning."

Kim Meredith, Chilton St James School, Wellington

"I chose an Activboard because . . .

- ... it has been developed for an education rather than a corporate environment.
- ... it comes with friendly, approachable and helpful ongoing support.
- ... it has superior functions and applications that make it the best IWB for classroom use.
- ... it comes with ongoing professional development that is affordable for schools."

Robyn Garden, Southland Girls High School, Invercargill



Dedicated to providing the best IWB training in New Zealand

Professional Development Packages

Training Day

A low cost option for upskilling staff members which will allow you to make better use of the Activboard within your classroom programme. The days are held on designated dates each term at nominated schools or training facilities in the main centres. During the training day, participants will use their own laptops to create a range of effective interactive classroom resources.

\$175.00+GST (per participant per session)

On-site Training (3 hrs)

Holding training sessions on-site is a great professional development option if you're looking at upskilling multiple staff. This hands-on session introduces educators to the basic tools and capabilities of the software within a classroom context. It is a 3 hour (half day) session and up to six staff may attend. After arranging a date and time that suits the school and our trainers, the session will be held on-site at your education facility. Session content can be customised to meet school requirements. One training manual will be provided.

\$595.00+GST (All travel costs for the trainer are additional)

On-site Training (6 hrs)

If you plan to make use of your school's Teacher Only Days by providing professional development, this training option is a great choice. This session introduces educators to the tools and capabilities of the software and allows time for creating practical classroom resources. The session will be held on-site at your education facility and we will try to arrange the session on a date and time that suits your needs whenever possible. Up to six staff may attend and the session content can be customised to meet school requirements. One training manual will be provided.

\$995.00+GST (All travel costs for the trainer are additional)

ActivInstruction

The ideal training package for those who want on-going support ensuring creative and effective use of the technology. ActivInstruction is a series of 4 x 3 hrs (half day) sessions spread out over 12 months (typically one per Term). Each session will cater to the needs of the educators participating and builds on the skills learnt in the previous session. It also allows for the development of creative yet practical resources which the participants can then take away and use in their classrooms. Each session will be held on-site at your education facility and up to six staff may attend.

\$1,960+GST (All travel costs for the trainer are additional)

To enable your staff members to develop their skills, each Training Session can be tailored to the level that your teachers require. Our current courses cater for:

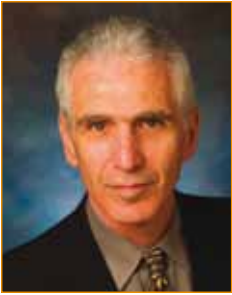
Core Skills (Level 1)

Advanced Skills (Level 1)

Curriculum focused (Level 1)

'Where lessons are born of community and educators are part of a movement.'





Dr Robert Marzano presented recent IWB research as the Keynote speech at the recent CUE conference (Computer Using Educators) 5 - 7th March 2009 at Palm Springs, California.

Robert J. Marzano, PhD, is co-founder and CEO of Marzano Research Laboratory in Denver, Colorado.

Throughout his 40 years in the field of education, he has become a speaker, trainer, and author of more than 30 books and 150 articles on topics such as instruction, assessment, writing and implementing standards, cognition, effective leadership, and school intervention.

Using the model "The Art and Science of Teaching", Dr. Marzano's speech examined the specific roles of technology-infused pedagogy, with a focus on Interactive Whiteboards and Voting Technology.

From his keynote speech the message was clear
"This technology is the future of education."

1. Of those classrooms employing Promethean Activboards and using the voting technology, there was an immediate 17 percentile gain in student achievement test scores.
2. Dr Marzano also found that for a teacher using the IWB for 20-30 months there was, on average, a 20-percentile gain. This shows that with time and practice, a teacher can hone his/her skills to encourage even more student success.
3. The sweet spot for improving student achievement, according to Dr Marzano's findings, was when the IWB was used by an experienced teacher who has had the board for 2 years, using it 75% of the time in class, and supported by extensive training. Student achievement shows an impressive 29 percentile improvement.

To get the most out of the interactive whiteboard technology, a Principal can't just give it to a teacher and hope for the best. Professional development is vital for every teacher. Dr. Marzano was quick to point out, that "weaker teachers require professional development in [both] effective teaching and the use of Interactive Whiteboard Technology."

Dr Marzano emphasises the importance of:

- * A clear focus on content rather than software features - otherwise the technology can be merely distracting
- * Use of Learner Response System to keep track of students who are 'getting it' and those who are not - instant formative assessment in the classroom
- * On-going professional development for teachers on the effective use of classroom technology

www.marzanoresearch.com

To find out when and where the training dates are for primary and secondary level courses in the North island and South island please visit:

www.activboardnz.com/trainingdates

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