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News From The Bretzmann Group

Jan 15, 2014

Teachers Flip Traditional Instruction & Share Successes.

A recently published book showcases success stories of classroom teachers who are transforming their classrooms through the Flipped Classroom model. Authors will present at Byron Center High School for Michigan Flipteaching Conference Saturday (http://miflipteaching.org/)

(New Berlin, Wis.)- With the start of the second semester approaching for many school districts, teachers around the country are looking for new ways to engage their students. Many are turning to Flipped Learning to meet their students’ needs. Eighteen practicing teachers wrote Flipping 2.0: Practical Strategies for Flipping Your Classroom to guide their fellow educators through this process.

In over 300 pages of explanations, applications, and stories, Flipping 2.0 recounts the experiences of classroom teachers who made the decision to “Flip” their classroom to transform student learning and make better use of their class time. Their stories include the struggles they faced, the technology they used, and the successes they had as their instruction shifted from a teacher-centered to a student-centered classroom.

“It would have been very helpful to have someone tell me ways to flip my class when I started,” said Flipping 2.0 co-author and publisher Jason Bretzmann. “So we got together a geographically diverse group of flippers from different disciplines and grade levels to share their experiences. We asked them to tell us what to do by telling us what they did.”

Many of the authors will converge on the Second Annual Michigan Flipteaching Conference Saturday, January 18, 2014, hosted by Byron Center High School and sponsored by TechSmith, an Okemos, MI based company.

The Flipped Classroom model, pioneered by high school science teachers Jonathan Bergmann and Aaron Sams, initially moves traditional instruction methods (lecture, demonstration, etc.) outside of the classroom by posting recorded videos for students to watch as homework. This frees up class time for students to apply their learning and create more meaningful learning experiences while their teacher guides them during class.

The concept of Flipping 2.0 goes beyond this initial iteration of Flipping and moves toward an even more student-centered classroom with more critical thinking, more authentic learning, and/or a
mastery model of learning. The best use of face to face time with students is one of the most important principles.

Teachers are seeing the benefits of this model of teaching and learning. “The reception of the ideas from these great authors has been profoundly positive around the world,” Bretzmann said. “It’s gratifying to help so many teachers do even better work with their students. The prize is more student learning.”

*Flipping 2.0: Practical Strategies for Flipping Your Class* is published by the Wisconsin-based Bretzmann Group. Publisher Jason Bretzmann, a flipped-classroom teacher himself, gathered successful teachers together from the U.S. and Canada to each write a chapter outlining the steps they took to shift the way they teach. Chapters include a focus on all core academic areas, world languages, middle-level and elementary-level classes, as well as topics such as collaboration, professional development, part-time flipping, and technology for both teachers and students.

The paperback was released in August 2013 and can be found here: tinyurl.com/flipping20, and the Kindle eBook was released in September. Both are available on Amazon or from any of the author’s websites. A “Look Inside” the book can be found here.

*Flipping 2.0* authors take turns hosting regular monthly Twitter Chats at #flipping20, and are available for comments or interviews.

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About the company: Founded in 2012, The Bretzmann Group is a team of practicing classroom teachers who offer publications, workshops, and consulting services to help schools and teachers integrate Flipping and technology to improve student learning.

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