STAIR Project Report

Being a teacher is a daunting task. You have to balance your life at school with your home life. Because teaching is not something you can leave at the door when the day ends, it becomes a demanding task to stay afloat. The amount of teachers who quite in the first five years of teaching is not surprising, when you consider your job is to be responsible for the education and success of the countries future workforce. Many times teachers use their own resources to support their students, grade papers every night after their own children go to bed, and work a second job to supplement their small paychecks. While these extra tasks are stressful this doesn’t even begin to cover the stress of trying to find resources that can be used in the classroom. Searching the internet for classroom tools just adds more stress on the first year teacher.

By creating a one-stop resource for teachers we have made the first year a bit easier and a little less stressful. Because the website is sectioned off into content areas teachers are able to find what they are looking for. The student section also gives teachers the opportunity to offer resources to their students that have been researched and found to be useful.

As a group I think we provided a great resource and filled a need that was important to all of us. One of the weaknesses of this particular project was that it did not provide a place for feedback. If we could add a blog to the site it might be better. It also could give visitors even more great ideas from other teachers in the same situation. Maybe besides content areas we could have covered stress relievers or grant resources for projects and classroom supplies.

It was great to work with such a wonderful group of educators. I learned a lot about online resources and have shared our website with my coworkers who thought it was a wonderful tool. I learned about tools that were free for me to use and I thought I really knew quite a bit about what was available, but I really had no idea.