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New Skills Emerge in Student Mac Labs



North Bay ON - Three Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic schools are taking part in a pilot project involving Mac technology this Fall. Students at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School (SJSH), St. Gregory School and St. Hubert School received training last week in Apple software applications including iMovie, Word for Mac, iPhoto and Garage Band. "In these sessions, not only are we seeing our students develop new technology skills, but we see in each of them a new enthusiasm for innovation, creativity and team work," said Derek Belanger, Special Assignment Teacher in Information Technology Curriculum Applications. At SJSH, Grade 10 Academic Science students, shown below, used Mac technology to document their laboratory results while exploring the conductivity and solubility of several chemical compounds. "The results of this type of experiment are historically weak but this new and exciting mode of documenting their learning has served to increase student engagement while providing a vehicle for discussing sources of experimental error in a more genuine capacity," said Mike King, SJSH Science Curriculum Lead. The students in the SJSH Grade 12 University Preparation Physics class created multimedia documents with embedded web audio and video content as a way to learn how information is digitally coded and decoded from audio CDs, and were able to make connections between wave theory and its application to current digital communication devices like Blu-Ray, 3D and surround sound.

The Apple pilot project runs in all three schools this September and October. For more information, call Josée Guillemette, Communications Officer, at 472-1201 ext. 2229.

