NetDay Speak Up Day Briefing

NSTC Working Group on Advanced Technologies for Education and Training

Voices and Views of Today's Tech-Savvy Students

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Release of the National Report on NetDay Speak Up Day 2003
March 24, 2004

NetDay Speak Up Day for Students 2003

About NetDay

- National education technology nonprofit

- Known for our successful school wiring programs

- Focused recently on community & web based programs to help educators use technology to increase student achievement

- Newest initiative, Speak Up Day, focuses awareness on the importance of student voices in the national dialogue on education and technology

NetDay Speak Up Day for Students 2003

About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

National, online event for K-12 students to share their ideas on education and technology

Three goals:

- **Collect authentic, unfiltered student views**

- **Jumpstart local conversations between teachers and students about education technology**

- **Ignite a new national awareness on the importance of involving all stakeholders in education, and particularly students, in discussions about technology**

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About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

Participation Overview – what a great success!

210,000 surveys submitted by students from **3,000 schools** during the survey time period October 25 through November 3, 2003

- Grade distribution: K-3 (5%)   3-6 (26%)   6-12 (69%)
- Gender distribution: Female (50%)   Male (50%)
- Survey type: Class version (70%)   Individual version (30%)
- Community profile: Urban (27%)   Rural (32%)   Suburban (41%)
- School profile: Charter (1%)   Private (3%) DODD (1%)

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Catholic (5%)   Public (87%)

About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

Participation Overview – what a great success!

Geography Review: **all 50 states + DC + PR + DOD Schools worldwide**

Top states for participation: **Georgia**

Louisiana

Massachusetts

Michigan

New Jersey

North Carolina

Pennsylvania

South Carolina

Texas

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About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

Thank you!

BellSouth Foundation

Sun Microsystems

Google

US Department of Education

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About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

Thank you!

Alliance for Excellent Education, American Association of School Administrators, American Electronics Association, Benton Foundation, Cable in the Classroom, College Board, Consortium for School Networking, Council for Exceptional Children, ExplorNet, Florida Virtual High School, Generation YES, George Lucas Educational Foundation, Great Lafayette (LA) Chamber of Commerce, GreatSchools.net, International Society for Technology in Education, McKenzie Group, MAR*TEC, MOUSE, National Association for College Admissions Counseling, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Council for Community and Education Partnerships, National Education Association, National Education Knowledge Industry Association, National Rural Education Association, National School Boards Association, North American Council for Online Learning, Points of Light Foundation, Project Tomorrow, Public Education Network, Software & Information Industry Association, State Education Technology Directors Association, TECH CORPS, TechNet, Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership, The Children's Partnership, Think.com, US Conference of Mayors and Virtual High School.

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About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

What did we learn from the students about their views on technology and education?

- Today's students are **very tech savvy** and rely upon technology as an essential component of every aspect of their lives.

- They are not just using technology in different ways, they are **approaching their life and their daily activities differently because of technology.**

- The way that students are using technology gets more sophisticated at they get older but **do not under-estimate the younger children's capacity for using technology** meaningfully.

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About NetDay Speak Up Day for Students

What did we learn from the students about their views on technology and education?

- A new **digital disconnect** is emerging between students that are very tech savvy and ones that still view themselves as beginners.

- Technology is allowing today's students to be **ultra-communicators**.

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

Students of all ages are using email regularly!

- **80% of kids in grades 7-12, 45% in grades 4-6 and 29% in grades K-3 have at least one email account.**

  Significant increase in email connectivity from 3rd to 6th grade

- **22% of kids in grades 7-12 have 4+ email accounts**

- **#1 online activity for kids in grades 6-12 is email – gaming is #2.**

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

IM is changing the way students are communicating with each other.

- **70% of students in grades 7-12 have at least one screen name.**

   54% of students in grades 7-12 know more of their friends' IM screen names than their home phone numbers.

   9th graders are the greatest IM users.

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

Today's tech-savvy kids are using technology in ways that surprise their teachers.

Assignment to write a report?

67% of students in grades 7-12 go online to research their topic first,
10% go the library to find a book,
9% ask their teacher for help,
5% look in a textbook

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

Today's tech-savvy kids highly value technology access as an education right.

97% say technology access is important for their education.

71% enjoy using technology and learning new ways to use.

Students say that at schools with lots of technology:
- **Students would learn more**
- **School would be more fun**
- **Student projects would be better**
- **Students would get higher grades**

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

The Internet is not an "extra" for most students – but an essential component of every aspect of their lives.

81% of the students said that losing access to the Internet would impact their personal lives and their schoolwork.

If they could change one thing about tech @ their school, students would allow email and IM.

Their biggest obstacle to using tech more @ school?
- Lack of time in the school day to use technology

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

And if students were in charge of designing a new school their number one tech demand would be . . .

Fast, wireless access throughout the school
- **ubiquitous Internet connectivity**
- **to facilitate anywhere, anyplace, anytime learning**

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What We Learned

A sampling of our national findings:

We also learned two other valuable lessons that are important for educators everywhere:

1. Students have great ideas on how technology should be used in school, and

2. Students want to be more involved in technology discussions and issues at their school.

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About the Data

- Convenience sample
- Self-selected
- No testing of statistical significance

But . . .

The size of the sampling and the information provided is too interesting to ignore – a "pulse" of student views today.

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Impact of the Data

Input for development of the US Department of Education's new National Education Technology Plan

States are very interested in the data for planning for teachers' professional development and state programs

Schools and districts are using it for planning and decisions on technology including for supporting local bond measures

Students are using it as an impetus for greater school engagement and community activism

Education stakeholders, local & national, are having new conversations about the role of technology in education – and including students as key participants

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What's Next?

Wide spread distribution of the National Speak Up Day Report & presentations on the findings

- **Corporate briefings**
- **Conferences**
- **Associations**

Additional analysis of the data – state comparatives, school demographics

Speak Up Day for Teachers – April 29

Tools for students – to promote and sustain student engagement and empowerment in education issues

Speak Up Day for Students 2004 - 2nd annual – October 2004

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Thank you!

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National Report is available at www.NetDay.org

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