

## Toshiba Projectors Shine Brightly In Greendale High School's Vision for Education

Projector technology helps to educate students visually and interactively

### Challenge:

Greendale High School's Brian Gunn was looking for a way to incorporate technology in his history classroom in order to spark an enthusiasm for learning, and provide an interactive and engaging learning environment.

### Solution:

Knowing that today's students are bombarded with visual images from a multitude of entertainment media, Gunn sought a way to stimulate students and increase their attention spans using a Toshiba wireless projector combined with a Toshiba Tablet PC.

### Benefits:

Students are now increasingly engaged in classroom lectures via a more stimulating visual approach that involves collaborative and interactive learning techniques.

### Story:

Today's students have become accustomed to the constant bombardment of media content from electronic sources ranging from TVs to movie screens, to computer monitors. Electronic messages are in constant competition for students' attention, and have begun to change the way students are used to receiving information. As a result, high schools are in need of diverse ways to maintain students' interest in learning by engaging them with similar methods.

Greendale High School in Wisconsin has taken this challenge to heart, and has begun a pilot program that trades traditional chalkboards for state-of-the-art Toshiba projectors. The Toshiba TLP-T721 wireless projector has been employed in the classroom in order to visually and interactively grab students' attention, and improve their learning experience, and so far, it seems to be working.



The new program is the brainchild of Brian Gunn, a history teacher at Greendale High School. Gunn attended a seminar that demonstrated the power of Toshiba's projectors and quickly saw their potential for use in his classes.

"Toshiba really seems to see the potential for technology in education," noted Gunn. "I was impressed with the complete package of projector, and Tablet PC they have."



He suggested the idea to administrators at Greendale High who gave it the green light. Gunn then turned to the Educational Foundation of Greendale, an organization of businesses and community members who have set aside funds for the benefit of community schools. He got to work writing up a proposal for the program, and when it was approved by the foundation, he had the budget he needed to fund his pilot project.

### **Projecting Classroom Excellence**

With the new Toshiba TLP-T721 projector systems up and running, Gunn is able to display classroom lectures and presentations in vivid detail. He also uses the projector's unique integrated document camera to facilitate a more interactive learning environment. The document camera is a digital video camera mounted to the base of the projector via a flexible arm. The camera captures live video or still images of any object and projects the magnified content on a screen or wall for easy viewing by the entire class. When students are tasked with sketching out maps for geography class, outlining term paper ideas, or drawing pictures, Gunn simply activates the document camera, places samples of students' course work under the camera, and projects it to provide a real-time visual display for discussions or lecture.

Projecting Internet content is also a key learning aid in the classroom. During the course of his lectures, Gunn can wirelessly connect to the Internet, using his Toshiba Tablet PC, and display any number of graphics or video clips via his projector. These images supplement his discussions by providing visual references for students, allowing for more engaging and stimulating lectures.

"Once my students got used to this new type of technology in the classroom, they began to take on a more active role in classroom interaction," added Gunn. "The Toshiba projector adds color and depth to the learning process, and lets us share information easily and immediately... the students are very positive about it."

### **Conclusion**

While his class represents a pilot program for now, Gunn plans to broaden the use of Toshiba projectors at Greendale High School incorporating standards for technology use and social studies. He plans to spend the summer developing the use of the projector in his curriculum, and by the fall of 2004, he intends to be using his projector as the exclusive visual aid in his classroom, eliminating the need for his chalkboard, overhead projector and white board. Gunn envisions a broader program where all of Greendale High School's classes are being taught using projectors as key learning tools. He's off to a great start, and with Toshiba projectors, the future looks bright.