Flipping Chemistry

The Wausaukee High School Chemistry department, along with many other departments here, has made the switch to a “Flipped Classroom.” This idea, which originally stemmed from Khan Academy as well as Jonathan Bergmann and Aaron Sams at Woodland Park High School, has rapidly changed classrooms across the nation. The basic concept is to have the students watch lectures as homework so that in class the teacher can give their full attention/help to the students work on what used to be their homework. What this does is create ample time in class for the teacher to be more involved in each individual student’s learning and help them with their specific learning need at that time! This will provide more time for laboratory activities, hands-on learning experiences and one on one time/tutoring. So, instead of students sitting in a lecture for 60-90 minutes, the lecture information is now provided as a short online video or PowerPoint. They can get the class material at their OWN pace and will then bring their questions to class so that the teacher can address areas that need more in depth discussion. This will help reduce the stress of practice work that used to be taken home because the teacher will be there to help them. Their homework now is to simply watch a video/PowerPoint and fill out the corresponding notes.

Now, let’s break some myths:

The Flipped Classroom is NOT:

·        A synonym for online videos. When most people hear about the flipped class all they think about are the videos.  It is the interaction and the meaningful learning activities that occur during the face-to-face time that is most important.

·        About replacing teachers with videos.

·        An online course.

·        Students working without structure.

·        Students spending the entire class staring at a computer screen.

·        Students working in isolation.

The Flipped Classroom IS:

·        A means to INCREASE interaction and personalized **contact time** between students and teachers. Your student will have individual access to the teacher on a daily basis.

* A classroom where the teacher is not the "sage on the stage", but a personal guide to each student.
* A **blending** of direct instruction with constructivist learning.
* A classroom where students who are **absent** due to illness or extra-curricular activities such as athletics or field-trips, don't get left behind.
* A class where content is permanently **archived** for review or remediation.
* A class where all students are **engaged** in their learning.
* A place where all students can get a **personalized** education.

I have provided some video links to provide more information from teachers who have had much success with the Flipped Classroom!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aGuLuipTwg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGs6ND7a9ac>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H4RkudFzlc&feature=player\_embedded