Class 2 Discussions – Nets and ISTE Tech Standards

**re: Standards for Students:**   
[**lsprin2**](http://www.wikispaces.com/user/view/lsprin2) Tuesday, 7:55 am

Initially, I agreed with some of you in that it just seems like we have too many standards. When will we stop and think that we are over assessing these children?  
  
After reading through the 1998 standards and the 2007 updated version, I realized that these standards really do reflect best practice in a technology-rich classroom (if you are lucky enough to have the resources). In the 2007 standards, more specific language is included in the standards that indicates how the students will achieve that standard (i.e. creating, collecting, analyzing, troubleshooting). This is important for teachers to be able to evaluate student progress. I find it appropriate that critical thinking standards are incorporated with technology. Our instruction should integrate multiple subject areas so that children understand how related reading is to math, math is to technology, etc. It is also important to promote responsibility with the use of technology so that we are training students to be independent learners online. They should be taught to monitor content for appropriatness, reliability and so forth. For this reason, the addition of “digital citizenship” standards is important.  
However, will all students be provided with an equal opportunity to meet these standards through learning experiences? Unfortunately, at this time, they cannot. If these technology standards are going to explicitly state what students are expected to accomplish across school districts, then shouldn’t all students be provided with equal resources in order to meet these nationwide standards? How can all teachers be accountable for evaluating students on these standards when not all classrooms are on the same "playing field" and not all teachers have the same level of training in the use and instruction of technology?

**re: “Refreshing the ISTE Technology Standards”**  
[**lsprin2**](http://www.wikispaces.com/user/view/lsprin2) Monday, 11:38 pm

Nikki, I couldn't agree more that independent work time is so rare in school. My school is fortunate enough to have adequate resources for many technology-related activities, such as promethean boards, a computer lab and four computers in each classroom. Equal access would be ideal and, for lack of a better word, fair. We should maintain high expectations for our students, but we also need to provide them with the means to achieve these goals with the use of materials that engage students best (mostly technology).  
  
A particular section of the article struck me. On page 4 in paragraph 3/4, the author talks about "digital citizenship" and teaching students to be responsible citizens online. He talks about students being protected online and also exercising self-responsibility. Going along with an earlier comment about students using technology independently and being responsible "digital citizens," my question would be: How are teachers going to be trained in order to prepare students to use online resources responsibly and safely to promote real learning?  
  
-Lisa