**Reflection on INTASC 6: Integration of Technology/ Communication Skills**

The integration of technology and the use of effective communication can have incredible impacts on the classroom. Teachers cannot resist the influx of technology in our world, and must strive to overcome the faults of traditional instruction through facilitation of classroom communication. Technology can often have positive results on classroom learning; for instance, if a classroom is equipped with a SMART Board it can pique the interest of students. The interactive nature of technology gets students involved in the classroom like never before. Students become excited to use the new technology and they want to participate. Classroom communication makes the classroom a more pleasant place for all present, and encourages students to become free thinkers. Students that know their opinions are valued will be willing to share them with their classmates in order to get their feedback. If classroom communication is overlooked, these interactions may never happen. The English classroom can make great use of the integration of technology. Because students often want to express their knowledge in methods other than essays, technology allows us to offer assessments in different ways. For example, the final assessment from a unit may be a presentation using PowerPoint, or creating a video with a group. The integration of technology gives students options in showing what they have learned, and makes the class more interesting. Classroom discussion is incredibly important in the English classroom. Literature Circles allow students to discuss novels freely in small groups, if communication within the classroom is not present then group activities will be meaningless. Fostering a classroom community that wants to communicate is instrumental in creating an interesting English classroom. INTASC 6 can have great impacts in the classroom and can make it a place students want to be. The free thinking space that results from classroom communication inspires students to go above the norm, and technology can inspire creativity.