Implementing Technology-Enabled Active Learning Strategies in K-12 Education

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“The challenge for educators is to try to prepare children not for the current world, but for a future one, a world with future developments that are still to be imagined.”
“The challenge for educators becomes to create a new learning environment that is not bound by the physical boundaries of the classroom but is globally connected to the vast wealth of ever-growing knowledge and experience, that no child should be deprived from access to. . . . [To] empower students to fully explore new frontiers where their creativity and imaginations take them.”
Active Learning Instructional Strategies

- Problem-based learning
- Inquiry-based learning
- Project-based learning
- Experiential learning
- Authentic learning
Examples of Active Learning Strategies

http://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning-overview-video
Why do so few teachers use technology-enabled active learning strategies in their instruction?
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1. Teachers view of role

2. Teachers fear technology will be a detraction

3. Teachers believe that face-to-face classroom instruction is the most effective.
Why do so few teachers use technology-enabled active learning strategies in their instruction?

4. Using technology takes too much time

5. Technology may not work

6. Lack of support from peers

7. Lack of support from organization
Why do so few teachers use technology-enabled active learning strategies in their instruction?

8. Perception that technology is not relevant/helpful/appropriate to subject area
9. Teachers are unaware of advantages
What can K-12 leaders do to encourage/assist teachers to at least consider using technology-enabled active learning strategies?
Strategies to Implement

1. Provide organizational support
2. Incorporate strategies in teacher preparation programs
3. Attack the organizational culture
For an example of a futures approach to organizational development see http://horizon.unc.edu/projects/seminars/K-12.html. Note in particular the references cited in this approach.

To participate in a discussion of barriers to teachers adopting technology-enabled active learning strategies and strategies to overcome these barriers, see http://www.linkedin.com/groupItem?view=&gid=2811&type=member&item=38211619&qid=d8c18