

January 2010

Dear Stonybrook Families,

You may have been reading about "Web 2.0." Web 2.0 is a term that reflects the second generation of the World Wide Web and the level of connectivity the web allows us to embrace. The web itself has not changed. The way we use it, however, has changed markedly. Web tools such as blogs and wikis, and social networking are examples of ways the web has changed the face of communication.

Those of us who were not born into the digital world but have, at some later point in our lives, become fascinated by and adopted many or most aspects of the new technology are considered "digital immigrants." (Prensky, 2001)

It is my belief that educators and parents (aka digital immigrants) must learn about this new way our children learn and think. Teachers have been using technology for student learning for years. Recently, teachers are beginning to use Web 2.0 applications such as class wikis and blogs. The implications for deepening student understandings are limitless!

As a digital immigrant who yearns to assimilate to this new culture, I have created a blog, "Principally Speaking." The web address is <http://mulhollandj.edublogs.org/>. Please visit! I plan to share my own reflections, information, interesting links, podcasts, and more. You are encouraged to add comments to my posts by clicking on the "Add Comment" box. Please respect the following guidelines when posting:

- Respect the privacy of others. When posting, do not use names, or descriptions that would indicate specific people.
- Use appropriate language.
- Please note that all responses enter a queue before they "go live" for everyone to read. Once approved, comments will be publicly available on the blog for everyone to see.

I'm excited about this additional opportunity for utilizing technology as a means of further fostering the home/school connection!

As always, my door remains open,

Jodi Mulholland

[Click Here to Access the "Principally Speaking" Blog](http://mulhollandj.edublogs.org/)