

# Digital Professional Portfolios: Pathways to Professional Development

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December 04, 2004

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## Agenda

### I. Overview/Introductions/Creation of a KWL Chart on digital professional portfolios

- What do you know about digital professional portfolios?
- What do you want learn about digital professional portfolios?

### II. Multimedia presentation and examination of digital professional portfolios

- What are portfolios/digital professional portfolios (DPP)?
- Examine DPP's [online] at <http://home.gwu.edu/~nmilman/dp>
- Consider the following questions when reviewing DPP's online:
  1. What elements are common among the DPP's you have examined?
  2. Which portfolios did you like most? Explain why.
  3. Which portfolios did you like least? Explain why.
  4. What elements do you think are important to include in a portfolio? Why?
  5. What are the advantages and disadvantages to creating DPP's?
  6. Why would you create a digital portfolio as opposed to a traditional (print-based) portfolio?

### III. Digital professional portfolios and high-quality professional development

- Examine the *Characteristics of High-Quality Professional Development* (page 4 of this packet) and determine which of these are addressed by digital professional portfolios

### IV. Presentation/activity/discussion: Portfolio development process, standards, and professional development

- What is the portfolio development process? How can teachers and other school professionals frame portfolios around standards? Which characteristics of quality professional development are present in the portfolio development process?

### V. Presentation and dialogue about technological approaches to digital professional portfolios

- Which technologies are used to support producing and storing digital professional portfolios?

### VI. Revisiting the KWL chart and considering what was learned

- What have you learned about digital professional portfolios?
- How can digital professional portfolios support professional development?

Workshop URL:

<http://home.gwu.edu/~nmilman/dp>

**Sample "KWL Chart"**

K "What I know"	W "What I want to know"	L "What I learned"

### Characteristics of High-Quality Professional Development<sup>1</sup>

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The mission of professional development is to prepare and support educators to help all students achieve to high standards of learning and development.

High-quality professional development:

- focuses on teachers as central to student learning, yet includes all other members of the school community,
- focuses on individual, collegial, and organizational improvement,
- respects and nurtures the intellectual and leadership capacity of teachers,, principals, and others in the school community,
- reflects best available research and practice in teaching, learning, and leadership,
- enables teachers to develop further expertise in subject content, teaching strategies, uses of technologies, and other essential elements in teaching to high standards.
- promotes continuous inquiry and improvement embedded in the daily life of schools,
- is planned collaboratively by those who will participate in and facilitate that development,
- requires substantial time and other resources,
- is driven by a coherent long-term plan, and
- is evaluated ultimately on the basis of its impact on teacher effectiveness and student learning; and this assessment guides subsequent professional development efforts.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education. (2000). *Building bridges: The mission & principles of professional development*. Retrieved January 29, 2002, from <http://www.ed.gov/G2K/bridge.html>.

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### Sampling of Portfolio Development Tools<sup>2</sup>

Software Program or Authoring Environment	Platform	Ease of Use	Cost	Recommended Storage Format	Creative Capabilities	Presentation Format	Graphic Formats Supported	Video Formats Supported	Audio Formats Supported
Teachers Portfolio	Mac	Beginner	\$195	Hard drive	Low	Linear/ Hyperlinear	.pict	.qt	.aif, .aiff
PowerPoint 2001	Mac, PC	Beginner	\$300 regular edition or \$129 academic price	CD, Zip, or Web	medium	Linear/ Hyperlinear	.jpg, .pict, .png, .bmp	.mov, .wmf	.midi, .wav, .mp3
e-Portfolio	Mac, PC	Beginner	Under \$70	CD, Web	high	Hyperlinear	.gif, .jpg, .png	.mov, .rm, .ra, .mpeg, .wmf	.wav, .aiff, .midi, most others
Netscape Composer	Mac, PC	Advanced	Free	CD, Zip, or Web	high	Linear/ Hyperlinear	.gif, .jpg, .png	.mov, .rm, .ra, .mpeg, .wmf	.wav, .aiff, .midi, most others
HyperStudio Version 3.0 and higher	Mac, PC	Advanced	\$199 for teacher's edition	CD, Zip, or Web	high	Linear/ Hyperlinear	.jpg, .gif, .pict	.avi, .mov, .mpeg (version 4.0 only)	.wav, .aiff, .mp3 (version 4.0 only)
Kid Pix Deluxe	Mac, PC	Intermediate	\$30	CD, Zip, or Web	low	Linear	.bmp	.avi, .mov	.avi
Adobe Acrobat	Mac, PC	Intermediate	\$250 or academic price \$60	CD, Zip, or Web	low	Linear	converts graphics in original documents	None	None

<sup>2</sup> Kilbane, C.R., & Milman, N.B. (2003). *The Digital Teaching Portfolio Handbook: A How-to Guide for Educators*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.