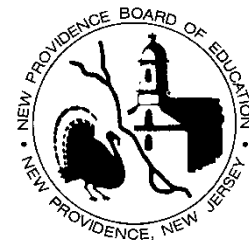


Press from:

The New Providence School District  
356 Elkwood Avenue  
New Providence, NJ 07974  
Phone: (908) 464-9050  
Date: February 16, 2023



**For Release:** TapInto

**Submitted by:** New Providence School District

**Subject:** Local teachers highlight grants in action at statewide conference

New Providence School District faculty recently presented two workshops at the statewide TECHSPO conference, sponsored by the NJ Association of School Administrators, in Atlantic City, NJ.

Elementary technology coordinator, Julie Spoerl, and elementary math coach, Kathryn Lemerich, presented an information session on using eGlass to “Draw In” Students and Teachers. eGlass is an illuminated, transparent writing glass board with a built-in camera that captures a teacher’s face and writing in the same picture, boosting student engagement and fostering a social emotional connection with the class/audience. eGlass can be used live in the classroom or to record professional learning videos that teach a concept which can be shown in multiple learning spaces at students’ own pace or as a class. The workshop shared ways District faculty have utilized eGlass and the many potential opportunities it can provide to support student engagement and connection, and utilize best instructional practices within a school or classroom.

Ms. Spoerl also presented a workshop on Merge Augmented Reality cubes and software. Participants in the session had hands-on experience with Merge Augmented Reality cubes and software. The Merge Cube works with Merge EDU, a hands-on digital learning platform that enhances students’ educational experiences with 3D objects and simulations they can touch, hold and manipulate. Students are engaged using these digital manipulatives and the software provides opportunities that wouldn’t otherwise be possible in a classroom setting. Using minimal setup and peripherals, teachers can seamlessly integrate these simulations into their curriculum. Students can then directly manipulate elements of the content, contributing to deeper learning and further questioning. Additional faculty members and administrators including Jim McGeechan, Alex Menard, Jennifer Pasuit and Jean Drexinger provided valuable support in the preparation of the presentations as well.

Through grants written by Ms. Spoerl and Mr. Nick Zipeto (Salt Brook Technology Coordinator), and fulfilled by the New Providence Education Foundation in 2022, New Providence School District has received two eGlass boards and the Merge Augmented Reality software for use at Allen W. Roberts and Salt Brook Schools.

Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools, adds “It is a great sense of pride, as Superintendent, to observe our staff presenting at a statewide conference. The instructional innovation, knowledge, and professionalism is second to none. I appreciate their efforts in sharing our success with technology integration.”