**Education has become computer dominate**

More and more of teaching and learning is computer based. From grades and lesson plans to communication with parents and administration is being done on the computer. Schools are so dependent on computers that they are crippled when the power goes out or the computer network goes down.

**SMART Boards, Power Point Presentations and Internet are used in classrooms**

Part of the crippling is due to increased use of technology for teaching. Educators use SMART Boards, document cameras and computers to enhance learning and increase student interest. Showing a student a concept instead of just telling them is crucial to long term success.

**Online Education and E-Learning**

Online learning is increasing in schools of all types across the United States. Students in many parts of the country now have choices when it comes to e-learning. The options include full-time, private virtual schools; state-sponsored virtual schools; supplemental online learning courses offered by traditional brick-and-mortar schools; and charter schools. At the same time, a growing number of students have access to online courses in their traditional schools. Schools are tapping into e-learning for a variety of reasons. Some schools say it saves money and allows them to offer a wider variety of courses, including Advanced Placement classes. Others say it can help with scheduling conflicts when a face-to-face class is provided only at a time when a student already has other obligations. In addition, online courses can provide highly qualified teachers for classes otherwise not offered by a school.

The International Association for K-12 Online Learning which is also known as iNACOL, has estimated that more than 1.5 million students in kindergarten through grade twelve were engaged in some form of online or blended learning in the 2009-10 school year. At the end of 2010, supplemental or full-time online learning opportunities were available in at least 48 of 50 states, plus the District of Columbia (iNACOL, 2010) Probably the fastest growing area of online learning is credit recovery. These online courses allow students to retake classes they haven’t been successful in, but in a new and different format and often at their own pace.

**Online Testing**

Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS)

The addition of online testing has changed education in so many ways. First, students know instantly if they have met the standard or not. They are also given three chances to meet the standard, so if a student is having an off day, they have another chance. This also gives teachers instant information on areas where whole groups of students are struggling.