



Leadership in Education Essay Competition

Overview

This is an individual competition. The purpose of the Essay Competition is to provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate their critical thinking and creative writing skills, as well as to explore teacher leadership and the wide range of roles teachers assume to support school and student success.

Assigned Topic

Technology integration is a growing issue in education. It is used as a tool to target all learning styles and to promote technological skills needed for the 21st century which includes reading, writing, and understanding online texts. As a result of technology's influence on society, most navigation occurs using a digital tool from parking one's car to taking state high-stakes exams. To assist students, some school districts have provided tablets/laptops, and cell phones to level the playing field for those with economic disadvantages. Not including technology is also seen as a health concern because students are no longer carrying loads of books which caused back issues in students in varying age groups. Additionally, by placing texts on screens, the cost to school districts have been minimized.

However, given the benefits to students and businesses that graduates will be technologically minded, the implementation and implications for the classroom, the teacher, the student, and the school have impeded the progress in some schools and/or districts.

Think about technology integration and its benefits and disadvantages. Discuss if technology integration has been an additional benefit to students. Use research and your own experiences to argue your point. Develop an argumentative essay that is well-reasoned and articulates your points thoroughly.

Twenty-four (24) entries will be accepted for this competition. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be limited to the number of participants.



Leadership in Education Essay Competition

Competition Guidelines

- A. Entry form must be received by **5:00 pm on Friday, November 1, 2019.**
- B. Essays must be emailed to feaconference@fiu.edu **by 5:00 pm on Friday, November 8, 2019.** The contestant's full name and the name of this competition must appear in the email subject line. Essays received after this deadline will not be considered.
- C. Essay must be written in English and be no fewer than 550 words and no more than 1,100 words in length, double-spaced (word count excludes list of sources).
- D. Entries must be in 12-point Times New Roman or an equivalent font with a one-inch margin on all sides of the page.
- E. Entries must be the student's original work and not copied from any books, articles, or from the Internet. Only one entry per student is allowed.
- F. Essay must have a cover sheet containing the following: title, student's name, school contact information, FEA advisor's name and date (this information must only appear on the cover sheet). Cover sheets do not count in the essay's word limit.
- G. Contestants **must include at least three references and cite all their sources of information in a Works Cited list.** MLA, APA, or Chicago-style format are required. Please use care to avoid plagiarism; plagiarized essays will be disqualified. **Essays without a Works Cited section will also be disqualified.** Works Cited sections will not count in the essay's word limit.
- H. Entries must include text only. Do not include photographs, illustrations, or background graphics or colors.

Judging and Scoring

- A. Essay will be pre-judged. Contestants must register and be present at the conference to win.
- B. The judges' decisions are final.
- C. Scoring is based on the Leadership in Education Essay Competition rubric.

How to Enter

- A. A link to access the Online Competition Entry Form will be provided to the chapter's advisor after all student members have registered to attend the conference via our Eventbrite page. Faculty advisors (not individual students) must complete and submit one form online.
- B. Entries submitted by email will not be accepted.
- C. Only two student essays per chapter will be considered for this competition.
- D. Twenty-four entries total will be accepted for this competition. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Persuasive Essay

Points Available	Accomplished 8 – 7	Commendable 6 – 5	Developing 4 – 3	Needs Improvement 2 – 1
Structure	The essay is expertly sequenced and structured in a way that maximizes understanding and impact.	The essay is sequenced and structured in a way that supports comprehension.	The essay's structure and sequence reflect limited strategy for supporting understanding or impact.	The essay's structure and sequence reflect a lack of strategy and may distract the reader from the intended understanding or impact.
Clarity	The essay's professional-caliber recommendations are entirely clear, contextualized, justified, and feasible.	The essay's commendable student-level recommendations are mostly clear, contextualized, justified, and feasible.	The essay's recommendations may not be clear, contextualized, justified, or feasible. Revision is recommended.	The essay's recommendations are not clear, contextualized, justified, or feasible.
Depth of Research	The essay makes informed, evidence-based recommendations by referencing at least three well-chosen sources of relevant information.	The essay makes recommendations by referencing fewer than three sources or the source material may not directly correlate to the essay's central purpose.	The essay makes limited connections to relevant research.	The essay makes virtually no connections to relevant research.
Overall Impact	The essay's professional-caliber and highly persuasive exploration of the issue and explanation of recommendations deliver maximum impact and understanding to the audience.	The essay reflects a commendable student-level effort. With minor revisions and delivery tweaks, the essay could be considered professional caliber.	The minimally persuasive essay demonstrates effort. At multiple points, the content may not effectively articulate or justify its recommendations. This may limit the impact of the essay.	The unpersuasive essay demonstrates inconsistent, unprofessional, or superficial aspects of its content and structure. The reader is frequently distracted from the intended impact by aspects of the content, structure, or lack of professionalism.

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Essay Guideline Adherence

Points Available	3 – 1	0
Title Page	Contains title, contestant's name, school, contact information, FEA advisor's name and date.	Does not include a title page.
Citations	Includes at least 3 references and cites all sources of information accurately, using MLA, APA, or Chicago-style format	Includes less than 3 references.
Works Cited	Includes a Works Cited section and accurately uses MLA, APA, or Chicago-style format.	Does not include a Works Cited section.
Length	One-and-a-half to three full pages of research-supported recommendations with appropriate context.	Less than one full page or more than three full pages of research-supported recommendations with appropriate context.
Grammar & Mechanics	Contains three or fewer errors related to grammar and mechanics, including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage, and subject-verb agreement.	Contains more than three errors related to grammar and mechanics, including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage, and subject-verb agreement.