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November 18, 2013

**Unit 2 - Learning Activity #2- Unaccepted tools**

**Calgary Board Of Education Three Unaccepted Tools:**

Info Retrieved From: <http://www.cbeilc.info/web2/tools/>

**Name of Tool: Prezi**

**Tool Website:** [**http://prezi.com/**](http://prezi.com/)

**Description:** Prezi is an online presentation builder that allows users to add content in a non-linear fashion (like a mind-map or web). It has an infinite canvas that can be added to at any time either by the original designer or collaboratively (in a group discussion or inquiry based lesson). You can add images, videos, links and more as well as customize fonts, colours, layout, etc. The presentation is shown as zooming, rather than slide after slide- it is very eye-catching. Prezi makes Powerpoint look useless.

**Reason for Status:** This tool requires that users are 18 years of age or older.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

##### Name of Tool: Dropbox

##### Tool Website: <https://www.dropbox.com>

##### Description: Dropbox is a free service that lets you bring your photos, docs, and videos anywhere and share them easily.

##### Reason for Status: This tool cannot be used for storage of student or employee personal information. Once information is put in Dropbox, it is no longer in the custody or under the control of CBE. It is fine to use for temporary storage of work items, as long as these items are not personal or proprietary information.

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##### Name of Tool: Twitter

##### Tool Website: <https://twitter.com/>

##### Description: Twitter is a social media platform, a micro-blogging service. Every tweet is limited to 140 characters or less. Twitter is surfacing everywhere in our daily lives, from your favorite restaurant chain to politicians, celebrities, sports team and TV shows. What is less known about Twitter is the academic value of learning with and from other educators and students, experts, authors, organizations from around the world leading 21st century learning reforms. By tweeting with our students, we expose them to social networking strategies, support their growth as global digital citizens and model focused, clear writing. (and much, much more directly connected with the Alberta Program of Studies).

##### Reason for Status: This tool requires that users are 18 years of age or older.

"You must be the age of majority to form a binding contract" https://twitter.com/tos The age of majority in Alberta is 18. This is a social media site. Protection of student personal information is not possible on this site, and students could be exposed to inappropriate information, material and advertising. Teachers are not able to block inappropriate material. It is advisable that teachers consult with their school administration further if they believe they have a solid rationale around using this tool for educational purposes. “You may use the Services only if you can form a binding contract with Twitter” is a direct quote from the Terms of Use. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Surrey School District Acceptance**

Prezi, Dropbox and Twitter are all online tools that students in Surrey School District may use as clearly stated on the Surrey Technology Tool Consent form. The following link takes you to the Surrey Technology Tool Consent from. <http://bit.ly/I0EJ4A>

**Usage of the tools as outlined on the consent form**:

**Prezi:** “To explain and document their learning, students may be using… Prezi,….”

**Dropbox:** “To store and manage assignments and other information, students may be using … Dropbox…”

**Twitter:** “To communicate with other learners, students may be using …Twitter….”

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**My School District Expectations:**

When in OLTD 504 I talked to our technology person and found out that students can use any tool or service where they create their own account. However, if they and/or their parents decide they do not want them to use the resource then I will need to look to other options. If I wish to use a management system or resource, in which I register students and create accounts for them, then it must be Canada based or hosted on our own server, as those hosted in the US are not subject to the Canadian privacy act.

**Under what conditions can they be used by my students:** As long as a parent/guardian gives consent a student would be able to use Prezi, Dropbox and Twitter upon creation of his/her own account.

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**Possible Use in an Online Classroom:**

**Prezi:** Here are two links with recommended ways to use Prezi. These uses can be applied in an online classroom; the lessons themselves would need to be adapted for an online environment.

“Students create "zooming" presentations for various purposes, such as presenting research, defending an opinion, or sharing a digital story.” <http://bit.ly/1cOCM87>

“Prezi is essentially a presentation tool allowing users to "zoom" from different points, documents, images, etc. in a presentation. It is a useful tool for teachers to use in instruction and/or students to use during a presentation.” <http://projectpalooza.wikispaces.com/Prezi>

**Dropbox:** allows students to store an assignments or presentation and access it from any computer or mobile device. Allows submission of files that are too big, to be sent as an attachment in an email.

Go to this link and scroll down to item #3 to see a list of ways dropbox can be used in education: <http://www.billselak.com/2012/dropbox>

**Twitter:** Can be used as a communication tool between a student and the teacherto get answers to specific questions.It can be used as a way to gather information in relation to a specific topic through the use of a hashtag. A class discussion around a specific topic can occur through a teacher created hashtag.

 Here is a link with recommended usage both for f2f and online learners. Although it makes reference to college students it can be applied to a high school setting.

<http://gettingsmart.com/2013/09/5-ways-twitter-can-help-in-education/>

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**Adaptions For Those Unable to Use the Online Tool:**

**Prezi Alternative:**

Students could use Microsoft PowerPoint which is available on most computers and then email the assignment to the teacher or submit it in the class LMS.

Students can create this in a paper based format. Student then does an oral presentation that is recorded. The recording is then submitted to the teacher.

**Dropbox Alternative:**

If a student has a gmail account they can do their assignments in Google Docs, this allows them to access it from any computer or mobile device anywhere. They then can email the assignment to the teacher or submit it in the course LMS. .

Students create the assignment on their computer or paper based (which is scanned or a photo taken) and then send as an attachment either through email or submit it in the course LMS.

**Twitter Alternative:**

Communication between a teacher and student can occur through email, telephone, or communication tool such as Blackboard collaborate.

Class discussion can occur in the course LMS as we have done in D2L.

Student can gather information through an online search or through accessing materials in a text based format.