



**For Immediate Release**

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## **NCVPS Hosts UK Teacher Program for Day-Long Conversations about Web 2.0 Collaborations**

**Raleigh:** The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) hosted 12 teachers from the United Kingdom as part of a week-long training provided by the British Embassy's Teacher International Professional Development Program.

Twelve teachers from the United Kingdom visited 2 North Carolina Schools and the North Carolina Virtual Public School to learn more about how Web 2.0 can be integrated into curriculum. Day one consisted of an update and open discussion regarding how blended learning environments can be highly engaging and very effective for student success. Teachers participated in overviews regarding the continued development of collaboration tools such as Wimba, Google Talk, Skype and podcasting in online courses taught by NCVPS. The teachers also got a sneak peak at some of the virtual world design and gaming environments being explored by NCVPS. "NCVPS is very aggressive in terms of global partnerships. We always gain from perspectives to flatten our world, and often as a result of visits like these we learn as much from our guests as they from us", comments Dr. Bryan Setser, Executive Director for NCVPS/Learn and Earn Online. "We are excited to integrate ideas into how we serve North Carolina students online as a result of our visit with educators from the United Kingdom."

The TIPD program leaders hope to continue discussions with NCVPS on how to develop international collaborations for NC students in an online environment. Dr. Tracy Weeks, Chief Academic Officer for NCVPS comments, "Global collaboration is a central tenet of 21st Century Learning. At NC Virtual Public School, we continually seek opportunities for our students and teacher to collaborate instructionally with others around the world. We hope that a partnership with teachers from the United Kingdom would allow us the opportunity to create instructional units that allow for global collaboration across the Atlantic Ocean."

The British Council, in partnership with the Department for Children, Schools and Families, manage the Teachers' International Professional Development Programme which is now in its ninth year.

For more information on the TIPD program visit,  
<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/professionaldevelopment/tipd/>

For more information on the North Carolina Virtual Public School, visit [www.ncvps.org](http://www.ncvps.org).

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