



Sponsors of Tomorrow.™



**Report to Mpumalanga Department of Basic Education
on Intel® Teach Training
conducted by SchoolNet SA
sponsored by Intel®
between March 2010 and November 2011**

Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Intel® Teach Getting Started Training	2
3. Intel® Teach Elements: Project Based Approaches Training	5
4. Intel® Teach Essentials Training	6
5. Intel® Teach Thinking with Technology.....	7
6. Recommendations and Conclusion.....	8

1. Introduction

A range of Intel® Teach training has been conducted by SchoolNet SA in Mpumalanga since the inception of the programme. Intel® continues to fund the development of Intel® Teach courseware and capacity building for trainers which enables other organizations, corporate social investment initiatives and departments of education to offer training to more schools than Intel® could fund alone.

Across the world over 10 million teachers have been trained through this programme. In the past two years, 3 000 Mpumalanga teachers have benefitted through the Intel® Teach programme which have run face-to-face workshops and sent materials to schools for the use of educators at their respective schools.

This report outlines the training that has taken place in Mpumalanga between 2010 and November 2011 as sponsored by the Mpumalanga Department of Education and the Intel® Corporation South Africa.

2. Intel® Teach Getting Started

The Intel® Teach Getting Started course is aimed at novice computer users. The course focuses on introducing teachers to basic functions that would help teachers to lighten their workload as well as introducing them to the concept of 21st Century skills. This course was only localised for the South African environment in March 2011 and thus the training of 2 trainers from Mpumalanga Province allowed for training to commence fairly soon after the training of senior trainers in April 2010.

2.1 2010 Training

Professor SS Rapinga Primary School	06 th to 09 th April 2010
Inkambeni Primary School	23 rd , 26 th to 28 th April 2010
Mbuduma Secondary School	14 th to 17 th June 2010
Rorobhani Primary School	04 th to 07 th August 2010
Mashishing High School	13 th , 14 th August 2010, 08 th , 09 th October 2010
Kgantsho Primary School	15 th to 17 th , 20 th to 21 st September 2010
Somtshongweni Primary	18 th , 22 nd and 23 rd September 2010
Besilindile Primary School Group 1	11 th to 19 th October 2010
Besilindile Primary School Group 2	20 th to 22 nd , 25 th and 26 th October 2010
Suikerland Secondary School (Training of Trainers)	22 nd to 24 th October 2010
Professor SS Rapinga Combined School	5 th , 6 th , 9 th to 12 th , 13 th , 15 th November 2010
Kanyamazane Education Resource Centre	13 th to 15 th and 17 th December 2010

With several workshops being spread over quite a few days the two facilitators had their work cut out for them. The Mpumalanga trainers were faced with the reality that schools were geographically far apart – it resulted in careful planning to reach as many teachers as possible. From the onset it was clear that clustered training would be used in order to reach more teachers in the 2010 academic year.

The lack of internet connectivity in venues proved challenging as facilitators were unable to fully introduce participants to the untold resources that abound on the world wide web. The facilitators were able to provide participants with a glimpse of the opportunities by using private modems to access the internet.

The highlight of training for 2010 in Mpumalanga was the training of trainers at Suikerland Secondary School. Individuals were invited to the training of trainers based on the initiative that was shown during a school-based workshop and further interest that was shown by other local individuals. It must be noted that the potential trainers that were invited were spread over the vast geographical area to ensure that training would be able to roll out across the province. Despite having gone through the process previously, participants still struggled with following the basic processes of completing tasks in the respective productivity tools. This made it easier for the senior trainer to spot the trainers that would be successful in assisting and guiding teachers to reaching their potential by completing this course. Of the 22 participants that attended the workshop only 2 trainers were used in 2011 to conduct training in Mpumalanga.

2.2. 2011 Training

Quarter 1

AA Khumalo Primary School	17 th - 20 th , 27 th and 31 st January 2011
Potsanyane Primary School	17 th - 22 nd January 2011
Siyeta Primary School	24 th - 27 th January 2011
Kwaguqa Primary School	24 th - 28 th January 2011
Highveld Secondary School	21 st - 26 th February 2011
Methula Secondary School	07 th - 23 rd March 2011
AD Nkosi Secondary School	07 th - 17 th March 2011
Sybrand van Niekerk High School	18 th , 19 th , 21 st , 25 th March 2011
Ngwenyane Primary School	28 th - 31 st March 2011

With two new facilitators added to the fold, training continued with fervour in Mpumalanga. Despite challenges with lack of connectivity it was evident that educators were keen to learn how best to streamline their work through the use of computer based applications. Facilitators emphasised the importance of accomplishing tasks by following the “Plan it”, “Do it”, “Review it” and “Share it” process. Initial fear of not knowing how to operate a mouse, was overcome by the end of the first day by following the process and also committing to becoming a learner once again.

Comments from teachers that attended training

- *This course is very good and can really assist in changing the way teachers teach. The time is limited though and I wish and hope that it can be extended as there activities are so strenuous and it might help if the course was not tightly packed.*
- *I liked working with Word Processing. I was able to get skills to do question papers and presentations.*
- *I would appreciate that such courses be conducted regularly.*

Quarter 2 and Quarter 3

Mpuluzi Education Centre - Group 1	28 th March to 01 st April 2011
Mpuluzi Education Centre - Group 2	04 th to 08 th April 2011
Rev. SA Nkosi Secondary School	11 th to 20 th April 2011
AD Nkosi Secondary School - Group 2	11 th - 20 th April 2011
Ndawonye Higher Primary	25 th - 28 th April 2011
Sisukumile Secondary School	06 th - 23 rd June 2011
Lochiel Primary School	18 th - 28 th July 2011



1. Principal of Bheki Mfundo at Mpuluzi Education Centre Training

With clustered training it is commendable to see the camaraderie that easily develops between teachers from the same area. Teachers shared the experience of having to learn skills linked to computer usage and this in turn unfolded into assisting each other in accomplishing tasks. Despite the concerns that were expressed by educators that the four day workshop is far too short for a course which is so dense with information, all the facilitators ensured that teachers were familiar with the functionality of the Help Guide in order to continue uncovering utilities that would allow them to complete tasks for their classes.

3. Intel® Teach Elements: Project Based Approaches

The Intel® Teach Elements: Project Based Approaches CDs were distributed to schools that completed the Intel® Teach Getting Started course in the 2010 academic year. A batch of 20 CDs were sent in order for teachers to work through the material at their own pace and to contact SchoolNet to set-up face-to-face sessions for their teachers. None of the schools took SchoolNet up on the offer.

However, the trainers for Intel® Teach Getting Started were invited to an online Training of Trainers session. Participants were issued with the CD which had to be worked through over a period of four weeks. The training was initiated with an online session where navigation of the CD was discussed and participants were then required to work through the 5 modules and complete an Action Plan. The Action Plan was evaluated by the master trainer who then only invited 6 individuals from a possible 20 candidates to the official training of trainers. Of the 6 individuals only 1 of a possible 3 people from Mpumalanga were invited to the latter session. Due to budgetary constraints in 2011–training could not be arranged for schools in the Mpumalanga region.

4. Recommendation and Conclusion

With most workshops being focused on the basic skills course, it is recommended that those teachers who have been through Intel® Teach Getting Started be introduced to the next level of

project based learning. It may include having to include an extra session of face-to-face training with participants to ensure that they reap the benefits of integrating technology into their current classroom practice.

Teachers have indicated that they are interested in the more advanced courses, and it is important to take their requests seriously but it is also necessary that individual teachers be identified and invited to the higher end courses. This method would prevent the inevitable drop-out rate due to the stringent demands of the Intel® Teach Essentials and Intel® Teach Thinking with Technology courses.

Schools in partnership with the Provincial Department of Basic Education will also need to commit budget to the professional development of their teachers. The reality of the situation is that funding is decreasing, yet the need for novice training is rising. School Management Teams will need to put money aside for the training of their teachers in the higher end courses, alternatively independent sponsors from the community would need to be approached in order to make an investment in the teachers that develop learners in their communities.

Teachers are committed to learning only if their needs can be met in terms of access to hardware and software and it is hoped that this might become a reality through the Teacher Laptop Initiative. Letters have been issued by the Mpumalanga Education Department but as yet teachers have not had the access to the benefit.

Report written by

Dezlin Jacobs

SchoolNet SA