

## **BARKING AND DAGENHAM, LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY UNITED KINGDOM**

### **InterWrite SchoolPad Key to Interactive Whole Class Teaching**

Faced with low test scores, Barking and Dagenham, a local Authority in a disadvantaged section on London's east side, has adopted the InterWrite SchoolPad as a key component to their teaching paradigm.

#### **InterWrite Whole Class Teaching**

Sheyne Lucock, General Inspector (IT) Barking and Dagenham LEA, has championed the adoption of Interactive Whole Class Teaching (ICT) methodology within the school district as a means to address poor performance on standardized tests.

Modelled after successful schools in Switzerland, ICT emphasizes teaching students up to standard through a structure curriculum and a highly interactive approach with the whole class. In this approach, classrooms are configured in a horseshoe shape so all of the students can interact with each other. Material is projected on large pull-down screens in front of the class to capture students attention. To heighten the level of interaction within the classroom, Lucock's team searched for a device to harness the dynamic content available with a computer. "We knew that we wanted to utilize the annotation software found with electronic whiteboards, but we also wanted to teach away from the whiteboard." They found that students responded well to electronic whiteboards, but that interactivity, as well as student interest, was substantially enhanced when the students could participate from their desktop, or alternatively when the teacher could be in closer proximity to students with questions.

"The SchoolPad is the rare exception where technology supports your teaching methods rather than having your teaching methods change to support the technology."

#### **Teach from Anywhere**

The wireless InterWrite SchoolPad matched perfectly with what they were looking for. It gave the teacher the freedom to teach from anywhere in the classroom while interacting with the student, as for instance, in solving a math problem, by turning the pad over to a student. "Integrating the SchoolPad into the classroom environment has been extremely well received by both teachers and students," notes Mr. Lucock.

#### **A Model for Success**

Mr Lucock comments, "We have seen significant improvement in our schools since we implemented our Interactive Whole Class teaching and the InterWrite SchoolPad is a key component of our approach." The national education office recently recognized Barking and Dagenham's success with a letter from Prime Minister Tony Blair congratulating all the schools in the district on the progress being made.

#### *About Art Systems*

From its roots in 1987 Art Systems, the Nottingham-based specialist systems distributor and service provider, has seen significant growth in the past six years. The company serves the AV, CAD/GIS, graphics and signage markets (through specialist value added resellers) with large format printing and imaging solutions from market leading manufacturers such as HP, GTCO CalComp, Mutoh, Onyx and Context.

#### For further information

Editorial queries to Joanne Powell on 0115 9575339 or joanne.powell@artsystems.ltd.uk  
Art Systems Ltd, Art House, 48, Evelyn Street, Beeston, Nottingham. NG9 2EU  
Telephone: 0115 943 1404 Fax: 0115 943 1280 Website: www.artsystems.co.uk