

## SPS Teaching & Learning Coaches

Coaches assist teachers to develop the skills and strategies needed for classroom use of technology by:

- ♦ Planning technology-rich activities or projects with individual teachers.
- ♦ Identifying resources or strategies necessary for successful learning activities.
- ♦ Modeling or team-teaching lessons that integrate technology and engaging learning strategies.
- ♦ Reflecting or debriefing on learning activities.



Today's students need 21st century skills, or the 5 Cs (critical thinking, creative problem solving, communications, collaboration, and cross-cultural relationship building)



For questions related to St. Paul's Teaching and Learning Coaches, please contact:



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To see quality student-work created as a result of teacher's collaboration with Teaching and Learning Coaches, visit

[www.spslearningshowcase.schools.of.ficelive.com](http://www.spslearningshowcase.schools.of.ficelive.com)

To find out more information about peer coaching training go to: [http://www.pugetsoundcenter.com/tl/peer\\_coaching\\_training.html](http://www.pugetsoundcenter.com/tl/peer_coaching_training.html).

## Teaching & Learning Coaches at St. Paul's Episcopal School



Preparing Our  
Students for the  
21st Century



Using the tools of communication and collaboration, St. Paul's curriculum coaches are helping teachers improve the teaching and learning process so students can reach their highest level of achievement in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

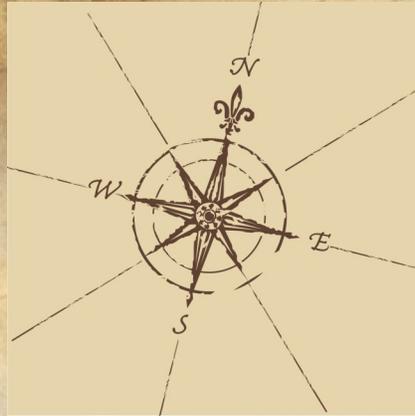


## Teaching & Learning Coaches at St. Paul's

St. Paul's Episcopal School, in Mobile, Alabama, is a private PK-12 college preparatory school. At St. Paul's, we recognize the need to prepare our students for the 21st century. We have a 1:1 learning environment in our middle & upper school & computer labs and other resources in our lower school. However, we wanted to ensure that the technology provided for our teachers & students was being used in the most effective manner. Therefore, in the 2009-2010 academic year, St. Paul's implemented a peer coaching program. Our goals for our Teaching & Learning Program are:

- ◆ Collaborative work on lesson improvement
- ◆ Assist in providing key resources, suggestions for lessons, etc.
- ◆ Help teacher leaders develop coaching skills
- ◆ Achieve systematic, purposeful technology integration
- ◆ Engage students in powerful learning
- ◆ Infuse professional development into the life of St. Paul's school

How did we begin? We first sent two teachers to peer coaching facilitator's training with the EdLab Group. Once we had facilitator's trained, we asked faculty interested in becoming a coach to apply for the coaches training. We selected 15 coaches and trained them in the summer; the coaches then worked with colleagues during the school year.



How did we select coaches? We chose teachers who:

- ◆ Are able to build trust with peers.
- ◆ Are highly organized and plan well in advance with teachers.
- ◆ Provide a safe, risk-taking environment and are non-threatening, non-judgmental, and accepting.
- ◆ Are flexible.
- ◆ Have enough depth and breadth of knowledge to help teachers who are at various stages of technology integration, including knowledge of appropriate instructional strategies.
- ◆ Are recognized by staff as strong/outstanding teachers.

What type of training did coaches receive? Coaches were trained in best practices for teaching & learning as well as collaboration & communication skills in order to work with other faculty members who want to revamp existing lessons to create authentic, problem based lessons. After training, coaches are able to show teachers the best practices for teaching and how to organize and structure a technology-rich classroom.

What impact has the program had at St. Paul's?

Teaching and Learning Coaches helped over 30 teachers at our school this year. As a result of teacher collaboration, students in grades PK-6 experienced lessons that were designed with the best practices in mind. Additionally, over half of our 6th—12th grade students benefited from best practices in the classroom. To see some of the student work created as a result of peer coaching at St. Paul's, visit St. Paul's Virtual Showcase at [www.spslearningshowcase.schools.officelive.com](http://www.spslearningshowcase.schools.officelive.com)

What are the future goals at St. Paul's?

To continue our journey of collaboration and communication among teachers in all disciplines and all grade levels. We believe that by the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, every teacher & student will have been impacted by the peer coaching program

