

# SMART Profile Wichita Public School



Students in Charlotte Bartsch's class use SMART's AirLiner wireless slate with a SMART Board interactive whiteboard to teach language arts to eleventh-grade students.

## Wireless technology products change teaching in Wichita Public Schools

High school teacher Charlotte Bartsch thinks she's found the secret to success. She's figured out how to motivate her students to participate in class.

"I have students that are reluctant to complete coursework on paper, but will spend an hour and a half totally engaged doing the exact same assignment when using the SMART Board interactive whiteboard," says Charlotte Bartsch.

Bartsch teaches eleventh-grade language arts at Southeast High School in Wichita, Kansas. She is part of the Wichita Public Schools eXtreme Literacy program designed to build reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in students who are below the appropriate level. Bartsch also uses an AirLiner™ wireless slate to engage students.

"The AirLiner wireless slate has increased participation with my eXtreme Literacy students," says Bartsch. "They are more willing to actively use an AirLiner than vocally respond to questions."

The AirLiner wireless slate is 6" x 8" (15 cm x 20 cm) and uses a Bluetooth® connection to allow users to control software applications, write notes and highlight information in digital ink from anywhere in the classroom. Bartsch writes on the slate with a battery-free pen, and the information appears on a much larger SMART Board™ interactive whiteboard for all students to see. The wireless slate can be used within 52 feet (16 m) of the interactive whiteboard, allowing students to participate while seated. Students in classrooms with multiple AirLiner slates can use them at the same time someone is writing on the SMART Board interactive whiteboard.

"The AirLiner has given me the freedom to be out in the classroom interacting with my students as opposed to sitting behind a desktop computer," says Bartsch.

Bartsch now uses the AirLiner slate in all her courses. It helps her give examples, create interactive education games and form interactive lessons on grammar and literary elements. In the eXtreme Literacy program, Bartsch use the slate to teach students a new vocabulary, and to read fluently with expression and write in complete, varied sentences. Bartsch says the AirLiner slate is also valuable in teaching paraphrasing and visual imagery, and in assessing reading and writing skills.

"The AirLiner has made a huge difference in the way I teach sentence writing for my reading classes. It allows me to show students how to dissect and label sentences in real time. Students can easily follow along and create new sentences using the AirLiner."

Wichita Public School District chose the AirLiner slate because it increases student engagement, makes learning interactive, and is portable and adaptable. It also provides opportunities for immediate feedback and visual support for concepts that are often only presented orally.

The Wichita Public School District has purchased more than 750 SMART Board interactive whiteboards, nearly one for each classroom. The district also has more than 700 AirLiners wireless slates. The eXtreme Literacy program is based on the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) strategies from the University of Kansas' Center for Research and Learning.

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**Charlotte Bartsch,**  
language arts  
teacher