How Technology is used in the Classroom

Throughout my time at Hastings High School, I have seen a lot of different ways in which technology has been used in order to benefit the learning of the students. My teacher often uses things like the overhead projector, movies, clips, and power points to aid her in her lectures. First, I think that the use of movies and clips is very helpful when teaching. Students love to watch TV, so whenever they get to watch a movie or something similar it helps them to pay attention. Aside from that, the visual examples and representations that come with a video are helpful when studying things like history. History always becomes more interesting to study whenever there is a visual image to go with it. The next thing that I see as valuable when it comes to using technology in the classroom is the use of power points in lectures. Regular lecture can be boring, and the use of power points gives visual stimuli, examples through pictures, and an opportunity for the students to make sure they write down the information that is needed in their note books. Power points are easy to use, and they can be bright and exciting to keep the students’ attention with different transitions, videos, sounds, and colors. My teacher uses power points a lot for those reasons. Over all I think that the use of technology is very important in the classroom these days. In today’s world, teachers need to be able to keep up with the students when it comes to advances in technology, since students are always so concerned and immersed in the latest and greatest things around. If teachers continue to just use the basic text book lecture strategies, it will continue to get harder and harder to gain and keep students’ attention. With the use of things like power points and videos, students will want to be more involved, and the learning process will be much more effective.
How I plan to use Technology in the Classroom

As I have seen in my Fieldwork assignment, the use of technology in the classroom is a very important aspect to a successful learning environment when it comes to the students of this day and age. When I teach history to students, I want them to be really interested in what I am trying to teach them about, even though they might never have been interested in this kind of thing before. I will probably utilize videos and movie clips a good deal, since they are great attention grabbers. All of my best teachers that I remember were very good at incorporating those kinds of things into introductions and at different parts of the lessons, because they always knew that videos were something that we as students could find interesting and relate to. Of course, one has to use them sparingly because there is no way that most videos can cover the necessary information as fully as the curriculum’s plan calls for. Mostly however, when used properly, videos and clips can certainly help students understand things better after getting a visual representation in their minds. Another group of technology that I might use in the classroom involves using websites to make quizzes and polls. There are websites where one can make different quizzes and send them out to the students, or have them so them in class. Through using things like this, whether as openers or as general quiz grades, it not only exposes students to broader things on the internet besides social networking, but also allows them to do something they might not have used before in other classes. Besides both of those things, I would obviously also use things like power points, and maybe audio books as well. The use of technology in the classroom becomes more and more advanced every year, and I look forward to learning more about it as it progresses.