Interactive Technology: Way to go at Greaves Adventist Academy Peter Gatama, Teacher, Greaves Adventist Academy, Montreal, QC

I take this opportunity to share what is happening at our school, *Greaves Adventist Academy*, in the area of technology integration in the classroom. This article focuses mainly on the usefulness of electronic whiteboards in a computer laboratory or classroom environment.

The school through the able leadership of Julia Falla, has acquired in the past year, a digital video projector, a digital camera, more computers, and printers. This coming school year, every teacher has been encouraged to buy a laptop or a desktop computer. This is a great step towards helping teachers to integrate computer technology in each classroom. Our computer lab has over thirty computers while the newly refurbished library has four computers. This is a blessing to teachers and students.



Teachers and students are now able to make PowerPoint presentations with ease. The *Education Days* in our churches are getting blessings from DVD presentations about our school. The year book is going to go digital soon. The school has a working web-site thanks to Anel Alexis and Stanford Sinclair. Technology will continue making teaching and learning more challenging and interesting. To God be the glory.

I hope and pray that our school will afford to bring in the interactive technology of electronic whiteboards. Research has shown that interactive technologies have changed the way people work, learn and collaborate. This is the way to go for *Greaves Academy*. The simplicity and practicality of interactive technology is that with one computer connected to a projector and an electronic whiteboard, an entire class can participate in computer-based activities.



An electronic whiteboard is a presentation device that interfaces with a computer. It turns a computer and projector into a powerful tool for teaching, collaborating and presenting. Computer images are displayed on the whiteboard by a digital



projector where they can be seen and manipulated. Notes can be added, points of interest highlighted, and programs manipulated

as one would a giant touch pad. Resulting notes, and drawings can then be printed out from the computer or saved for future reference.

An electronic whiteboard in the computer lab and classes at our school will enable students to be more engaged, understand faster, and retain more information. This technology can increase students contact time and hopefully decrease behavioural issues in classroom. Electronic whiteboards in our classes will help meet the needs of both visual and kinaesthetic learners. Teachers will also be able to teach their subject areas in new and stimulating ways! Way to go at *Greaves Academy*.

At *Greaves Academy* we want to be a part of the world of interactive technology. I pray that our school, in the near future, will acquire an electronic whiteboard for the computer laboratory. It is the way to go for *Greaves Adventist Academy*. May God continue to bless our school as technology becomes an integral part of classroom instruction and professional development.