OLTD 509 Reflection #1

The evidence piece I have selected is my professional development handout given to attendees of my professional development workshop this past February. The handout provided attendees with a brief synopsis of each online tool that I would be covering and provide links for further information. I have plans on doing more workshops like this one in the following school year.

As I prepped for this workshop, I re-evaluated how each of the tools I was going to present could be implemented into a regular classroom from K-12. Subsequently, as I put my handout together, some "apps" were included as potential options to address the new curriculum coming into effect next year. All the tools I presented were ones I was currently using or ones I have utilized in the past. Being able to share not only how to use these tools for oneself, but also sharing ideas of how to implement them into their classrooms was a great learning for myself and them as it forced me to think outside of my teaching practice and try to place myself in other learning environments.

Demonstrating basic competency with design and implementation within a variety of online learning environments and tools is a mandatory skill for building new courses and redesigning old courses. By building an array of knowledge and skills in a variety of learning environments and online tools, one can then share this knowledge with colleagues and strengthen the teaching community as they take that knowledge and go places one might never have gone before. While it is important to have competency in numerous online environments for making one's own practice stronger, it is just as pertinent to be able to share with colleagues so that students not in ones charge can benefit from that knowledge as well.