



“The eBeam Edge just makes teaching easier!”

Erik Wittmer, 5th Grade Teacher  
Park Hills Elementary, Hanover, PA

**Challenge**

Student engagement is difficult to maintain and absent students are falling behind in class.

**Solution**

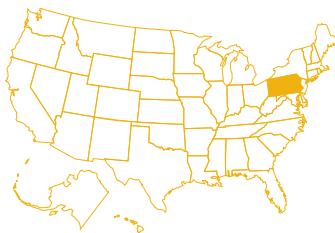
eBeam interactive software presents learning material in an active and engaging way, which can be saved and sent to absent students

**Benefits**

- Students are empowered to actively engage with lessons by interacting on the board.
- Absent students can obtain the interactive lessons they missed
- Portable eBeam solutions travel with a teacher beyond the classroom to enhance conference and professional presentations

**Location**

Hanover, PA



## Park Hills Elementary School Teacher Enlivens the Classroom and Conferences with Portable eBeam Technology™

24 students file into Erik Wittmer’s 5th grade class at Park Hills Elementary. As the kids settle down, his eBeam system is fired up, and one by one his students use the eBeam interactive stylus to sign into his projected attendance sheet on the board. Using the eBeam interactive tool palette, the kids sign their names in the color that represents the meal they want for lunch, thus combining attendance taking with lunch selection. This double-duty management of attendance and lunch is but one of the many interactive uses Wittmer has developed for his eBeam Complete system in the three years he has had it. “It just makes teaching easier!” he exclaims.

Keeping students focused is a challenge with which Wittmer is intimately acquainted. The challenge is compounded with students raised in the age of cell phones, email and other interactive technology. In many cases, the “stand and lecture” method just isn’t very efficient for encouraging students to actively think about lesson material.

To promote this type of active engagement in the classroom, Wittmer began using eBeam Complete™ three years ago. Today Erik still speaks glowingly about how it has increased interactivity amongst his students. With the eBeam system, Wittmer is able to annotate his presentations, pull in media files from Discovery Streaming online and incorporate content from the eBeam image gallery. Wittmer also uses the eBeam system to record and save presentations, which he can send to students who are out sick, allowing him to keep the students on top of the curriculum. “Some things, if you miss it, you’re lost,” says Wittmer, who saves his lessons as WMV files and posts them to his class Moodle for absent students to view at a later date. The eBeam connection to the Amazon Kindle is particularly exciting to Wittmer, who cites eReaders as being great for students with learning differences, such as dyslexia. The ability to highlight text and have it pronounced and defined, Wittmer says, helps the learning process of many of these kids. >>





Most of all Wittmer likes that his eBeam system allows his students to stay engaged and “become the teacher”—rather than passively listening to his lectures from their desks, Wittmer has the kids use the interactive stylus themselves to participate in interactive lessons projected onto the board. His students have become so comfortable handling the eBeam system that they are able to explore new uses for the system and even troubleshoot when issues arise, turning classroom technology into a learning experience in and of itself.

Wittmer’s use of his eBeam system isn’t limited to the classroom. He also uses his eBeam Complete in all of the presentations he makes, including those at local, district and state level conferences. “You almost feel naked without it,” he admits. “You become so reliant on it, it becomes second nature!” Although he is the only teacher in his school to have eBeam interactive technology, his enthusiasm for it, has sparked many of his colleagues to request more interactive whiteboard technology in the district.

