



My name is Larry Hautzinger. I am a physics teacher at Munster High School. I have been teaching for more than 25 years. I would like to talk about what QuarkNet means to our school and the benefits that our kids derive from it.

The Physics curriculum in Indiana is steeped heavily in mechanics and E/M. Prior to QuarkNet, we would be lucky to make it to particle physics with more than a day or two at the end of the year. Since it's the end of the year, this 2 day time period became a "quick, lets cover it with lecture" type of thing.

Since joining QuarkNet, we now deliberately build in a week prior to Masterclass. With this time, and the resources provided by QuarkNet, our kids are able to do several hands on activities instead of the old quick and dirty lectures of the past. We have time to discuss the results and really introduce the kids to particle physics. Masterclass gives the kids a chance to interact with kids from around the world doing the same problems as well as present their findings to legitimate experts in particle physics.

Another advantage is that Dr. Neeti Parashar, our QuarkNet mentor at Purdue Northwest and also a member of CMS at Fermilab, comes to each of our schools and gives a talk to the kids. This is beneficial in so many ways. The kids get to learn from an expert, someone who is walking the walk so to speak. Our female students see a female who has made it. Dr. Parashar is a role model for the females to venture into a field so widely touted as Male only. Dr. Parashar shows the kids that physics is a legitimate field for them to study.

Another advantage I would like to talk about is the internship offered by QuarkNet. Each summer, interested students get to apply to become a QuarkNet intern. They are paid to perform various duties in particle physics study. Our interns have been responsible for such things as making videos to show new teachers how to do the experiments for Masterclass week. They have also done work on the Cosmic Ray detector and presented that in video form.

I am a big fan of the QuarkNet experience. I would recommend to any school that they should become involved with their nearest center.

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