Socio-Professional Networking: An Online Teachers Community

Problem
Teachers are being tasked with asymmetric responsibilities that task both their time and experience, and require higher levels of involvement and communication than the past.

Solution
An online community that...
- Is simple to use
- Reduces the time spent on daily tasks
- Promotes communication between teachers

Future Goals
Due to the time constraints of a semester-long project, we were unable to implement all of the desired features on the website.

- Administrator & Counselor Sections
  During focus groups, we discovered that administrators and counselors wanted a similar site exclusive to them. We came up with a solution that would include teachers, administrators, and counselors on our site.

- Donations Section
  This feature would allow teachers to create requests for funding and non-teachers to visit the site to donate money to local schools in need of funding for various projects.

Deerfield High School Focus Group
- October 6, 2008
- 4 teachers, 88 years combined experience
- Guided discussion focused on the problems teachers face regularly and the tools they could use to solve them

Queen of Peace High School Presentation and Paper Survey
- October 28, 2008
- 64 teachers
- Specific discussion focusing on particular features teachers would like on a professional networking website

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago Survey
- October 28, 2008
- 34 teachers
- Presentation and guided discussion focused on features teachers would use in a professional networking website

Flash Tutorial / Broad Survey
- Flash survey that tours the website and asks specific questions about each feature
- Currently in progress
- Can be accessed at www.teacherknowledgeshare.com/survey