As I was collecting research, both on the internet and from colleagues, the vast amount was becoming overwhelming. I use dhttp://www.wordle.net/ to create a word cloud of the most common word that were being used. Students were at the center of any discussion of open wireless in education.

Open Wireless allows student to:
- Access documents and email they personally mange and integrate those with their school courses.
- conduct research for school projects
- Contribute to online class discussions.
- Do homework before class, at lunch or afterschool
- have a whole network of people they can tap into for feedback on an issue
- have better access to online interactive learning objects by using their own technology in class (reduce the ratio of student to screen in classes where we do not provide 1-to-1)
- Practice PATS (provincial achievement tests)
- Review and re-enforce material present in online self checks or review quizzes.
- Review difficult concepts by having access to videos created or selected by the teacher for that purpose.
- share material they have created and posted online with their peers Online classroom in e-Community
- submit content to class blogs
- Take more responsibility for their achievements by checking their grades online and catching missed assignments sooner.
- Take more responsibility for their progress and learning by checking course schedules and outlines.
- Use personal equipment at school increases the likely hood of using such technology at home for educational purposes.
- Using personal equipment at school increases the connection between home and school.
- Using personal owned devices (PODs) like iPod touch to connect instantly and find the answer to a question, without having to wait for the teacher.
- View, complete, and submit assignments in eCommunity.

The Pros & Cons of Implementing the Internet in the Classroom

From http://www.princeton.edu/~soccomp/edu/sides.html

- vast amount of resources that are otherwise not available in any one geographical location amount of resources it makes available to its users Web offer children a very diverse look at a subject
- improvement of skills related to critical thinking, problem solving, and group work
- Internet services offers a chance for children of different talents to all develop a certain niche in the use of the medium
- Both independent projects and collaborative undertakings. This means that the same medium allows for deepening individual skills as well as enhancing group dynamics skills. Children can gain status through helping others,
- Most Internet tools require some amount of reading, and different amounts of writing. Moreover, they require skills of logic and inference for the navigation of sites.
- Electronic mail gives students the convenience of responding at their own convenience thereby giving them the time to contemplate their responses.

Alberta's Minister of Education, the Honorable Dave Hancock agrees, indicating that technology makes learning a richer and more exciting experience for students and teachers alike. "These technology projects will provide valuable insight into innovative teaching and learning approaches that will benefit the education system." ..I am afraid that being overly concerned about personal pocket technologies is preventing us from addressing the far larger issue of helping our students learn and work within today's information landscape. The prevailingly digital and networked content that surrounds us is different, in almost every way, from the textbooks we continue to pour educational dollars into. Rather than working to block pocket technologies from entering the classroom, we need to be working harder to get more full-featured information and communication technologies (laptops or netbooks) under the arms of every teacher and student learner and establishing platforms for learning in this new landscape. David Warlick

These are videos and weblinks that talk about 21st Century Learners and Internet Safety:

Opening the Network to Students http://davidwarlick.com/2cents/?p=2003 good quote

The Machine is Us/ing Us http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3fNmmlU7GI

Did you know 4.0 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ILQrUrEWe8

http://shifthappens.wikispaces.com/ Did you Know Evolution

A vIsion of k-12 Students Today http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_A-ZVCjfWf8

Talking to Students about Appropriate Use http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/net-cetera.aspx

 Wired Safety http://wiredsafety.org/