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...a service of [The Point](#) - a classroom blogspace from [fcps.net](#)



TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 5, #6 (March, 2006)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 8/21/2006

Welcome to the 6th edition of **TIPS, The Feed**, for 2005-06! This accumulator contains blog content created by **Technology Resource Teachers** from the **Office of Instructional Technology**, covering a variety of topics and interests concerning the integration of technology into instruction.

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TIPS - The Editor's Desk

Brief musings on the implementation of technology integration in Fayette County Schools...from the Office of Instructional Technology



...from the desk of Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin

Monday, March 06, 2006 12:09 PM: Technolust

This morning, Dr. Mary Ann Bell from Sam Houston State University posted an accumulation of "technolust" stories to the [EDTECH listserv](#). Technolust is that tendency to buy computer technologies just because they're sexy, or interesting to one person only, thereby wasting precious technology funds on something which is used only briefly, if at all. [Her posting](#) ends with the question, "...does anyone has suggestions about what to do in the face of this issue?"

Dr. Richard Clark of the University of Southern California spins the problem differently, stating that "...media are mere vehicles that deliver instruction but do not influence student achievement any more than the truck that delivers our groceries causes changes in our nutrition." But the teachers mentioned by Dr. Bell tend, as early adopters of educational technology tools, to speak as if the "delivery truck" is, in fact, the *definition* of nutrition...for example, the open Internet defines the very essence of self-directed learning. It is somewhere between these two extremes where the real truth lies.

We've known since Marshall McLuhan that the use of technology media changes the message, and by implication, the use of technology changes learning. The most recent evidence I've had of this was the use of simple video projects in writing assignments. And, of course, *The Point* provides a context and motivation for thoughtful, connected discourse!

The answer to Dr. Bell's question is quite simple, if we layer in the technology after the learning goals have been selected. We do have an obligation to teach technology use skills to our students, but for no other reason than that they serve as great tools in the pursuit of other, more ordinary and human goals: effective communication, skill and concept acquisition, to name a few. If you have a goal, it's easy to justify a tool, and the purchase and implementation of that tool will be a good use of funds. If anyone ever walks into your classroom and says "I've got a great tool, let's see if we can find a great educational use for it!"...you're in the presence of somebody with technolust! Don't put them in charge of your school's technology committee!

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=10067>

Sharepoint - Content Management in Fayette County

A discussion of the district roll-out of the [Fayette County Intranet](#) using Microsoft's Sharepoint Services

...from the desk of Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin

Monday, March 06, 2006 12:25 PM: Sharepoint and Security

Sharepoint - Fayette County's new content/workflow management system - is embedded in network security. Of course, it's possible to read that sentence, and assume that any Sharepoint site is instantly secure! Nothing could be further from the truth! This simply means that the tools to secure a Sharepoint site exist. It is still up to the administrator of any Sharepoint to make sure those tools are used appropriately!

By default, all sites created off of the Intranet home page are available to anyone who can log into any public district network in the state of Kentucky. This, of course, includes all Fayette County students from 3rd grade on. You can restrict your site to less than this, but to do so requires you to click some links and select some other choices.

In general, when you set up your Sharepoint site, ask yourself "Who should *not* view this site?" In most cases, the answer will be that anyone should be able to. But when you place a list, document, or other resource on that site, you must ask that question again. If, at any time, the answer is "only teachers" or "only teachers at my school" or "only teachers in my team/department/grade level," then you'll need to go to work. That work can be at the site level, or for any of the "Web parts" (lists, document libraries, etc.) on your site. You can get complete instructions for how to do that work from the [Feedback/Help](#) page linked from any Fayette County Sharepoint site.

The first goal of Sharepoint is use, the second is security...both require your direct participation!

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=1621>

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...from the desk of Paula Whitmer

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=14>

STLP in FCPS

A discussion of STLP activities, issues, and projects in Fayette County Schools.



...from the desk of Paula Whitmer

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Friday, March 03, 2006 4:14 PM: FCPS Technology Fair 2006

The **Fayette County Public Schools Technology Fair** is coming up very soon! Please join us on **March 18th** at **Tates Creek High School**. Each school, plus several community and vendor partners, will have a booth celebrating how technology is being used in our schools. Booths will be hosted by students and staff from each school featuring instructional, technical, entrepreneurial, and community projects. Vendor and community partners will share how they support our students and schools.

The doors to the Technology Fair open to the public from 9:00-11:15 A.M. Visit booths in both the cafeteria and gymnasium. Join us for the awards ceremony at 11:30 in the Fuller Auditorium in the main building.

Visit the [Technology Fair website](#) for more information.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=131>

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...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=52>

Website of the week

People who surf the web come across some great sites! I plan on posting my finds here.



...from the desk of
Leanna Prater

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Thursday, March 02, 2006 3:28 PM: Low Life Labs

<http://www.robotsandus.org/>

Don't let the name fool you! This is a great site for exploring robots and insects and lots more! You'll find lots of activities for moving, thinking, sensing and being. The site is part of the Science Museum of Minnesota.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=696>

The Forum Blog

The Forum Blog (and other e-communication stuff)
...from the desk of Leanna Prater

Thursday, March 02, 2006 3:34 PM: Regions of KY--We're still looking for classes

Looking for a new way to study the regions of KY and integrate technology? This project promotes a safe way for teachers and students across KY to communicate about the regions in which they live. We are still looking for classes to participate!

<http://teach.fcps.net/trt14/RegionsofKY/Kentucky.htm>

This is an excellent opportunity for your students to learn about primary and secondary sources as well as learn about the regions of their state first hand.

Enrollment is open and the project is gearing up to start toward the middle of March. Click on the link to enroll.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=122>



The contents of this website are intended for the enhancement of instruction only. "It's About Kids"