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TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 6, #3 (November, 2006)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 11/1/2006

TIPS - the Technology Office newsletter - moved to a blog feed in the fall of 2005, delivering ideas and instructional support for Fayette County teachers through blogs maintained by Technology Resource Teachers in the Office of Instructional Technology. For a look at this e-zine before the fall of 2005, look to <http://teach.fcps.net/tips/>.

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

Wednesday, November 01, 2006 10:31 AM: Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

I was amazed...in a recent discussion with a technology teacher, he mentioned that moving things online simply wasn't that interesting, since you missed the human connection of face-to-face contact. Be that as it may, that wouldn't be a remark he could tender in front of kids! Kids "get" online connections, much more so than adults. They "get" that those connections are always available, and that they can transcend time and space. But even if he's right, the fact that the average teenager now spends more time online than in front of a television (see [this PBS/Kaiser Family Fund-sponsored research study](#)) means that avoiding online delivery is feeding the opinion amongst young people that education and adult interests are irrelevant to them.

Southern Middle is trying to tip this towards the kids end of this! They have embedded their portfolio process into an online newspaper format, and are publishing student writing there! From tech resource teacher Guyanne Vaughan...

The [Southern Middle School] E-News is set up to encourage students to build their portfolio pieces, transactive writing, persuasion, etc... into an electronic newspaper. This is a nine-week Exploratory Course. All students in grades 6-8 will be participating at some point during the year, depending on which nine weeks they have signed up for the class. It's set up like a newspaper with class photograph, feature writers, editorials, sports, even some Special Needs Student's artwork for the graphics in some articles. At the end of the second nine weeks, this section will be archived and the second nine weeks will be published.



Guyanne and Charlotte Postlewaite are currently responsible for teaching and handling publishing responsibilities for the E-News. They had to clear a lot of hurdles to get where they are, but as you can see from the quality of the writing and display, the work is worth it! As Guyanne adds, "I hope this will encourage teachers across the district to challenge their students to take pride in their portfolios and be willing to share them with others across the district and state."

Great idea!

...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

Wednesday, November 01, 2006 11:02 AM: Using SharePoint to gather data

The Foundations Survey of School Safety took several weeks to research, a week to develop...and an hour to post the resultant 80 or so questions to 30+ schools' SharePoint spaces. What is amazing is that a long list of research concerns were instantly handled in that hour...

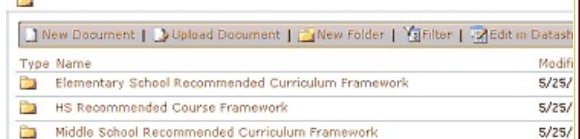
- Each survey was instantly available only to the adults at that school.
- Survey takers could only take the survey once.
- Results were instantly tabulated, and exportable as an Excel spreadsheet. Despite all of the instantly-created controls, anonymity is easy to maintain.

Since all of these processes are automated, the results of this survey will be available almost as soon as they are completed!

Featured use:

The Curriculum Framework goes public! FCPS Recommended Curriculum Framework

Well, not *exactly*, but access to this ongoing project of the **Office of Student Achievement** (with Jack Hayes at the helm) is being accessed and examined by folks at the Kentucky Department of Education, and districts across the state! Content management is a pivotal part of this process, giving people access to the latest and greatest work on this important resource!



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

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