

*In this feed...*

**TIPS - The Editor's Desk** (Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin)

**The Virtual Elementary Classroom** (Jamie Burch, District TRT)

**Fayette's iSchool - The blog for FCPS's Moodle Project** (Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin)

**The Video-Linked Classroom** (Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin)

**Student Technology Leadership Program** (Julie Gaskin, District TRT)

**Internet Safety** (Leanna Prater)

**Video Hints and Helps** (Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin)

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



Home
Contacts
Public Blogs

**TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 8, #2 (October 2008)**

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 10/1/2008

TIPS - the Technology Office newsletter - is a feed of ideas and instructional support for Fayette County teachers, delivered through blogs maintained by Technology Resource Teachers in the Office of Instructional Technology. See the complete list of archives in <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

**Tuesday, September 30, 2008 12:06 PM: What works (and what doesn't)**

As we did last year, the Office of Educational Technology is offering earmarked technology funds to schools through a **Request for Proposal** process. Many of the proposals funded from last year have been fabulously successful, some perhaps less so. But all have provided invaluable insight into the role of educational technology in student learning. Through evaluations submitted last year, and through follow-ups using site visits by this office again this fall, Greg Drake has accumulated a laundry list of bullets to inform the application process this year. That list of "do's" matches pretty closely the sorts of things we've known all along, though not all. Here's a quick distillation of what was mentioned in that list. For the complete list, contact your school tech coordinator at the end of this week (Oct. 3).



The Big Idea	What Worked Well
Extending the Teacher and the Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology which extends the instructional day beyond the school walls and class schedule (online tools such as blogs and Fayette's iSchool, for example)</li> <li>Technology which supports activities outside of students' usual tasks or modes of expression (media production, for example).</li> </ul>
Laptops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology which seamlessly supported an entire instructional sequence - from research and pre-writing to finished product - produced excellent results. This was the "effective practice" for a lot of the proposals for laptop carts.</li> <li>Not unrelated, technology located in the classroom (rather than labs or other locations) produced results. This was true of Smart technologies as well as laptops and classroom computers.</li> </ul>
Deployment	<p>Several deployment strategies produced better results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ownership</b> - teachers who felt they "owned" proposals (they helped design them for their own use) were more successful in their implementation.</li> <li><b>Administrative support</b> - always a pivotal part of any school program implementation!</li> <li><b>Pre-award preparation</b> - the most effective implemenetations were started before the purchases arrived!</li> <li><b>Just-in-time</b> training in small groups.</li> <li><b>On-site flexible support</b> through a TRT or MRT.</li> <li><b>Common group planning</b> where strategies and practices could be discussed.</li> <li><b>Long-term commitment</b>, but with built-in <b>adjustments</b> through formative assessment.</li> </ul>

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

**The Virtual Elementary Classroom**

A place to showcase virtual activities in the Elementary Classroom.



...from the desk of Jamie Burch, District TRT

**Thursday, August 21, 2008 9:35 AM: Using iSchool to Create A Public Web Presence**

Amy Ford at Stonewall Elementary decided it was time to make teacher webpages as simple and quick as possible. She submitted a request for all of her teachers to have an iSchool course created and then planned a time for them to receive professional development on how to edit their new iSchool Webpage Template. In September, she had those teachers that were ready to show off their webpages to the public to make their courses available. You can visit Stonewall's teacher webpages here: [Stonewall Elementary iSchool Webpages](#). Great job Stonewall Elementary Teachers! We are so glad to have you as our "model" iSchool webpage creators!

To view the iSchool templates that are currently available, please visit the [iSchool Template Gallery](#), it is open for all to view.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=28445>

**Fayette's iSchool - The**

**Tuesday, September 30, 2008 11:07 AM: iSchool isn't a tool....it's a toolbox!**

## blog for FCPS's Moodle Project

Watch this space for updates and announcements connected to this powerful resource!



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

As registered users goes over 4,000, and class counts now near 500, it's clear that Fayette's iSchool is the *fastest growing technology resource in the district!* Here is a list of some of the capabilities it can deliver, and how they're being used *right now*, by teachers just like you!

- **The Questionnaire.** Think "survey." The existing "surveys" in iSchool were canned, and not that useable. This flexible new addition to the toolbox (as of September 15th, 2008) is a powerful tool to let you acculate data and opinions from the members of your "course," through a survey you design. **Application:** Both Henry Clay High and SCAPA are using the questionnaire to deliver a mock election online! There's a template...ask, and you can have one too!
- **The Workshop:** This tool has a lot of power - you construct an assignment, and then let students grade each other in a variety of ways, including using a rubric you design. **Application:** Ryan Marsh at Lafayette is looking at this tool as a peer-review platform for student podcasts!
- **Advanced Uploading of Files:** New for Version 1.8 (we upgraded this summer), this **Assignment** type allows for multiple file uploads, and in-line notes/interaction between teacher and students. **Application:** This activity is a full-fledged online portfolio support tool. We're looking at moving generic school portfolio support to this platform in the future!

### New templates!

There are several new templates available for the asking:

- Interactive [Template 1](#) and [Template 2](#) - a base for your student course! Template 2 includes a basic intro unit.
- High School [Template 1](#) and [Template 2](#) for public display - use either of these as a substitute for your public teacher web page

...and lots of other templates available through our [template gallery](#). Sorry - no instant theme-style retro-fitting possible, though let us know and we'll help you build a new look and feel for your existing course by hand.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=15975>

### PD Opportunities in Fayette's iSchool:

- **New Beginner's Class!** Start with a template, leave with an activity!
- **Advanced classes!** We now are offering classes in two advanced topics, with more to come...
  - **Web 2.0 Meets the Classroom:** Student Interactive Work using Fayette's iSchool
  - **Using Media in Fayette's iSchool** as a Springboard for Student WritingSign up for these, or other tech PDs, by visiting the online [PD Menu](#).

## The Video-Linked Classroom

Videoconferencing, Live Streaming, and Internet 2 in Fayette County

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

### Tuesday, September 30, 2008 2:01 PM: Video Links and Professional Development



**Notice...**If you decide to register for one of the MAGPI events below, **do not register with MAGPI!** Use the Fayette Co. [PD Menu!](#)

Thanks to our participation in the MAGPI umbrella, Fayette County has three videoconferenced professional development offerings in October and November. Watch for other things coming soon!

Sign up for these events through the [Fayette Co. PD Menu](#).

- **Videoconferencing: Best Practices and Virtual Field Trips** (offered by MAGPI, October 21, 2008, site Stonewall Elementary Library). Learn how teachers like you are using videoconferences! [MAGPI information site on this program](#).
- **Character Education: Understanding Girls' Friendships and Conflicts** (offered by MAGPI and the [National Liberty Museum](#), October 30, site LTMS Library). This interactive videoconference targets issues of girl socialization and character education. [MAGPI information site on this program](#).
- **Writing Workshop with Author Katherine Ayre** (offered by MAGPI and [PA One Book, Every Young Child](#), Nov. 20, site *Julius Marks Elementary Library*). This author-driven, interactive program for pre-K and primary teachers should be very good! [MAGPI information on this program](#).

### Our next VC Event:

Michigan Science Museum returns with their "Jiminy Cricket" program, connecting to Stonewall Elementary on October 7th.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16775>

## Student Technology Leadership Program

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



...from the desk of  
Julie Gaskin,  
District TRT

### Tuesday, September 30, 2008 5:23 PM: Dunbar High School STLP Reaching Out to Help Cardinal Valley Elementary



#### Dunbar STLP



Kelli Ann Pennington, Elizabeth Johnson, Lucas Trapp (President STLP), Jasmine Lawson, James Richardson, Ramiro Sibaja, Chris Schenning, Kristin Williams

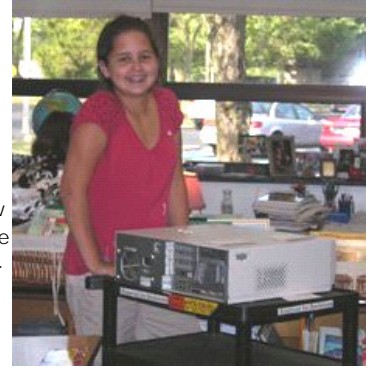


Dunbar STLP students, under the direction of Jim Adams, have been using their elbow grease and technology skills to help Cardinal Valley Elementary get their computers up and running. Thanks so much to these students, their sponsor,



and the parents who provided the transportation for multiple visits. Cardinal Valley students have many more computers to use as they continue to work and study - and we

know how much Cardinal Valley Students like to use computers!



💡 If you are reading this in TIPS, click the link below to reach the original blog location so you can see the comments that have been added and post your own.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16314>

### Internet Safety

Information regarding digital citizenship in our schools.



...from the desk of  
*Leanna Prater*

### Tuesday, September 30, 2008 2:58 PM: i-Safe Mentors - Getting Ready to Roll for 2008-2009

The i-Safe Mentor program is gearing up for another fantastic year! Stu's Crew along with the Mayor's Youth Council will assist and share some new ideas about Internet safety with their middle school peers. With assistance from the our own Office of Instructional Technology along with the County Attorney's Office, high school students from Stu's Crew and the Mayor's Youth Council will be trained to share important internet safety lessons, like personal safety and predator identification, with participating middle schools. Be sure to follow this blog in TIPS to stay updated on the successful implementation of this program.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16411>

### Video Hints and Helps

Tools, resources, and ideas in support of the teacher/student videographer

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

### Friday, September 05, 2008 9:16 AM: Camcorder suggestions

Camcorder selections change faster than a speeding bullet! Here's my thinking on this as of today...

For the PC platform, USB is the default interface, but it does not work well for "real time" capture of tape-based digital camcorders - that requires Firewire. But newer camcorders are using data storage - Flash memory, hard disk drives (HDD), or miniDVDs. Since miniDVDs require you to buy media and deal with the whole "finalized vs. unfinalized" hassle, the first two are the best idea. Here are some possible purchase ideas on those two, plus tape-based camcorders.

- **Cheapest: Flash memory camcorders.** Flip Video – <http://www.cdwg.com/shop/products/default.aspx?EDC=1481735> (\$150) or other model. Canon makes a higher quality Flash camcorder - <http://www.cdwg.com/shop/products/default.aspx?EDC=1379744> (\$400)– but I have no experience with it.
- **Next Cheapest: Tape camcorders.** We're currently using Canons here. <http://www.cdwg.com/shop/products/default.aspx?EDC=1379737> (\$250) is a good one.
- **Most Expensive: HDD Camcorders.** Sony and Canon both make them...the cheapest versions are fine. <http://www.cdwg.com/shop/products/default.aspx?EDC=1381634> (\$450) is one possibility.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=29070>



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