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TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 8, #3 (November 2008)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 11/3/2008

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/>.

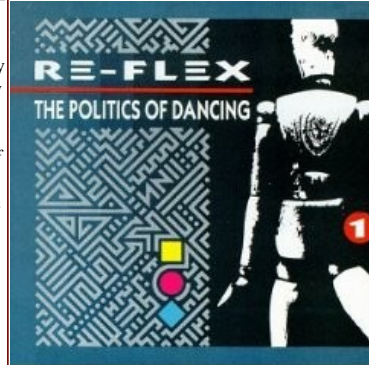
TIPS - The Editor's Desk

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

Monday, November 03, 2008 1:16 PM: The Politics of Dancing



By the time you probably read this, the elections will be over...and not a minute too soon! As Re-Flex, the British techno-dance band of the 80's, states, the politicians are now DJ's...not just because they're the masters of spin, but because their message has as much depth as a one-hit-wonder pop band's lyrics! ("Spreading...like an infection...")

We got the message
I heard it on the airwaves
The politicians
Are now DJ's

The broadcast was spreading
Station to station
Like an infection
Across the nation

Well you know you can't stop it
When they start to play
You gotta get out the way

The politics of dancing
The politics of ooo feeling good
The politics of moving
Is this message understood?

Re-flex, 1983

But regardless of the outcome, the results promise to represent the largest voter turnout in recent history. Amazingly, polls have been opening days early across this country to help head off the Tuesday tsunami of voters.

And like an interactive democracy, education in Fayette County continues to extend the classroom beyond the 7 hour day schools are open. Look for new notes in this month's TIPS on how schools and classrooms are connecting to each other and others using the tools available online.

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

The Video-Linked Classroom

Videoconferencing, Live Streaming, and Internet 2 in Fayette County

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

Thursday, October 30, 2008 5:03 PM: 100% School Coverage!

High Schools were offered a co-purchase option for Polycom VSX videoconferencing hardware, and four chose to participate in this program. All other schools will be supplied software which can be used for full-quality videoconferences (with the computer and webcam/camcorder to be supplied by the school). The result is, we'll soon have 100% coverage across schools for this capability!

- If your school will receive software, **make sure your school tech coordinator attends the November 19 or 20 STC meeting**. They'll be introduced to this technology, and rules will be set for its use. After that time, all you need to participate in a videoconference event is a computer and a camcorder!
- If your school will receive a Polycom VSX, all you need is a display (a large TV is best) and you're ready to go!

Don't forget: full-quality videoconference hardware (including large flat panel TVs) are still available for checkout from the [Videoconference and Webcasting Center](#)! We also have one laptop with webcam which can be checked out for this purpose.

New! [Read reviews of previous events!](#)

Recent VC Events (all were free of cost!)

- Jiminy Crickets (Science): Stonewall, Natalie Moore, teacher - 10/7.
- Baseball Hall of Fame Career with Stephen Light (Career Education): EJHMS, Nick Payne, teacher - 10/10.
- Understanding Girls' Friendships and Conflicts (MAGPI/District PD): delivered at LTMS- 10/30.
- Masks - MAGPI (Art): Glendover, Janet Geissler, teacher - 10/31.

Sample of upcoming VC Events:

- Famous Americans (Social Studies): Sandersville Elem, Denise Atinay, teacher - 11/5.
- US Regions Project (Social Studies): Cassidy, Barbara Barr, teacher - 11/20.
- Writing Workshop with Author Katherine Ayres (MAGPI/District PD): delivered at Julius Marks Elementary Library - 11/20 (some seats still available)

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

Student Technology Leadership Program

Monday, November 03, 2008 8:23 AM: STLP Fall Showcase

STLP Fall Showcase

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



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



University of Kentucky Ballroom
Thursday, November 13, 2008
Open to the Public: 10:00 - 12:00

Support your favorite STLP group - or support them all! Please join us at the STLP Fall Showcase where schools from Fayette and surrounding counties will compete in the Showcase categories of Community Service, Entrepreneurial, Instructional, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). The school groups are competing to earn a spot in the May State Championship with hopes of winning a trip to the [2009 National Educational Computing Conference](#) in Washington, DC.

Not all of our Fayette County groups are competing but you can see what each school plans to focus on this school year by visiting http://teach.fcps.net/STLP/School/Plans08_09.htm.

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

Fayette's iSchool - The 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

Monday, November 03, 2008 12:54 PM: Fayette's iSchool - Moving forward!

Here is a list of some new additions to the iSchool family....

- **Election 2008.** Henry Clay, Crawford, and SCAPA used the new Questionnaire module for mock elections!
- **Science is Wild!** This collaboration between Lexington Parks and Recreation's McConnell Springs and Raven Run staff and elementary students in Fayette County will have an interactive presence in the "Connected Spaces" area of iSchool.
- **Henry Clay English goes virtual!** As a part of her successful 2007-08 RFP proposal, Annette McGrew has moved virtually all of her instructional materials and activities online. Students do these activities through her 1-1 laptop classroom.
- **The Science of Flight:** Bryan Station's Air Force ROTC program is leveraging virtual tools, including iSchool, in support of its study of flying.
- **Arlington Elementary Book Club**...read [Jamie Burch's blog](#) on this very active online book club!
- **Music Technology:** Ryan Marsh, music teacher at Lafayette, has a massive number of assignments, resources and activities in electronic music housed in his iSchool class!



PD Opportunities

- **Beginner's Class!** Start with a template, leave with an activity! Sign up through the online [PD Menu!](#)
- **Advanced classes!** Does your school/department want to learn more about Fayette's iSchool? Contact us about offering an advanced PD class at your school, on any of the following topics (or another of your choosing):
 - **Web 2.0 Meets the Classroom:** Student Interactive Work using Fayette's iSchool
 - **Using Media in Fayette's iSchool** as a Springboard for Student Writing.

Let us know how we can help you get started!

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

The Virtual Elementary Classroom

A place to showcase virtual activities in the Elementary Classroom.



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

Thursday, October 30, 2008 8:53 AM: iSchool Makes a Splash in 2nd Grade

These elementary schools are really getting on board with iSchool! Check out what a few of our teachers are doing this year.

- Barbara Carter at Arlington Elementary is using iSchool with her students for their Breakfast and Lunch Book Clubs. They are discussing the books that they are reading and having some wonderful conversations.
- Mrs. Watts's 2nd grade class at Garden Springs Elementary School is jumping into iSchool focusing on using the Discussion Forums and Journal entries. The focus for her iSchool course is to provide activities that go along with her classroom instruction and keep the connection to the Program of Studies.

If anyone is interested in starting an iSchool course for their elementary class, please contact us.

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

Podcasting on The Point

Use this blog to post media (sound, video, etc.). Be sure to use the scaffold!



...from the desk of
Leanna Prater

Monday, November 03, 2008 9:23 AM: Podcasting for the curriculum

Podcasting is a fantastic way for students to show what they know about a subject, a voice for personal writing or to share information with others in a different way. Podcasts can be created easily and can be used at various grade levels.

Are you looking for some inspiration? In Tarrytown, NY, Ms. Groven's class used the writing process to "write from the heart". Students created their writing pieces and then produced a podcast to share with others in their own voice: http://blog.tufsdbuilds.org/?page_id=70

A 5th grade class in San Antonio, TX reflected on a trip to NASA in this podcast: <http://www.ahisd.net/campuses/cambridge/radio/cambcast2.htm>

So, what do you need to create a podcast?

A large production studio?

Expensive equipment?

All you really need is a microphone, some headphones or speakers and some free software.

If you would like more information on podcasting or how you can get started with your class, please let us know how our office can help!

Leanna Prater

District Technology Resource Teacher

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=2267>



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