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



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**TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 8, #6 (February 2009)**

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 2/6/2009

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

**Friday, February 06, 2009 4:56 PM: Let It Snow!**

I suspect everyone in Fayette County is probably sick to death of weather problems, discussions, helps and hints. It tests our mettle, and complicates our lives! (Needless to say, the time off profoundly influenced the schedule of this newsletter!)

But the first question on the minds of the administration this last snow day was...who's using iSchool to keep up? Here's why that question is so amazing!

- **If you're using online platforms like Fayette's iSchool to organize your instruction...**you can work on your teaching materials from anywhere you can find an online computer. Even if your electricity's out, you can probably find a library or coffee shop!
- **If you're using online platforms...**your students can also access materials from home (or library or coffee shop) - even engage and participate in learning activities!



We are not far from a future where instruction and learning will not be dependent on proximity. We certainly want to "stay in touch" with our kids, but in the face of increasing environmental concerns and costs over travel, our kids won't miss a beat even if they can't come to us!

You too can prepare for that time...Fayette's iSchool looks plain, but it represents a powerful tool, providing access to experiences for our kids which won't stop, just because it snows!

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

**Student Technology Leadership Program**

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



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

**Sunday, February 01, 2009 11:09 PM: LEGO Robotics Teams Invited to STEM Fair 2009**

FCPS LEGO Robotics Teams are invited to participate in the 2009 STEM Fair. Teams will register as a Showcase and be grouped together with other LEGO Robotics teams so you can share and learn from one another. This will be an exhibition and not a competition of robotics.



**STEM Fair**  
**Saturday, March 14, 2009**  
**Bryan Station High School**  
**Public Hours: 9:00 - 11:00**  
**Awards Ceremony: 11:30**

The STLP Coordinator from each school is your contact who can help you with registration. If you need further help, please contact Julie Gaskin at [julie.gaskin@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:julie.gaskin@fayette.kyschools.us). Check out the STEM website for more information: <http://teach.fcps.net/stem/Default.htm>



**Science Technology Engineering & Math Fair**

2009

Registration Open  
 Deadline extended to February 18,

...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

**Friday, February 06, 2009 1:19 PM: Mentoring in the Middle Schools**

The i-Safe mentors have been out to schools again this month communicating about the dangers of posting too much information and communicating with people you really don't know. Students from

Dunbar High School spent two days at Beaumont Middle School in January speaking with 6th graders about personal safety on the internet and how colleges as well as future employers look at social network sites. Also in January, students from Bryan Station used video conferencing to present information with students at Winburn. The mentors are looking forward to traveling to several more schools this month!

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

## Video Conferencing Events, PD's and Collaborations

Upcoming video conferencing events, PD's and collaborations from CILC, MAGPI and more.



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

**Monday, February 02, 2009 11:40 AM:**



**CILC**  
Center for Interactive  
Learning and Collaboration

## Content Provider Programs

[From Sap to Syrup: Wisconsin Maple Syrup Season](#) - by [CESA 7 Interactive Learning Services](#)

During this program, students will observe and interact with the staff of Fallen Timbers Environmental Science/Nature Center selecting and tapping trees, gathering sap, and producing syrup in their Cartier Outdoor Classroom Maple Syrup Cabin.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

[Logistical Geography](#) - by [COSI Columbus](#)

Many aspects of daily life rely on the careful geographical placement of facilities - in this presentation we look at a few of these location problems. Hear Dr. Morton O'Kelly, Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography at Ohio State, describe how basi...

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

[Renewable Energy](#) - by [COSI Columbus](#)

Dr. Kevin Hallinan, Director of the Masters Program in Renewable and Clean Energy at the University of Dayton, will be hosting a program on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency. This program will ask students to consider the fundamental thermodynamic law of ...

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

[The Electromagnetic Waves of James Clerk Maxwell](#) - by [COSI Columbus](#)

What do iPhones, wireless Internet devices, portable radios, TVs, commercial aircraft, communications satellites, military radars, and the Hubble Space Telescope have in common? In this presentation, Professor Dan Fleisch will explain how equations synthesize...

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

[Passage to Hope: Stories of Immigration](#) - by [HEC-TV](#) [2007-08 Honorable Mention](#)

What does it mean to be an immigrant? What forces compel you to embark on an uncertain journey? What is life like in a new and strange country? Hear directly from recent immigrants to St. Louis. Explore their impact on American culture. Learn about servic...

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

["A Walk Through Time" - A Walking Tour of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame](#) - by [National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame](#)

Discover fascinating information about the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame through a virtual walking tour.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Parent, adults

[Writing Through the Museum - Elementary School](#) - by [National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame](#)

The National Cowgirl Museum has many honorees in the literary world. Learn about the poets, novelists, journalists and playwrights who shared their experiences and journeys.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 3, 4, 5

[Writing Through the Museum - Middle School](#) - by [National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame](#)

National Cowgirl Museum has many honorees in the literary world. Learn about the poets, novelists, journalists and playwrights who shared their experiences and journeys.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 6, 7, 8

[The Life of Abraham Lincoln](#) - by [New York State Historical Association and The Farmers' Museum](#)

Students will participate against their classmates in this highly interactive games show, testing their knowledge of Abraham Lincoln.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 4, 5, 6

[Black History Month Seminar](#) - by [Pro Football Hall of Fame](#) 2007-08

This year's panel will feature Hall of Famer Ken Houston and Super XXII MVP Doug Williams. Come learn about these player's trials and tribulations on and off the field as they will be at the Pro Football Hall of Fame to shares stories of their past.

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

[Building the Glasgow Bridge: Engaging the Public](#) - by [RoundTrips](#)

Replacing an old river bridge with a new one raises many concerns for the public about impact on the environment, their driving habits, use of the river, etc. Join our community meeting videoconference to see how transportation officials address these concern...

Availability: Published Date(s) and Time(s) ONLY

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

## Collaborations

[Pre-K class interaction](#)

Pre-K class from Southern Indiana is looking for other classes to share activities,culture,weather and any information about the community.

Status: Seeking Partners

Audience: Education: Pre-K Students, Kindergarten, Grade(s): 1

[Cross-Cultural Class](#)

We have access to a Polycom videoconference system and my Comparative Cultures class would like to take virtual field trips to classes of students in their adopted nations. I have eight students who represent China, Colombia, Greece, Canada, Italy, Iraq, Spai...

Status: Seeking Partners

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 10, 11, 12

[Learn about Nuclear energy](#)

Students in our gifted middle school program are studying various forms of energy this semester and will be videoconferencing with experts in each area. We'd like to invite two schools to join us for our February 4 videoconference with Michelle Breshnahan, He...

Status: Seeking Partners

Audience: Education: Grade(s): 6, 7, 8

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=33972>

### The Virtual Elementary Classroom

A place to showcase virtual activities in the Elementary Classroom.

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

### Thursday, January 22, 2009 1:46 PM: The New iSchool Teacher's Development Community

Those of you who have participated in an iSchool PD or workshop were recently invited to the new iSchool Teacher Development Community by Jeffrey Jones. We are just getting this community up and going and we are looking for lots of good ideas and resources from our teachers in the classrooms. We have created an area for Black History Month and will be accepting ideas to share for that area along with any other ideas for topics to focus on.

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

### Announcements

Technology News

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

### Friday, January 30, 2009 8:59 PM: Inspired Visual Learning Contest



Win more than \$22,000 in cash and prizes from Inspiration, Intel, and Atomic Learning



Teachers may submit student-created examples using Inpiration, Kidapiration, and InspireData to win technology and funds for professional development and/or new technology purchases that support visual learning. [Applications](#) are being accepted until February 27 and winners will be announced March 31, 2009.

Read more about the rules and guidelines: <http://cf.inspiration.com/vlawards/>

### Friday, February 06, 2009 4:24 PM: Doogle 4 Google 2009



[Doodle 4 Google Contest](#)  
School registration deadline: March 17, 2009  
Entries due (6 per school): March 31, 2009  
Finalists announced: May 8, 2009  
Online public voting: May 11 - 18, 2009  
Winner announced: May 20, 2009

Students will be judged in the following brackets:

- Grades K-3
- Grades 4-6
- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12

The national winner will have their winning doodle on the Google homepage on May 21, 2008. He/she will also win a \$15,000 college scholarship to be used at the school of her/his choice, a trip to the Googleplex, a laptop computer, and a t-shirt printed with his/her doodle. Google will also award the winner's school a \$25,000 grant towards the establishment/ improvement of a computer lab.

For more information: <http://www.google.com/doodle4google>

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=18376>




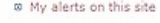
### Sharepoint - Content Management in Fayette County

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*

### Friday, February 06, 2009 4:31 PM: Hints and Helps with SharePoint

SharePoint's use continues to grow! Here are a few hints to help you navigate this ever-expanding resource.

#### Links

-  **Feedback/Help:** Don't forget...every SharePoint site has a link back to this interactive resource. Access documentation, ask questions, get help!
-  **Search:** At the upper right hand corner of every SharePoint site home page is a search window. Typing a key word and clicking the "Go!" arrow will search all text on your site, including Word documents and forms! (This is not a global search, only the site you're in.)
-  **Displaying Calendars in Outlook:** Any calendar in SharePoint can be linked to Outlook, making it a selectable calendar there, just like any other! Many schools are now using SharePoint calendars as their official school calendars, since they can be used this way, *and* they can be visible to everybody from home!
-  **Controlling Alerts:** If you're getting too much email, but still want to know about changes on SharePoint, you can manage the Alerts you have set there (those notices you get when anything gets changed). Look under "Sites Settings/Manage my Information" to make changes, including adding/deleting, and setting to daily or weekly summaries.

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

### 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*

### Friday, February 06, 2009 4:05 PM: New Media Support in iSchool!

A new activity has been added to iSchool. It's called "Mediacenter," from **inwicast**.

*Here's what it supports:* Delivery of...

- Flash Video
- Windows Media Sound and Video
- MP3
- Quicktime Sound and Video
- Links to external media, including TeacherTube and its ilk.



*Here's what it provides:*

- Access to all media.
- RSS subscription (as a podcast)
- Embedded delivery (on your ischool page rather than a player)
- Control over downloading
- HTML generation to embed the media anywhere else, including your own website (like YouTube and TeacherTube).

*Here's how it works...*

- Add it as a block, and you'll have access to the full collection of Mediacenter tools, including uploading/linking. You'll have access to all of the media you have uploaded to it, regardless of which course you loaded it from. The block displays the most recent added media.
- Add it as an "activity," and you'll be able to select and embed any media you have uploaded.

Here's what's coming:

- Podcasting/vodcasting client, with instant recording and publishing to iSchool!
- New documentation in the [Teacher's FAQs...](#) course with how-to's!

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

### The Video-Linked Classroom

Videoconferencing, Live Streaming, and Internet 2 in Fayette County  
*...from the desk of Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin*

### Friday, February 06, 2009 4:15 PM: Polycom PVX rollout/New Price Points!

Elementary schools now have at least one copy of Polycom PVX software. Athens-Chilesburg Elementary was the first to deploy it, with a new 50" flat panel TV and laptop! With a good webcam, this system is almost as good as the hardware!

#### Polycom Drops Prices on its Flagship Hardware:

For less than we previously paid for low-def hardware, Polycom is now selling full high-definition videoconferencing codecs, even including advanced features like People + Content for no additional cost! Contact us for the latest...





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