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...a service of The Point - a classroom blogspace from fcps.net



TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 8, #8 (April 2009)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 4/7/2009

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/>.

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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, April 06, 2009 5:45 PM: The Boys (and Girls!) of Summer Are Coming!

With spring break *in the can*, all thoughts start turning to summer and new, wonderful, and exciting experiences! Here are a few which are coming up, in random order, some of which are available to teachers generally - you should try to plan for those now!

- **The TEC Workshop:** This annual event will expand its *virtual* presence this year, providing high quality sessions through videoconference, where available. The Call for Presenters is now open - see the [Announcements](#) blog for more. PD credit is available for next year!
- **Sharpening the Saw weeks:** None of the offerings listed here occur during June 29-July 10, designated by the district as PD/meeting-free days. Several folks are using these weeks to do vacations. The [National Educational Computing Conference](#) happens to fall there as well.
- **KET Multimedia Professional Development Days 2009:** This event (repeated over 2 days July 14-15) features *slews* of video production/technology/instructional use sessions from a variety of state presenters, including this writer!
- **5 Freedoms Workshop (private):** This partnership between SCAPA and Leestown Middle School will focus on the use of video expression in celebration of the 5 Freedoms mentioned in the 1st Amendment to the US Constitution. It is inspired by workshops developed by the [5 Freedoms Project](#).
- **iSchool Summer Workshops:** We're offering three workshops this summer for PD credit. We'll be looking at some specific topics such as advanced activities and multimedia support. We'll be leveraging the [Teacher's iSchool Development Community social networking](#) space to enhance the reach of these events. See the [iSchool blog page](#) for details on these wonderful opportunities!
- **Kentucky Virtual Schools' e-Learning KY** online PD classes: There are dozens of new titles being offered through KYVS. See [their website](#) for details, and to register. KYVS also offers virtual *community of practice* platforms!

Some fun with American English words/phrases from this editorial...and some places you can look them up!

In the can: Completed, as in "About a hundred pages of her next book are in the can." This usage originated in filmmaking to describe a completed motion picture, when film was literally put into a can or canister. (slang; c. 1930 - from [The American Heritage® Dictionary of Idioms](#) by Christine Ammer, 1997)

Virtual: Not real. The term virtual is popular among computer scientists...it distinguishes something that is merely conceptual from something that has physical reality. (From [Webopedia](#))

Sharpening the saw: "...preserving and enhancing the greatest asset you have--you. It means having a balanced program for self-renewal in the four areas of your life: physical, social/emotional, mental, and spiritual." ([Habit 7](#), from [The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People](#), Steven Covey, 1990)

Slew: a large number or quantity; a whole slew of people. Also, slue. (From [Dictionary.com](#))

Social Networking: The interaction between a group of people who share a common interest. (From [Wiktionary](#), a wiki-based open-content dictionary)

Community of Practice: "...groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly..." (From [Etienne Wenger](#), author of [Community of Practice: Learning, Meaning and Identity](#), 1999)

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

Fayette's iSchool - The blog for FCPS's Moodle Project

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



Monday, April 06, 2009 3:27 PM: Announcing: Summer Workshops for July '09!

See below for descriptions of three summer workshops to be offered this July, 2009. All three will award 18 hours of Professional Development credit to participants. This includes 12 hours of face-to-face participation on the indicated dates (from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with an hour off for lunch), and an additional 6 hours through online activities through the [Teacher's iSchool Development Community](#) over the week following the face-to-face workshop. The PD award will be available after teachers finish their online activity course requirements.

Signup for these workshops is only available through the [Teacher's iSchool Development Community](#) - see the TIPS announcement for April for an access code, or contact one of the Community's coordinators (visible after iSchool login). You can sign up for any or all workshops - we will honor 2nd and 3rd choices as space allows. Here is a more detailed description of each workshop at the time of this writing - we may modify content as we get feedback and requests!

1. **Thursday/Friday, July 16-17: Multimedia in iSchool-** pod/vodcasting, embedding EncycloMedia and Flash content (including TeacherTube and YouTube content), and other things supported by the Mediacenter plugin. Jeffrey L. Jones and Leanna Prater, presenters.
2. **Tuesday/Wednesday, July 21-22: Advanced topics in iSchool -** Wiki, Workshop, and Lesson activities, with some discussion of how to use the Advanced Uploading version of Assignments as a portfolio support platform. Jeffrey L. Jones and Julie Gaskin, presenters
3. **Tuesday/Wednesday, July 28-29: Intro to iSchool -** Basic course setup, enrollment, deployment, and activity/resource development, including the use of iSchool templates for public teacher spaces. Jamie Burch and Julie Gaskin, presenters (with Jeffrey L. Jones).

Look at your summer vacation schedule, select a workshop, and come see us!

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

Announcements

Sunday, April 05, 2009 6:30 PM: TEC Conference 2009 - Call for Presenters

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



Call for Presenters

Presentation proposal due Tuesday, April 21, 2009.



Conference: Friday, June 12, 2009
Location: Edythe J. Hayes Middle School

The [Technology Enhanced Classroom \(TEC\) Conference](#) is open to all teachers, Tech Resource Teachers (TRTs) and Tech Integration Specialists (TISs). It will focus on innovative instructional strategies that will engage students to improve learning. Click here to reach the [TEC Conference website](#). Please register (button, upper right) and then click "Apply to Present" (button on left).

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

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, April 05, 2009 6:07 PM: STEM Fair 2009 - A Wonderful Success!

Science Technology Engineering & Math Fair

STEM Fair 2009 was a wonderful success! Please check the [STEM website](#) for more information and a [list of winners](#), to see the [student created digital art](#), and to watch the [winning student videos](#).



Highlights

- Hundreds of students
- 79 student showcases
- Our first Robotics Expo
- 3 student presentations
- Digital art
- Videos
- And more!



Thanks to:

- Amy Johns, Ian Gainey, Brett Owens and the BSHS staff and student crew who provided technical support
- Volunteer judges
- Community partners
- Supporting vendors

...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

Monday, April 06, 2009 11:29 AM: Mentoring in the Middle Schools and Social Networking Tips

Our Internet Safety Mentors from Dunbar High School spent a day this month sharing some great tips to keep yourself safe in social networking sites and from potential online predators to students at Lexington Traditional Magnet School.

In regards to social networking, here is a great site from the Federal Trade Commission with safety tips for tweens and teens:

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/safety-tips-tweens-teens.aspx>

Some of their suggestions include:

- Keep your full name, Social Security number, address, phone number, and bank or credit card account numbers to yourself.
- Make sure your screen name doesn't say too much about you. Even if you think it makes you anonymous, it doesn't take a genius to combine clues to figure out who you are and where you can be found.
- Consider not posting your photo. It can be altered or broadcast in ways you may not be happy about.

Are you looking for some resources to share with parents about social networking? Here is another link from the Federal Trade Commission with some helpful tips: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec13.shtm>

...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

Monday, April 06, 2009 9:47 AM: CILC - Upcoming Events



Professional Development Provider Programs

more.



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

[Authentic Equity Leadership Webinar](#) - by [School Improvement Network](#)

Curtis will pull some of the most important material from his award-winning book *Courageous Conversations about Race* and combine with the techniques covered in his DVD *Closing the Achievement Gap*.

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

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Technology Director, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, Administrator

[Digital Storytelling On a Shoestring](#) - by [Wesley Fryer](#)

Digital storytelling is applicable to learners of all ages, in all content areas. In this session we will view different examples of digital storytelling across the curriculum, and explore free tools which are available to get started creating and publishing d...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Technology Director, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, Administrator

[Hyperlinked Writing](#) - by [Wesley Fryer](#)

Hyperlinked writing is the most powerful form of writing because it permits authors and readers to connect words to a variety of other ideas and multimedia files on the Internet. In this session we'll introduce the basics of getting started with hyperlinked wr...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Technology Director, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, Administrator, *Public Library:* Library Staff, *Business/Community:* Community Member

[Intro to Educational Podcasting](#) - by [Wesley Fryer](#)

Learn how to use free software (Audacity) to create and publish audio podcasts on your classroom website. These podcasts can include recorded teacher-lectures, student projects, student-created news programs, or almost anything else. Synchronizing audio podcas...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, *Public Library:* Library Staff

[Introduction to Twitter](#) - by [Wesley Fryer](#)

Twitter is a micro-blogging platform which provides a powerful way for educators to connect with and build a personal learning community. In this session we'll explore Twitter, how to get started using it to build a personal learning network, and explore a var...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Technology Director, Video Conferencing Contact, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, Administrator, *Public Library:* Library Staff, *Business/Community:* Community Member

[Powerful Ingredients for Blended Learning](#) - by [Wesley Fryer](#)

Blended learning contexts which combine face-to-face interaction with online, digital learning, can provide students with more flexible and in-depth opportunities to learn than traditional lectures. In this session we'll explore key ingredients for blended lea...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Director, Technology Director, Video Conferencing Contact, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Title One Coordinator, Principal, Teacher, Paraprofessional, Parent, College/University, Media Specialist/Librarian, Administrator, *Public Library:* Library Staff, *Business/Community:* Community Member

Content Provider Programs

[Expository Writing 101: Part 2](#) - by [Adora Svitak-\(Optimal Path Inc\)](#)

What is expository writing? Why and where do we use it? What is expository writing? Why and where do we use it? Using an interactive Promethean flipchart, eleven-year-old published author Adora Svitak answers these questions and more in *Expository Writing 101*,...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

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

[Magic With Words: Connotation and Denotation](#) - by [Adora Svitak-\(Optimal Path Inc\)](#)

In *Magic With Words: Connotation and Denotation*, eleven-year-old published author Adora Svitak engages students with this fun and magical presentation on connotation and denotation using exciting interactive activities.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

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

[Fencing & Sword-play of George Washington](#) - by [George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate](#)

Meet Thomas Wall, an actor and fencer with the American Company of Comedians, whose performances were seen by George Washington. Fencing was considered an essential part of a gentleman's education among the gentry of 18th century Virginia, and Mr. Wall will sp...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Grade(s): 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Parent, *Public Library:* Library Patrons, *Content Providers:* Content Providers

[Once Upon A Time At Mount Vernon- FREE!](#) - by [George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate](#)

As a young boy, Washington heard the same Aesop's Fables that are told to children today. In a new take on classic stories, Mount Vernon's storytellers will bring the fables to Mount Vernon, teaching about animals, farming, and history- but always with a mora...

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

Audience: *Education:* Kindergarten, Grade(s): 1, 2, 3, Parent, *Public Library:* Library Patrons

Patrick Henry: Defender of Personal Liberty - by [George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate](#)

Patrick Henry's famous, "Give me liberty or give me death," speech helped lead our nation into the Revolutionary War, but Henry's ardent defense of personal liberties would lead him to disagree with George Washington over the necessity of a Bill of Rights. Le...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

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

Whistle While You Work: Slave Music at Mount Vernon - by [George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate](#)

A slave from George Washington's Mount Vernon plantation will sing a song that she sings while working in the fields and discuss topics such as farming, slave life at Mount Vernon, and the Washington family.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Kindergarten, Grade(s): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Health Matters: Introduction to Health and Well-Being - Global Perspectives: Environmental Health - by [Global Nomads Group](#)

Health and well-being are fundamental to peace and prosperity, both on individual and collective levels. During adolescence, young people begin to encounter a wide range of risks to health and well-being that they will face into adulthood. However, they ofte...

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

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

Learning to Look: Art and the Imagination - by [Los Angeles County Museum of Art](#)

Looking at modern and contemporary works of art, we explore the question of "How do artists inspire us to see everyday objects in new ways?" Students investigate the ways in which artists manipulate formal elements of art.

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

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

Bridge Construction 2: Surface Structure - by [RoundTrips](#)

How is the surface structure for a bridge constructed? How is it connected to the bridge support structure? What materials are used? How is quality control ensured? Meet the people constructing the Glasgow Bridge over the Missouri River to find answers to ...

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

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

Internet Safety 2009 - by [RoundTrips](#)

With seemingly unlimited opportunities, cyberspace may well have become the new "final frontier." How can we help students explore this frontier in safety? This program will give students the chance to interact with experts and peers on topics including onlin...

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

Audience: *Education:* Grade(s): 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Parent

And I Will Be Heard: Women Claim the Right to Vote - by [Western Reserve Historical Society](#)

Women's struggle for equality in American political life began in the 1830s and continues today. Passage of the 19th Amendment (1920) was one huge step along the way. Students use primary documents, pictures, and photos of artifacts from our history museum co...

Availability: By Request/On Demand ONLY

Audience: *Education:* Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Parent, *Public Library:* Library Patrons

Collaborations

Family & Consumer Sciences Education (Home Economics)

I would like collaborate with any teacher,school, and/or school district where Family & Consumer Sciences Education is prevalent. Courses includes the following topics; Teen Living/Dynamics/Challenges;Family Dynamics;Food, Fitness, & Wellenes;Food Dynamics;Pa...

Status: Seeking Partners

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

The Tomorrow Code Book Club

We are a middle school in Fort Collins, Colorado, USA! This summer we are hosting a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) institute. We will have incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th students who will be part of a high tech book club. The students will hav...

Status: Seeking Partners

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

Beginning Spanish Language Exchange

Our sixth graders are in their very first year of Spanish. They would like to use their growing skills to talk with another beginning Spanish class. We are in Katonah, New York, a suburb of New York City. It would be fun to learn about children from another pa...

Status: Seeking Partners

Audience: *Education:* Grade(s): 6

Beginning French Language Exchange

Our sixth graders are in their very first year of French. They would like to use their growing skills to talk with another beginning French class. We are in Katonah, New York, a suburb of New York City. It would be fun to learn about children from another part...

Status: Seeking Partners

Audience: *Education:* Grade(s): 6

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

Video Hints and Helps

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



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

Monday, April 06, 2009 2:58 PM: Corel Gets In the Video Editing Business - VideoStudio X2 Pro

After a steady stream of Pinnacle, Sony Vegas, and Adobe Premiere Elements upgrades, nothing seems to have really staked out the high ground in video editing with a good balance of power, intuitive use, and stable performance. According to Amazon.com's reviews, Corel's VideoStudio X2 Pro may have made some gains in that race. This new entry provides for multiple video/audio tracks, chroma-color, pan/zoom, and a variety of very clever and good looking masks for creative video production...all in a very intuitive interface. As of this writing, CCV Software is offering this new suite at the low price of \$59.95, which makes it cheaper than all the others, even with this power! Unfortunately, only the "non-pro" and less powerful version has a demo download on Corel's site, but we're going to give it a look!

PC Magazine gives it a "Best Consumer Video Editor" tag!



- [Corel's site blurb](#)
- [CCV Software's pricing page](#)

...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"