

In this feed...

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

Student Technology Leadership Program (Julie Gaskin, District TRT)

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

Video Conferencing Events, PD's and Collaborations (Jamie Burch, District TRT)

Atomic Learning (Julie Gaskin, District TRT)

KET EncycloMedia (Julie Gaskin, District TRT)

Intelligent Classrooms (Diana Hendrix, DTRT)

Robotics (Leanna Prater)

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



It's a Whole New Season! -- TIPS for September, 2010

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 9/1/2010

TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 10, #1(September 2010)

TIPS is a feed of technology integration ideas for Fayette County teachers, delivered through blogs maintained by Technology Resource Teachers. To see all editions (including pre-blog ones), visit our [old archives](#).

Home
Contacts
Public Blogs

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, August 31, 2010 12:05 PM: It's a Brand New Season!

Welcome to our fall lineup! New shows! New episodes! New drama! New comedy! (Lots and lots of comedy!) Starring the Office of Instructional Technology, including...

- **Greg Drake:** Greg is the Coordinator of Instructional Technology, and serves as the point of contact with other district offices, as well as schools. He coordinates the network of school tech coordinators (STCs) and organizes their meetings.
- **Julie Gaskin:** Julie's primary responsibility is towards the Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP). She organizes many of our big events, including the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Fair (this year in February), and our Innovations for Learning (IFL) Conference this coming June. She has also been active in multimedia and other elementary school interests.
- **Diana Hendrix:** Diana coordinates and supports the use of "Smart Classroom" tools in the elementary, middle and high schools. She is available to assist teachers with a variety of technology integration strategies using Interactive Whiteboards, wireless slates, document cameras and response systems.
- **Leanna Prater** continues her coordination of [Internet Safety](#) training, and [robotics](#) in the classroom (and STLP). She is also heavily involved in "cadre" support communities and training opportunities for administrators and teachers, in coordination with the District Content Area Specialists.
- **Jamie Burch** co-directs the use of Fayette's iSchool (see her [The Virtual Elementary Classroom](#) blog), helps with [videoconference support](#), and handles a lot of general elementary school support issues. You'll also see her doing "cadre" work with Leanna.
- **Jeffrey L. Jones:** Besides being the editor of TIPS, I coordinate virtual connections platforms - this blog space, Fayette's iSchool (and its sister site, the ePortfolio and social networking space Fayette's iNetwork), videoconferencing, and webcasting, to name a few. I also continue to support high schools in their general integration needs.



How to Request Help

Your first point of contact for everything related to technology is your school's school tech coordinator (STC) -- tell your STC what you want and they can route your request. If you want to reach out to any of the district folks above, they're all in the global email directory, and maintain office and phone presence at IAKSS (see the District [Staff Directory](#) for contact information). Let us know how we can help you!

TIPS

This newsletter is monthly, delivered directly to every school staff member (no need to forward to your school). Watch it for PD announcements, new initiatives, meetings, classroom examples, and tech use strategies you can use in your classroom. Let us know if you'd like your idea, classroom, or event featured in TIPS. We love hearing from you! Since these articles are actually blog entries, leave your comments directly on the blog!

Professional Development:

Watch the [Fayette County's PD menu](#) for dates and times of upcoming PD offerings. This year will be a banner year for professional development, with new coordination with the Office of Student Achievement, and new online offerings. Watch for notices!

...And have a great school year!



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

Student Technology

Tuesday, August 31, 2010 12:45 PM: STLP Kickoff 2010

## Leadership Program

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



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



The Student Technology Leadership Program is getting ready for another super year. If you would like to volunteer your support or recommend a student for this program, please contact the STLP coordinator at your school. If I can help, just drop me a line: [Julie.Gaskin@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:Julie.Gaskin@fayette.kyschools.us)



Watch for news about our Internet Safety Video Contest and other opportunities ([State STLP Handbook](#) and [STEM website](#)) in which students may participate.

The STLP Kickoff meeting for coordinators is September 8, 2010, 3:45, Liberty Elementary or September 9, 2010, 4:30, at Eastside Technical Center. [Elaine Harrison Lane](#), our State STLP Coordinator, will give an overview of what it means to participate in STLP and talk about changes from last year. I will fill you in on FCPS activities and deadlines.

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>

## 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

### Tuesday, August 31, 2010 12:54 PM: Fayette's iSchool...Bigger and Badder Than Ever!

There are lots of new things going on in Fayette County's Learning Management System, Fayette's iSchool. Here is a quick review.

#### Fayette's iNetwork.

This resource is a clickable link from **Fayette's iSchool**, available to all registered **iSchool** participants after login. The system provides...

- **Full ePortfolio support**, allowing students to organize the display of documents, multimedia, images, blogs, even external feeds as a way of displaying educational progress and artifacts.
- **Learning Communities**, providing for collaboration and discussion, file sharing, and work display for any group.
- **Social networking** (think FaceBook), with walls, friending, and groups, a private sandbox where students can learn effective practices and safe behavior for use "out there" in the real Ethernet.



#### Student Support Expands.

Fayette's iSchool runs on the open source platform Moodle, which is free to anyone to download and install. Paul Laurence Dunbar STLP student Tushar Patel managed the first Moodle install in Fayette County over 5 years ago. Student support of iSchool remains an important part of the iSchool equation. This year, Jeffrey L. Jones is teaching an independent study in open source web applications, delivered fully online to computer science students at three high schools: Bryan Station (as a part of their IT Academy), Lafayette, and Paul Laurence Dunbar. We're training a whole new generation of student supporters! (If you know any student who might be willing to join our community of student support workers, let us know!)



#### Public Teacher Webspaces

Our office has always offered teachers the ability to support their classrooms with public webspaces delivered through Fayette's iSchool. This year, the district will be officially promoting iSchool as a teacher and classroom website platform. It has many advantages: integrated calendar and assignments, type-and-save instant display, multimedia support, wikis, and other interactive tools.

There are a host of other tools coming, and some (like the integrated sound recorder "NanoGong") that are already here!



#### Join the Teacher's iSchool Development Community!

This community of Fayette's iSchool users meets every other month (come when you can) to swap ideas, share resources, discuss future capabilities, and test new ones. TIDC membership is by-request...[contact me](#) if you'd like to join!

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

## 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, August 30, 2010 3:24 PM: New School Year...Big Plans!

In order to ensure our students are prepared with the skills they need to succeed in the 21st century, the state of Kentucky has recently joined the [The P21 State Partnership Program](#). A component of the Skills Framework is Communication and Collaboration. Two student outcomes for this category include:

- Demonstrate ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams
- Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts

With these skills in mind, I plan to roll out a few learning projects that will connect students across the state as well as students all over the country...how's that for diverse teams?? In the past, the Office of Instructional Technology has connected students through video conferencing with students in other regions of Kentucky as well as with other regions of the United States. This year, I hope to continue both of those projects while adding Fayette's iSchool into the mix for communication. If anyone is interested in collaborating with other schools in the state or in the United States, please send me an e-mail with your request. Below are some of the projects we have in mind, but if you have a current project that you would like to suggest, please do so.

- The Kentucky Regions Project - 4th Grade
- The United States Region Project - 4th or 5th Grade

- The Lexington Project - 3rd Grade

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

## Atomic Learning

An introduction to some of the online tutorials and lesson ideas available from Atomic Learning.



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

## Tuesday, August 31, 2010 1:12 PM: Photo Story 3 in Atomic Learning



Atomic Learning offers short, online, video tutorials and lesson ideas to help you embrace technology and integrate it into your classroom. AL has been purchased for all FCPS students and staff.



### Photo Story 3

Photo Story is an easy way to create a digital story when you are using images but no video clips. It provides a wizard that will walk you through the process, an easy to use voice recorder, and background music.

Atomic Learning has a series of tutorials on the [Photo Story 3](#) including Importing and Editing Your Pictures, Adding Narration and Music, and Completing Your Story. Within each of these titles are several 1-3 minutes tutorials on how to do very specific things - and Atomic Learning is available 24/7!

? Navigation Tip: Remember you'll need your login and password from your school STC. I've provided a direct link to the [Photo Story 3](#) tutorials but you may also like to go to [Atomic Learning](#) and discover the multitude of tutorials offered!

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=41976>

## KET EncycloMedia

Explore resources and community tools for educators -- including exclusive content for members of the Discovery Educator Network (username and password required).

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

## Tuesday, August 31, 2010 1:34 PM: You in the Food Web



In Fayette County, grade 4 students will analyze patterns and make generalizations about the basic relationships of plants and animals in an ecosystem (food chain)(SC-04.4.6.1). [You in the Food Web](#) (19 min.) shows real-life examples of food commonly eaten at the dinner table.

Students will learn where their food comes from and how they fit into the web of life. Expanding on food eaten at home, a more complex web of the forest ecosystem is also explored. The basic principles of food chains and webs are revealed through the interaction of forest plants and animals, such as squirrels, deer, and bears. Terminology, such as producer, consumer, predator, and prey are discussed. The way that energy and matter are transferred through the environment is also covered. Students are urged to consider food webs in their own neighborhoods, stressing the importance of food webs in their daily lives.

This video has 6 segments which can be viewed individually or continuously, offers a closed caption option, and includes a video quiz. Resources include blackline masters and a teacher's guide.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=18374>

## Intelligent Classrooms

Promoting the use of intelligent classroom tools and connecting them to your content.



...from the desk of Diana Hendrix, DTRT

## Tuesday, August 31, 2010 4:02 PM: SMART Boards and Intelligent Classroom News Sept. 2010

We will have an Intelligent Classroom set up at IAKSS in the very near future that will allow us to do training as well as demonstrations for schools that would like to see the products. This will include not only SMART technology but eInstruction as well. In addition, we hope to have an audio system to preview, and the 2 response systems! How exciting is that?

After installation, I will be sending out a training schedule to the STC's to pass along to all of their teachers.

This year we are going to have one combined Smart User Group for all the grade levels. We found last year that our questions were not that different between the groups, content level did not seem to be an issue. We will schedule our first user meeting for **October!**

STC's, I am creating a SharePoint site that you can use to help with technical issues. Dave Carty, a LAN tech for the district, will also be contributing, so we can be one big happy team! Look here: <http://sharepoint.fcps.net/iakss/edtech/stc/smart/default.aspx>

Don't forget, Atomic Learning has some great tutorials for using your SMARTboards.

Contact me at [Diana.hendrix@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:Diana.hendrix@fayette.kyschools.us)

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16514>

## Robotics

(Personal blog)



...from the desk of

## Tuesday, August 31, 2010 4:11 PM: Jr. First and First Lego Leagues Registration Open!

Registration is still open for teams interested in competing in the FIRST LEGO competitions for the 2010-2011 school year. This year's theme is Body Forward!

## FIRST LEGO LEAGUE (Ages 9-14)

This year's topic teaser:

Can FIRST LEGO League Teams improve our quality of life? Through the 2010 Body Forward™ Challenge, 9 to 14 year olds will explore the cutting-edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.

FLL teams compete in four areas: Research, Teamwork, Technical and Field Missions! Each areas is very important and challenges the teams to problem solve and work together to come to a creative solution for a real world problem. The field missions allows a team to build and program a LEGO Robot to complete missions based on this year's theme, Body Forward.

To find more information on registration for this year, please visit: <https://gofll.usfirst.org/>



## Jr FIRST LEGO League (Ages 6-9)

The Junior FLL problem is based on the same problem FLL teams are working together to solve. The Junior FLL teams work on two projects, a Show-Me Poster, which requires the students to illustrate their research and their own journey of learning. They can share what they have learned and present their information and solution in a creative manner.

The Model allows students to build a representation of their research and incorporate motors, simple machines and other cool LEGO elements.

For more information about Jr. First Lego League, please visit: <http://usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/jfll/content.aspx?id=13192>

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=40708>



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