

Summer PD! TIPS for May, 2011

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 5/4/2011

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TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 10, #9 (May, 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](#).

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, April 01, 2011 9:51 AM: Are you (dis)connected?

Making connections is all the buzz – connecting students to authentic learning, experts, even each other. At this point in history, the technology tools and contexts in which to “connect” are overwhelming in number, and begging for attention. Today, “connect” doesn’t force technology use, but it almost certainly can’t avoid it. And many celebrators of the concept of connection and collaboration are almost indistinguishable from celebrators of the tools they use for such. That is, “Connect!” and “Use this tool!” are, in many advocates’ minds, interchangeable ideas. That has actually produced a couple of interesting disconnects in technology use in education.

The Promise and Practice of Web 2.0: *It's a scary world out there.*



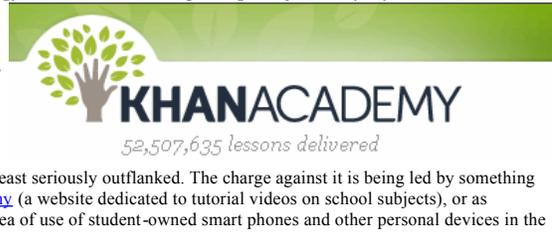
I had just poked into a district office, and the discussion there was about Facebook. It’s a well-worn trail, and in this context the remarks are almost invariably negative, with most of those present saying they never went there, and never would. At the other extreme are the dozens of my professional acquaintances and colleagues who use it to support their professional interests. On their “walls,” I am as likely to read about what school they visited or what instructional idea they’ve tried, as I am to hear about their son/daughter’s exploits on the track or court, or the last restaurant they visited. All is thrown in together in a pile.

Although the world beyond PK-12 education is pretty much firmly entrenched in the idea of online connections in support of professional interests, in the face of Federal child safety legislation and most end user license agreements of known Web 2.0 tools (including Facebook), most teachers are still trying to figure out whether these tools are even legal to use in the classroom, much less safe, or even more important, instructionally valuable. Both the advocates and the detractors of Facebook, like the blind men and the elephant, are grabbing onto different parts of the elephant and declaring its basic character.

Both are right, and both are wrong. But neither note that we’re trying to evaluate the usefulness of the whole elephant at once by looking at a single aspect of it. Yes, “it” is important, and yes, “it” is unsafe and frivolous...if we’re just talking about Facebook. Of course, what we *should* be talking about is learning. It’s a disconnect, and neither side has done a particularly good job of addressing why it is one.

The Promise and Practice of Technology in Instruction: *Who's paradigm shift is it anyway?*

Everybody has their pet phrase. “Knowledge construction.” “Collaborative learning.” “Project-based learning.” “Discovery learning.” “Authentic learning.” Almost everybody agrees that the old traditional instructional paradigm of teacher-driven lecture and summative assessment is, if not actually dead, at least seriously outflanked. The charge against it is being led by something as simply-defined as the [Kahn Academy](#) (a website dedicated to tutorial videos on school subjects), or as currently trendy and complex as the idea of use of student-owned smart phones and other personal devices in the classroom.



That, of course, is the implied shift associated with connected technology use. In fact, most teachers view educational technology in terms of “Smart” classroom tools, large digital display, “clickers,” media delivery systems, and laptop carts, all of which are aimed at preserving the teacher’s tenuous grasp on their primacy as a content presenter. To make matters worse, many teachers observe, and recent studies are beginning to show, that direct student control over information delivery (phones, computers, whatever) doesn’t always lead to higher learning outcomes. Students usually lack the personal goals and motivation to attend to that which will improve their learning, if given the choice, so they fall back on their social-driven habits.

It is clear that the promise and practice of technology-driven shift represents another serious disconnect.

These disconnects are symptoms of how technology’s role in the classroom tends to get trivialized and distracted by the popularity of a specific platform or tool. A good illustration is the battle over texted communications. Tech advocates and observers are quick to point out that kids text, and they view email as “old people’s communications.” That’s one piece of the elephant. And, for kids, almost all student texts are social. On other side of the elephant, if you go into an actual adult workplace, texting is one of many communications platforms one will have to use to do work, and email often figures prominently in that list.



But the debate misses the point. Are we supposed to be teaching our students to text, or to communicate? The discussion about paradigm shift shouldn’t be about tool selection, it should be about content and practice. That is our job as educators.

By the time our students leave us, all of the tools will have changed anyway. But that doesn't remove us from our responsibilities relative to the technologies. We need to actually, meaningfully engage in the behaviors the shift implies. Don't get tied up in the tools, but don't skip them either. They aren't the paradigm, but they do deliver it. It's a delicate balance, but implementing connections in the 21st Century classroom requires that we do so.

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

Announcements

Technology News



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

Wednesday, May 04, 2011 12:03 PM: Summer PD!

The summer PD offerings will cover the gamut. To see dates, and register, go to the [Professional Development Online Menu](#)

* = offered completely online, for space/time flexibility!

Professional Development Online Menu

Supporting the District's Focus - Literacy

Filter menu by: and

Key to icons:

- Certified - High School
- Certified - Elementary
- Certified - Middle School
- Classified
- Administrative

Multimedia

- Creating Digital Stories in the Classroom (Leanna Prater/Jamie Burch)
- Podcasting (several offerings, Leanna Prater/Jamie Burch)
- Glogster/Animoto/Voicethread with KET EncycloMedia Resources (several offerings, Julie Gaskin/Brian Spellman)
- Art Rage and Writing (Julie Gaskin/Jason Sturgill/David Page)
- Creating Graphic Novels (Julie Gaskin/Jason Sturgill/David Page)
- Creating Stop Motion Animation (Julie Gaskin/Jason Sturgill/David Page)
- Discovery Education Builder Tools with KET EncycloMedia Resources (Julie Gaskin/Brian Spellman)

Online Tools

- Introduction to Fayette's iSchool (Jeffrey L. Jones/Julie Gaskin)
- Fayette's iSchool Topics/Workshop (several offerings, Jeffrey L. Jones)
- *The Art of Discussion (Jeffrey L. Jones)
- *Student-Driven Learning Online - A Study Group (Jeffrey L. Jones)
- Student Online Writing Project: The Common Core In Action! (Jeffrey L. Jones)

Other

- Microsoft Office trainings: Outlook, Excel, Word, Publisher, Mail Merge, and PowerPoint (several offerings, Mark DiMascio/Julie Gaskin)
- LEGO Robotics -- Green City Challenge (several offerings, Julie Gaskin)

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

Intelligent Classrooms

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



...from the desk of
Diana Hendrix,
DTRT

Friday, April 29, 2011 2:57 PM: Summer Offerings

This summer 2 Content Academies will be offered. One for elementary schools and one for middle/high schools combined. These will be 1 day each events. At the Content Academy you will come together with other teachers of your grade level and different schools to develop Smart Notebook lessons to correlate with the Common Core Standards. 6 hours of PD per day

New this summer will be an online course offered on developing math lessons to correlate with the Common Core Standards for Elementary Math using Notebook software. You will learn how to use the notebook math tools, lesson activity toolkit, video and audio, and tips on developing interactive lessons that will take your Smart Board usage to the next level.

Watch the PD menu to sign up! [Professional Development Menu](#)

If you have questions, contact Diana.hendrix@fayette.kyschools.us

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

Student Technology Leadership Program

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



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

Saturday, April 30, 2011 1:59 PM: STLP State Championship 2011



STLP State Championship

May 13, 2011

Open to the Public 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Lexington Convention Center

Awards Ceremony

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Rupp Arena

Join more than 5,000 attendees at the State Championship, where 417 student tables will showcase the best STLP projects in the state. Students will also bring digital music, video, writing, digital citizenship

Students will also bring digital music, video, writing, digital citizenship, animation, and art products to the event and will compete in many areas of technology during live demonstrations, presentations and services.

Lafayette High School is taking a student to the STLP State Championship to compete at the finalist level of the National Guard competition, a Julius Marks Elementary student has been invited to be a podcaster, and a Southern Elementary student has been invited to be a Top of the Hour reporter.

The following Fayette County schools have been invited to compete in the presentation competition at the STLP State Championship:

- Julius Marks Elementary: Editing with Pinnacle 12
- Morton Middle School: Pinnacle
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School: Commitment for a Cause

The following Fayette County schools will be taking a showcase project to the STLP State Championship to compete at the semifinalist level:

- Clays Mill Elementary
- Dixie Elementary - 2 projects
- Julius Marks Elementary - 2 projects
- Maxwell Elementary
- Lexington Traditional Magnet School
- Winburn Middle School - 4 projects
- Bryan Station High School - 5 projects
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

Good luck to all of our students!

Saturday, April 30, 2011 2:50 PM: State STLP Product Finalists 2011



STLP State Product Finalists

May 13, 2011

Lexington Convention Center

Awards Ceremony

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Rupp Arena

Congratulations to the following schools that have student products in the finalist competition at the state level:

- Bryan Station High School - Designing for Gaming: Defender Game Design
- Dixie Elementary - Technical Writing: How to Use PowerPoint
- Dixie Elementary - Technical Writing: How to Use an iPod Touch
- Edythe J. Hayes Middle - Original Photo: Flamingo
- Julius Marks Elementary - Digital Citizenship: Internet Safety
- Julius Marks Elementary - Digital Citizenship: Cyberbullies
- Julius Marks Elementary - Manipulated Photo: Flower Power
- Julius Marks Elementary - Manipulated Photo: Lake Glow
- Julius Marks Elementary - Technical Writing: How to Use Paint!
- Julius Marks Elementary - Technical Writing: How to Make a Newspaper with Publisher
- Julius Marks Elementary - Animation: Bullying
- Julius Marks Elementary - Documentary: Digital Video
- Julius Marks Elementary - Feature: Twisty Tongue Twisters
- Julius Marks Elementary - Newscast: JME-TV
- Lafayette High School - Graphic Design: Vector Self-Portrait
- Lafayette High School - Graphic Design: Nom Nom
- Lafayette High School - Manipulated Photo: Three Sides of Me
- Lafayette High School - Manipulated Photo: Futuristic... Like a Time Rift
- Lafayette High School - Original Art: Anger
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School - Digital Citizenship: Interwebz
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School - Manipulated Photo: Eyeboltz
- Tates Creek Middle School - Original Art: A Manecer del Dragon
- Winburn Middle School - Manipulated Photo: Star Battle

...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**

Wednesday, May 04, 2011 8:25 AM: Summer Professional Development/Spring Cleanup – Fayette's iSchool

The following PD classes will be offered this summer in support of Fayette County's online learning management system, Fayette's iSchool:

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

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

system, Fayette's iSchool.

- **Monday, June 20/Monday, July 18: Introduction to Fayette's iSchool (Interactive Use).** These one-day PD classes will serve as a general introduction to how (and why!) to build and deliver interactive online student activities.
- **Tuesday, June 21/Tuesday, July 19: Fayette's iSchool Topics.** Two different intermediate PD classes are offered, with a more detailed look at student learning and use.
- **Friday, July 22/Friday, July 29: Fayette's iSchool Workshops.** These one-day PDs will be primarily supported individual work time. Enrollment will be kept low, and one-on-one assistance will be available.
- ***July 10-29: The Art of Discussion.** Using research-based techniques, this course looks at effective practices on how to make student online discussion encourage higher-order learning.
- ***July 10-29: Student-Driven Learning Online.** This study group will provide readings, solicit ideas, and provide a platform for discussion as we examine what we mean by student-driven instruction as it takes place online.
- **July 25-27: Student Online Writing Project.** This 3-day workshop will specifically address the new writing standards, and their implication for collaborative writing online. Participants will be designing a learning project for implementation in the fall. This project has *very* limited available seats!

Spring cleaning!

The end of the school year brings lots of changes. In our pursuit of being good stewards of our online servers, please let us know if those changes mean that you have iSchool courses you no longer need or use. No need to delete anything you'll be reusing, but the rest should go to the dustbin, to make room for next year's onslaught. Let us know!

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

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

Wednesday, May 04, 2011 8:44 AM: It's Spring! Time for Spring Cleaning!

As you prepare to wrap up the semester, a few technical "heads-up" issues to which you should pay attention:

- **Dead Sites:** If you have a SharePoint space that's not being used, move what you need and delete it (or let us know, and we'll delete it).
- **Old Content.** SharePoint is ill-suited as an archive of old content. If you're storing files there which you no longer need, please delete it. If you still need them, but won't be changing them, download them to a server location and remove them from SharePoint.



Over the next few weeks, I will be contacting folks as I find sites that haven't been updated for over 6 months. Time to make space for the coming new year!

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

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, April 25, 2011 8:47 AM: April CILC Updates



Click on the title to view more information about the following events. If you find something of interest, feel free to email me for more direction on how to access the CILC dollar bank for Fayette County.

[Virtual Heart](#) - by [Denver Museum of Nature & Science](#)

Experience, explore, and engage in the Museum's health classes right in your classroom, taught by professional Museum educators. Participate in activities and observe experiments to learn how the circulatory system works.

[Virtual Lung](#) - by [Denver Museum of Nature & Science](#)

Experience, explore, and engage in the Museum's health classes right in your classroom, taught by professional Museum educators. Participate in activities and observe experiments to learn how the respiratory system works.

[Chain of Life](#) - by [Greenville Zoo](#)

Students learn how animals are built to eat, what they do, and how animals rely on one another for their own survival in the chain of life.

[Everybody Needs a Home](#) - by [Greenville Zoo](#)

Nests, burrows, a pile of rocks...every animal needs a home, but how do they find one?

[Green Kingdom](#) - by [Greenville Zoo](#)

Do you think all plants are alike? Plants are all around us. We see them everyday. We will discuss how animals are beneficial to both animals and people.

[Kids 4 Conservation](#) - by [Greenville Zoo](#)

Although we strive to explain why so many of the earth's habitats are endangered, we also emphasize how individuals can solve the problems facing the Earth and its inhabitants. Find out what you and zoos can do to make a difference.

[Follow the Buffalo](#) - by [Homestead National Monument of America](#)

Follow the Buffalo examines the use of land for survival and the importance of the buffalo to Plains

Indians.

[1945: Witnesses to War - Holocaust Survivors and Artists](#) - by [University Circle Interactive Cleveland](#)

This 2 part program explores how an individual artist and survivors respond to their experiences of the Holocaust.

["Careers in Architecture"](#) - by [WVIZ ideastream](#)

Careers in Architecture with the URS Corporation.

["Careers in Radiology" \(Radiologist and Radiologist Tech\)](#) - by [WVIZ ideastream](#)

Radiology is a cutting edge field of medicine that uses medical imaging techniques to assess patient conditions and administer treatment.

[Careers in the Performing Arts "West Side Story"](#) - by [WVIZ ideastream](#)

Through a panel interview and Q&A session, your students will gain an understanding of the skills and competencies related to specific career fields in the performing arts directly from Broadway professionals.

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



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