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OLUME ONE SPRING EDITION 2011

DYNAMIC PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OFFERING LEADERSHIP AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES TO PROFESSIONALS THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH BY NURTURING THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, INFORMATION, RESOURCES, AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENTS IN CURRENT **TECHNOLOGY** ISSUES.

> PAECT TO VOLUNTEER AT ISTE MEET NEW FRIENDS. FURTHER YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK AND RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings PA Educators,

As the school year begins to wind to a close, many of us are considering the changes occurring in education across the state and across the country. State, federal and local budgets have endured cuts, and we have yet to determine how these cuts will play out in classrooms. It is an important time for all of us who work so hard to provide the best possible education for our students.



PAECT is involved in a number of activities that help to address some of these concerns. In mid-April, a group of PAECT members took part in the 2011 Education Technology Policy Summit and the 2011 ABC's of Advocacy, both in Washington, DC, and hosted by ISTE and CoSN. At these meetings, we learned how decisions were being made in Washington concerning budget allocations, and how we might be able to impact those decisions. I personally met with staffers for Senator Casey, Senator Toomey, and Representative Doyle to share my concerns about funding cuts to education and educational technology. I plan to stay in contact with the staff folks I met and hope that you reach out to your representatives as well to let them know you consider this funding important. They need to know how professionals view these concerns, and they need your help in identifying the most critical areas.

The PAECT Capitol Student Technology Showcase, scheduled for May 23 in the PA Capitol Building, is another opportunity to show legislators how you feel about technology in the classroom and the funding that makes it possible. Apply now to bring a group of students to share with state elected officials how technology in the classroom is impacting their learning. If you can't bring a group, then join us there to cheer on those who do, and please, write your local representatives to invite them to join us on the floor. Remind them that we are representing ideas that are important to you, their constituents.

As always, PAECT attempts to provide opportunities for you to continue to grow in your profession and to share with other members to support their growth. In mid-April, in the Southeast Region, an afternoon of technology sharing took place in Ambler, PA, and on May 14, PAECT is sponsoring a Google Workshop at the North West Tri-County IU#5. We are constantly planning new workshops and other events, all which can be found on the PAECT website. There, you can also find information about the ISTE conference, which is being sponsored by PAECT in Philadelphia this June! You can also find out how to submit a proposal for PETE&C 2012.

To get more actively involved, contact your regional representative. In each region, we are looking to fill positions to help plan regional PAECT events, and we love to welcome new people who want to contribute. If you have been a member for awhile and you're not sure how to get involved, now is a great time to step in and help to strengthen the message that PAECT brings. How would you like to volunteer for a national conference hosted in your state? Look in this newsletter for information about how you can volunteer at ISTE!

See you in Philadelphia for ISTE 2011!

Dr. Shirley Campbell, President

P.S. PAECT Regional Representative contact information, PAECT Capital Student Technology Showcase, ETAN (Educational Technology Action Network - Legislative support) information, and links to ISTE2011 and PETE&C can all be found at http://www.paect.org/

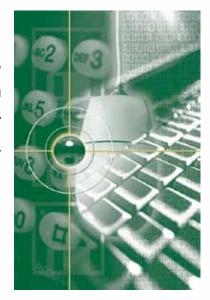
UPDATES FROM AROUND THE PAECT REGIONS

NE PAECT UPDATE

SUMMER TECH CONFERENCE

The northeast region of PAECT, in conjunction with IUs 18-19-20-21, is pleased to coordinate a Summer Tech Conference on July 13, 2011. This conference will take place at Wilkes University from 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. SAVE THE DATE!

The purpose of this conference is to focus on professional development for IT professionals on topics such as network/system administration and desktop support. As a partner, ePlus will be coordinating vendor attendance at the event.



Look for more details regarding agenda/registration in upcoming weeks!

PAECT SHOWCASE



PAECT will be sponsoring a number of events at the ISTE2011 Conference, June 26-29, 2011, in Philadelphia, PA. Click here to see all events scheduled in the PAECT room at the conference.

PROFESSIONAL PARTNER UPDATES

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER CERTIFICATION ON THE HORIZON



The 2011 Consortium for School Networking's (CoSN) annual conference was a huge success. One of the most exciting announcements was

the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) certification program that CoSN is creating through a grant from the National Science Foundation. A CoSN commissioned study revealed that most education leaders affirmed that professional development and certification for CTOs have the potential to contribute to a school district's success.

The certification program is planned to have two components. The first is a multiple-choice exam to test expanded skills in areas such as leadership, budgeting, team building, technology, and business required to be a 21st century CTO. Those passing the exam portion will move on to the essay portion.

CoSN plans to beta test a select group of eligible district technology leaders to ensure the exam meets the expectations of the industry. The beta test is scheduled to occur before the end of 2011. The first official administration of the exam is scheduled to be offered at the CoSN Annual Conference in March 2012.

In 2009, the Consortium for School Networking released an update to The Framework of Essential Skills of the K-12 CTO. The Essential Skills Framework addresses ten areas of skill a 21st century CTO needs to master, some of which are Leadership and Vision, Understanding the Educational Environment, and Managing Technology and Support Resources. The CoSN certification is based around The Essential Skills Framework. To find out more about the CoSN CTO Certification program, go to http://www.cosn.org and click on Initiatives.

PAECT is the state chapter for CoSN. Institutional membership in CoSN automatically provides membership in PAECT. For more information about CoSN and PAECT, contact Vince Humes at vince_humes@iu5.org. Share this information with your district technology leaders!



ETAN Message from

Mark Perlman

To borrow a phrase from the environmental movement (or just good citizenship): "Think Globally, Act Locally"

At PETE&C, we concentrated on ETAN - the EdTech Action Network - for the global Federal look. Now it's time to contact the local office of your State Representative and Senator to let them know your thoughts on educational funding.

NOW is the time, as the ebb and flow of politicking in Harrisburg is in full swing. Let them know that you understand that educational funding is a great and powerful tool for an elected official to use as a bargaining chip, but this is supposed to be about the education of our children, not about being re-elected. Ask them to think before they vote.

Call and email TODAY. Ask friends and family to do the same! It only takes one minute.

Visit

http://www.edtechactionnetwork.org/,

enter your zip code, and the ETAN website will populate a message for you to email to your Senator and House Representative.

PROFESSIONAL PARTNER UPDATES



Pennsylvania educators have a unique opportunity this June to experience the premier education technology conference in the U.S., and perhaps the world, when ISTE2011 comes to the Philadelphia Convention Center in June 2011. Why should you

expend the time, energy and even perhaps your own money to attend?

- Where else can you network with 13,000+ educators from across the nation AND from over 100 foreign countries?

 Where else can you find 700 sessions highlighting the best educational practices formal sessions and hands-on labs, traditional and student poster presentations, Birds-of-a-Feather discussions, and themed lounges and playgrounds?
- Where else can you experience the finest in professional development from national, international and local experts within driving distance at bargain prices?
- Where else can you choose from over 100 full and half-day workshops to actively learn and practice your new-found skills and knowledge? Where else can you visit an exhibit hall with 500 companies displaying the newest technologies and best educational products across the globe?
- Where else can you hear from three internationally known keynote speakers, including Philadelphia's own Chris Lehman, founding principal of the Philadelphia Science Leadership Academy?

The answer? No where else but at ISTE2011 Philadelphia, June 26-29. Share the excitement, the passion and the energy at ISTE2011! See you there! Have questions? Don't hesitate to contact me. Helen Soule, ISTE2011 Marketing and Outreach Coordinator helenasoule@gmail.com

CyberSurgeons



See how students worked on various medical simulations by using video conferencing technology to interact with staff from the Challenger Learning Center.

LINK TO SITE HERE

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READER SUBMISSIONS

INNOVATIONS IN TEACHER PREPARATION

With the development of worldwide digital resources and the introduction of new technologies to deliver those resources, updating and including new curricular elements in a just-in-time framework has allowed teacher preparation coursework to offer more innovative teaching methods and materials to its student stakeholders. For students invested in finding information and learning new skills, just-in-time curricular delivery may best facilitate student access to course content in a structure that is compatible with their individual learning styles. The need for a just-in-time framework in teacher preparation coursework has never been greater due to legal, developmental, pedagogical, and subject-area knowledge factors that are impacting teacher preparation curriculum. Seven best practices will be addressed in terms of just-in-time curricular implementation in a teacher preparation program.

Best Practice #1: Develop explicit learning objectives

Best Practice #2: Develop modular learning units

Best Practice #3: Foster self-directed and self-paced learning

Best Practice #4: Develop course support systems that capitalize on new technologies

Best Practice #5: Develop real-world resources to parallel classroom instruction

Best Practice #6: Incorporate program-level goals into individual courses

Best Practice #7: Support new curricular elements with professional development

To read the full article and learn more about each of the best practices, follow this LINK.

CLOSING THE TECHNOLOGY GAP IN WORLD LANGUAGE TEACHING

Silvina Orsatti

2011 NECTFL Sans Inc./Mead Fellow

Silvina Orsatti, from Saltsburg, PA, was recently selected as the 2011 Pennsylvania Mead Fellow at the NECTFL (Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) held in Baltimore on April 1-4. The SANS Inc./ Mead Leadership Program recognizes foreign language teachers who demonstrate leadership and vision in world language education. Mead Fellows are selected for their experience and for the quality of the projects they propose.

Silvina is a Spanish teacher, certified instructional technology specialist, and experienced online professional development facilitator. Her project will provide participating teachers with free training (through webinars) on innovative uses of web 2.0 tools in the world languages classroom, as well as facilitating a collaborative environment for them to connect with content, resources, expertise, and learning experiences. World Language teachers in Pennsylvania are invited to participate in this project, and they will be rewarded with incentives for their successful and active participation in it.

For more information about this Mead project, or to pre-register for it, please e-mail Silvina Orsatti @ o.silvy@ amail.com by June 10, 2011.

Additional resources:

2011 SANS Inc./Mead Leadership Fellows @ http://tinyurl.com/2011MeadPA

NECTFL (Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) @ http://www2.dickinson.edu/prorg/nectfl/PSMLA (Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association) @ http://www.psmla.org

"MARRIAGE OF TECHNOLOGY & DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION PRODUCES PSSA PERFORMANCE"

by Jesse Berg, MSIT, MEd.

Technology Integration Coach, Philadelphia School District Visual Learning Specialist, Director, The Visual Leap, LLC

This is a story of how technology transforms teaching and learning. It takes place in an 11th grade classroom in inner city Philadelphia, where I served as Technology Integration Coach. The time was March 2010, and PSSA pressure was mounting. This class was a melting pot, comprised of students from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, some of whom were ELL and some with IEPs. The thoughtful teacher (Mrs. S.) was working hard but struggling to engage her students to prepare them for the constructed response portions of the PSSA reading and writing tests.

When the PSSA test results came in, however, her class had out-performed all other 11th grade students. Of our students, only 14% scored Below Basic, compared to the entire class that scored 51% Below Basic. Our group scored 43% Proficient (compared to 25% of the entire class). Advanced and Basic scores were close.

"It was just amazing. There was this 'A hal' moment when the kids saw the tie between the prompt, the graphic organizer and the scoring. The color-coding, the annotations, the mind maps: it happened because of the technology! They never could have gotten that from pencil and paper."

- Mrs. S., Philadelphia SD teacher collaborating with the PSSA Intervention

How did this happen? Our results came from effective instructional technology and sound pedagogy. The pedagogical foundation of our intervention drew on mapping and outlining – learning strategies recommended in the PSSA Writing Item and Scoring Sampler. What made the intervention stick, however, was the student response when taught with the Interactive White Board and the CFF software that included Adobe Acrobat, ActivInspire 1.3 and Insiration 8.

The massive inversion of technology and coaching has had a huge impact on student learning and innovative teaching. For instructional technology in Pennsylvania, these have indeed been the best of times.

INNOVATION ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET

In this article, you will read three ideas for being innovative when budgets are tight.

ldea 1

Pilots - When funding is limited, selecting areas to inject innovation can disconnect the team. Instead of choosing to run or cut individual projects, you might consider pilots. Testing technologies in a number of different areas with the ultimate goal of gathering hands-on experience gets more people involved without locking the technology into a specific place or purpose.

How I see it: Your district purchases Five iPads. You rotate the iPads every two weeks among educators, administrators and technical support. During this time, students are also given the technology to use. Both formal and informal conversation about take-aways can then be had with each member of the pilot team.

Idea 2

Becoming Connected - Many people are utilizing free and very low cost resources. Assigning a few interested team members to follow educational innovators on Twitter or joining social networking groups like Classroom 2.0 can bring a lot of ideas back to a district. Be aware that heavy social networking is not for everyone. You may want to assign a number of team members to experiment with the various connecting technologies to see who is the right fit.

How I see it: Team member A joins Twitter and begins to follow 20 educational leaders. Team member B joins Classroom 2.0 and attends several free webinars. Team member C creates a Diigo account and joins a number of specific educational groups. These team members share take-aways with staff and administration. You could call updates 'The Twitter Report' or 'Voices from the Crowd', but the ultimate goal is to bring fresh ideas back to the entire team.

These are only two ideas. We would love to hear your ideas, so we can share them in the Summer PAECT Newsletter. Click here, or go to PAECT.org and click on Share Your Innovations on a Shoestring Budget. We look forward to learning from you.

PAECTEXPIERIENCE



WSD's eToolBox

guest · Join · Help · Sign in



FFATURED WIKI:

http://etoolbox.wikispaces.com/

Created by: Dianne Krause,

K-12 Technology Integration Specialist at Wissahickon School District

"This space is intended as a virtual eToolBox of resources for integrating technology into the classroom. It is chocked-full of resources, how-tos, uses in classroom, examples and more."

The eToolBox was created in the summer of 2008 by Dianne as a place for the teachers of Wissahickon School District to get more information about the technology programs, tools and resources available to them through the district computers and the Internet. Since then, it has been continually updated and

refined with newer tools, resources and topics. Although focused on the tools supported and used by the faculty of Wissahickon, the eToolBox also contains many other valuable resources for technology integration including pages outlining Personal Learning Networks, Digital Responsibility & Copyright, Internet Search Strategies, Formative Assessment, and other topics involving technology integration. Not only is the eToolBox a valuable website for the teachers of Wissahickon, but it has also received global recognition and acclaim as it was nominated for Best Educational Wiki in the Edublog Awards in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Dianne is a certified K-12 Instructional Technology Specialist and Coach for Wissahickon School District in Ambler, PA. In this role, she is the sole provider of technology professional development for the over four hundred teachers in the school district.



TEACHER FEATURE:

PAECT Teacher of the Year

Who's that man wandering through the halls of East Stroudsburg Area School District, showcasing and integrating technology for folks big and small? It's Shawn A. Westcott, the PAECT Teacher of the Year! Whether collaborating with teachers to integrate technology into the classroom, leading the student eTeam, facilitating a workshop or helping kindergartners with a green screening project, Shawn is a dedicated Technology Specialist who embodies the key qualities of a great educator.



Shawn has been instrumental in bringing technology into the daily lives of the East Stroudsburg Area School District community through lessons on ActivInspire, Kid Pix and SMART board resources. He provides workshops to support technology use for professional and academic growth, and he facilitates the student eTeam and eTech Academy for teachers that want to create a 21st century classroom.

Economic hardships haven't derailed Shawn's plans for technology integration. Shawn showed his leadership abilities by researching and acquiring grants that allowed for new technology hardware and software, as well as the professional development time to go with the new resources! Most recently, Shawn was able to procure a grant from Verizon that helped fund the student eTeam, and he is currently working on a grant that will fund a "Spring into Technology" weekend workshop for his teachers.

In his spare time, Shawn has made contributions to Pennsylvania by nominating deserving teachers to the Keystone Technology Integrator program and serving as an active member of PAECT.

Shawn's enthusiastic introduction of new technology, his educator-focused workshops, his willingness to collaborate, his advocacy for the effective use of technology in daily instruction and his encouragement and leadership made him the ideal 2011 PAECT Teacher of the Yearl

ADMINISTRATOR FEATURE:

Ann Johnston

Lincoln Intermediate Unit 12

The PAECT Leader of the Year is none other than Lincoln Intermediate Unit 12's Ann Johnston! Her tireless effort and hard work to support the districts in IU 12 did not go unnoticed, as her colleagues rallied around in support of her receiving this prestigious award.

Ann has been identified as a quintessential learner, striving to be on the cutting edge of



effective instructional use of technology for learning. She goes above and beyond to help districts throughout her region more effectively implement technology to improve education and serves as an ongoing support to technology coaches, directors and teachers in connecting technology with the core curriculum. No matter where individual districts fall in their ability to integrate technology, Ann is there, helping to move them forward.

As a leader, Ann has helped form TlEnet, a group of coaches and integrators from Intermediate Unit 12 that collaborate on technology. This tightly-knit group of technology minded people get together for teacher professional development, planning and learning activities and also as a social outlet for fun! The group praises Ann as their leader and credits her with the successes they have experienced.

Ann has shown herself to be a true member of any team that she leads, ensuring that she provides those around her with the resources to do their jobs. She is a vocal advocate for technology integration and is constantly looking towards the future for the latest innovations that will serve education.

Congratulations Ann on being the 2011 PAECT Leader of the Year!

ISTE MESSAGE:

Welcome to ISTF 2011

Holly M. Jobe, President-elect

The ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) 2011 conference is coming up the end of June in Philadelphia. As incoming president of the ISTE board, I would like to extend a personal invitation and welcome to you to attend one of the best conferences ever!



ISTE has been my professional "home" since 1984 when I attended my first ISTE conference in Norfolk, VA. As you might imagine, the conference was a lot smaller and the exhibits not anywhere near as extensive. What got my attention at that conference was the level of conversation about learning with technology and the interesting and stimulating ideas I was able to take home and apply. Even at that first conference, there were international attendees who I found had similar interests and concerns about educating with technology.

One of the people I met at that conference and I decided to do one of the first telecommunications projects world-wide between 5th graders in Montgomery County and 5th graders in Australia. This was way before the Internet, and we had to dial a ten digit telnet number to reach a server in Australia to exchange our text files. This project resulted in lifetime relationships with colleagues involved.

Things have changed since those early days. Today the conference is teeming with excited educators exchanging ideas, making connections and finding just what they need to enrich school, classroom and personal experiences. Specific opportunities are described elsewhere in this newsletter and on the ISTE Conference website. I want to emphasize the stimulating relationships that have enhanced and furthered my work over the years. I go back each year (even if I don't have funding provided by my employer) to reconnect and recharge for the next year. I encourage you to take advantage of the proximity of this year's conference since it is being held in Pennsylvania!

It is my privilege to serve on the board of directors of ISTE, and last year was honored to be elected to serve as president beginning at this year's conference. ISTE has stood out as a beacon of leadership in reforming education using tools and strategies that engage 21st Century learners and prepare them for a very different world from which most of us grew up. The NETS (National Educational Technology Standards) for students, teachers and administrators have provided a pathway for utilizing technology in schools around the globe. ISTE's leadership, staff and members have developed a vibrant organization that reaches beyond the conference, so if you're not a member, consider joining!

I encourage you to make every effort to come to Philadelphia the last week in June to see what the excitement is all about. You won't regret it!

FEATURED WEBQUEST:

Touch Of Reality Webquest

http://touchofreality.wikispaces.com

In this Webquest, Philadelphia students discover what lies ahead of them after elementary / middle school. Students choose a high school (from the Philadelphia School District Site), college, career, house and car. They discover what it's like to be an adult. They have to do a monthly budget in Excel, which is inserted into PowerPoint. A PowerPoint presentation is the end product with extensions such as podcasting, comic design, green screening, etc.

As students, they learn the responsibilities of being an adult that is now living on his/her own. As children, they sometimes take their parents/guardians for granted. This webquest

is designed to help them understand the responsibilities that lie ahead of them.

As for teachers this is a great opportunity for students to look to their future. Teachers can use this as a springboard to an engaging, authentic learning experience that marries student interest, research, writing across the curriculum, and 21st century skills supported by multiple technologies. It is great to do if you are talking about career choices. It involves research, writing, Excel (math) and PowerPoint.



Kim Adair



WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, YOU CAN JOIN BY GOING TO

HTTP:// PAECT.ORG

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY.

PAECT Web Tools:

Check out these five fab web tools and start using them!

Google Body: http://bodybrowser.googlelabs.com > > > >

What is it? Allows users to view full layers of the human body; also, provides labels for parts. Where to use it? Science labs, biology classroom or for those who are interested in human anatomy.



Aviary: http://www.aviary.com >>>>

What is it? A beat and music making tool that also allows for image editing, screen capture and effects.

Where to use it? Music classroom, projects that need visual and auditory enhancement, presentations, or just for fun.



CorkBoard.me: http://corkboard.me >>>>>

What is it? A virtual cork board to display notes to share; can be embedded in a wiki.

Where to use it? With students or colleagues to post reminders or notes.



What is it? A drop site for data that can be accessed online from anywhere; allows users to save into created folders; go paperless with no hassle.

Where to use it? In the classroom to collect papers and projects, to collaborate with colleagues.



What is it? A secure drop site for documents and other information.

Where to use it? In conjunction with Dropbox, students or colleagues can securely send files to you.





PAECT IS A NON-PROFIT THAT DEPENDS ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A SMALL PORTION OF YOUR TIME AT PETE & C TO ONE OF THE MANY PROJECTS BEING SUPPORTED BY PAECT. YOU CAN FIND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES BY VISITING

WWW.PAECT.ORG