

Technology Newsletter

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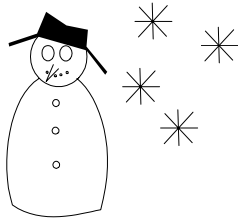
Director's News

Happy New Year!

I hope your new year is off to a great start. There are so many GOOD things going on in our division and so many GREAT programs. I know most of you feel overwhelmed this time of year with the bulk of information that has come your way - I hope that stress eases a bit as we move on. Marion has been in many classrooms and office areas in the past few months working with teachers and staff on new software and hardware. If you are interested in having her come in and assist you, please contact her- she is an awesome resource. Once again, we have lined up a powerful agenda for technology workshops. Realizing that time is scarce, I do hope you will be able to plan to attend a few offered. One VERY important factor to remember is that we would appreciate it if you would PRE-REGISTER for the workshops so we have an idea of how many may be served.

Please check out the website - www.appomattox.k12.va.us and click on bottom right on Events for the latest updates. We are making plans for ACHS and APS teacher computers to be installed. The schedule may take a while so please be patient. By the summer, each teacher should have a new computer in their work area. This is exciting but stressful - another change! Please do not hesitate to contact me, Gerald, April, Marion, or your internal technology personnel for assistance and information regarding Deep Freeze, personal software, modes of saving data, etc... We do not want this event to be one more stress for you! I hope you will take a moment to email me any concerns you may have.

Martha Eagle



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Technology Workshops
- ◆ NTTI Training, Roanoke, April 8-9

USB Flash Drives By Danny Richardson

Copying files from a flash drive to a PC or vice versa:

To use the flash drive, all you need to do is plug it into your USB port. Once there, the drive will open up on your desktop. If it does not open automatically, double-click your **My Computer** icon. Your flash drive shows up as a removable storage device, usually D or E drive. To save to the drive, you can drag files using the mouse. Another way to save is from within your program, such as Word, click File, Save As and then use the scroll down option to choose the Flash Drive. You can also copy files from your flash drive by dragging and dropping. When the copying is finished, **do not immediately remove the flash drive from the USB port**, instead left-click on the **Remove Hardware** icon. Left-click

on the **Safely Remove Mass Storage Device** line that matches your flash drive (for example, **Safely Remove Mass Storage Device - Drive (E:)**). You will see a message appear, saying it is safe to remove the flash drive from the USB port; you may close the message or ignore it, as it will close itself automatically. Remove USB drive.

If you are using Windows 98, you must install a driver before you can use your flash drive. You can download the Win98 driver and instructions at:

http://www.sandisk.com/retail_technical_support_drivers_SDCZ4.html#windows98se

The driver is not required for Windows ME, W2k or XP



Appropriate Technology Integration: How Does It Look?



Technology integration promotes collaboration among students in several classes.

Technology integration begins when teachers and students use technology because it is the right tool to use.

How does technology integration begin? It begins when teachers and students use technology because it is the right tool to use. It is students using the Internet to do research. It is students creating Web sites to teach others about earthquakes and disaster readiness. It is students creating multimedia presentations and presenting them to their classmates, parents, and community.

Technology integration begins when a teacher has her students illustrate a Kindergarten alphabet book using a paint program. The students publish their work. They print out their pages and create a class book that is sent home for parents to view. Technology integration is students making slideshows using their alphabet drawings. It is the students recording their voices and saying the letters of the alphabet and the names of objects they drew.

Technology integration happens when second grade students use the computer to look up information on the Internet that will answer the question: "What did dinosaurs eat?" They download pictures of dinosaurs and create shadow boxes showing how dinosaurs lived. Technology integration promotes collaboration among students in several classes. Older students create digital stories about dinosaurs, sharing information or inventing tales. In

"Dinosaurs Before Dark," (http://www.tech4learning.com/claykit/samples/languagearts/dinosaurs_before_dark.mov) students created a claymation movie for their language arts project. Technology integration is fourth-grade students creating slideshow presentations about the latest books they have read. In their presentations they include hyperlinks to Internet sites reviewing the books. Technology integration is fifth-grade students making movies about the Oregon Trail and westward expansion. It is when sixth-grade students at Echo Horizon School participate in the Mars Millennium Project and discuss what it might be like to live on Mars. Read how it is done when you visit "Legends of Mars 2030."

(<http://hometown.aol.com/texwrenn/myhomepage/mars.html>). See how technology facilitates their exploration. Technology integration is using digital cameras to make movies explaining scientific principles, such as the "Flight of the Painted Ladies." (http://education.apple.com/education/ilife/project_template.php?project_id=31&subject_id=4.)

If you would like to see where you stand in integrating technology take the Self-Assessment Survey at the following link:

<http://glef.org/modules/TI/how.php>

*article reprinted from
<http://glef.org/modules/TI/how.php>*

Spyware



There are some excellent tools for finding and deleting spyware off your computer. One such program is called Ad-Aware and it is free. Ad-Aware can be downloaded from

http://www.download.com/Ad-Aware-SE-Personal-Edition/3000-8022_4-10045910.html?part=dl-ad-aware&subj=dl&tq=top5

"With the ability to scan your RAM, registry, hard drives, and external storage devices for known data-mining, advertising, and tracking components, Ad-aware SE easily can clean your system, allowing you to maintain a higher degree of privacy while you surf the Web."

http://www.download.com/Ad-Aware-SE-Personal-Edition/3000-8022_4-10045910.html?part=dl-ad-

Number One Must-Have Software

But the number 1 "must have" software mentioned most often for both students and teachers is [Microsoft Office](#) -- and its various components.

"We find that the basic Microsoft package is very useful," said Julia Timmons. "We have [Word](#), [Excel](#), [Access](#), and [PowerPoint](#), and our teachers have created some wonderful content-specific lessons using those programs."

"We utilize every part of Microsoft Office -- for doing grade books, newsletters, posters, letters home, worksheets, presentations, Web page development, mailings and so on," agreed Beth Gregor. "The uses are unlimited."

"Microsoft PowerPoint -- which allows both teachers and students to create

dynamic presentations -- is one program I think all districts should have," Cathy Chamberlain told Education World. "The program allows users to incorporate various types of multimedia to bring their material to life, and the presentations provide visual and auditory stimulation for the audience.

"This software provides teachers with another vehicle for distributing information to students in an entertaining and motivating way, and it provides students with a new way of presenting their research. When working with a presentation tool like PowerPoint, students have to synthesize information before presenting it. The tool can also be used to create books, posters, handouts and more."

Article reprinted from:
http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech151.shtml



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Assistive Technology - 28 Uses of Kidspiration & Inspiration

1. Assist students in organizing information
2. Assist teachers in planning lessons/units/themes
3. Illustrate school's goals or plan for Parent-Teacher Organization
4. Illustrate instructional goal links to testing expectations
5. To show what each grade will be teaching and how units fit into the larger picture of curriculum for the whole school
6. Assess student learning
7. Show integration of different topics across the curriculum for a unit, lesson, or long-range plan
8. Present difficult material in a step by step manner
9. Plot summaries
10. Create cause/effect/solution diagrams to resolve social issues within the classroom
11. Book design elements
12. Illustrate digestive system
13. Local government diagram
14. Defining new terms
15. Introducing a new concept
16. Note-taking organizer
17. Detailed processes (how to add polynomials etc.)
18. Creating storyboards for PowerPoint and Hyperstudio presentations
19. Comparison activities
20. Historical cause and effect
21. Cycles (recycle, weather, etc.)
22. To construct a food chain
23. Map of where items are stored in desk, trapper, or locker
24. Library orientation
25. Language Arts - character descriptions, plot movement, action that leads to the climax
26. Math-to teach algorithms (especially division)
27. Math-problem solving because it is non-linear
28. Create instructions for games

Taken from
<http://www.uwstout.edu/soe/profdev/conceptmap/50uses.html>



Diagram about the Sioux Indians of the Plains by Debbie Jamerson's class, using Kidspiration.

Great Site Suggestions By Susan Williams

Find It Va --
<http://infotrac.galegroup.com/menu> -- great FREE research resources like Infotrac, Infotrac Junior, Health, Kid's Info Bits, and many more
Soople.com - user friendly index of online resources
4teachers.org-- 4Teachers.org works to help you integrate technology into your classroom by offering FREE online tools and resources. This site helps teachers locate and create ready-to-use Web lessons, quizzes, rubrics and classroom calendars
www.onlinepoetryclassroom.org - Academy of American Poets Find a poem or poet. Suggestions and instructions for teaching poetry, online workshops, teacher forums, etc. The National Poetry Map for locating state specific features.

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Karen Cyrus' Class Using KidPix *By Marion Wood*

The students in Karen Cyrus' class were the first to use the wireless lab at AES. They wrote their own final chapter to the book *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh.* Creating their own illustrations using KidPix (a creative draw and paint program for kids), they then used those illustrations to create a slideshow. They taught the students in Dana Hamlett's class to use KidPix. The picture at the right show these students busy at work. The pictures below show some of Alison's illustrations.



2005 Technology Workshops

February 10th

Qwizdom, ACHS
4Teachers.org AMS
SmartBoard, APS Lab

February 17th

KidPix, AES
Marco Polo, AMS

February 22

SmartBoard, ACHS

February 24

Kidspiration, APS Lab
Inspiration, AMS
United Streaming, AMS

March 2

Spyware
Search Engines, ACHS

March 10th

Inspiration, AES Lab
Microsoft Producer, ACHS
Snagit, AMS
Qwizdom, AMS

March 14th

PowerPoint Templates, ACHS

March 17th

Spyware/Adware, ACHS
Marco Polo, AMS

March 24th

Angel, AMS
Qwizdom, APS
Digital Camcorders, AES

March 28th

Beginning Movie Maker

April 7th

Internet Resources, ACHS
Open Lab, APS

April 11th

WebQuests, ACHS

April 14th

Scholastic Keys, AES
PC Basics, AMS

April 25th

PowerPoint Games

March 2nd - May 11th

Reading Comprehension Project, SBO
PC Basics, AMS

Register at

<http://www.appomattox.k12.va.us/acps/eventlisting.aspx>

Learning and Succeeding in a Caring Environment
We're on the web at www.appomattox.k12.va.us