Welcome to a new school year!

I hope this newsletter finds you rested and excited about the new school year. I look forward to working with each and every one of you to help our students become more technologically literate.

I understand that many teachers feel like they are too far behind compared to the students in their use of technology — not so! Together, we can use these resources to make our lives easier. Technology shouldn't be something else added to your already full plate. Instead, it will enhance what you are already doing.

The purpose of this newsletter is to help you as you integrate technology into your lessons. Middle School T.I.M.E.S. will have links targeted to the middle grades curriculum but many of the lessons are interdisciplinary.

Curriculum Links

**Art:**
Learn to Draw on the Grid
www.billybear4kids.com/Learn2Draw/grid-art.html
Online Drawing Pad
www.billybear4kids.com/Learn2Draw/DrawApplet/DrawingPad.html

**ESL:**
National Association for Bi-lingual educators
www.nabe.org
International Pen Friends
www.ipfeurope.com

**Health & PE:**
Healthy Eating Habits
www.dole5aday.com/Kids/K_Index.jsp
Fitness Fever
www.fitnessfever.com

**Language Arts:**
America Writes for Kids
http://usawrites4kids.drury.edu/
Mythweb
www.mythweb.com

**Math:**
Estimation
www.shodor.org/interactivate/activities/estim/index.html
First 1000 Prime Numbers

**Music:**
Teaching Music in Middle School
http://www-camil.music.uiuc.edu/classes/343/guitar.html
New York Philharmonic Kidzone
www.nyphilkids.org/main.phtml

**Chemistry**
http://www.middleschoolscience.com/scope.htm

**Science:**

**Social Studies:**
Timeline of American Civil Rights Movement
http://www.infoplease.com/spot/civilrightstimeline1.html
Browse the World
http://www.mrdowling.com/index.html

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Danita Russell
ITF
Lee County Schools
Drussell@LEE.K12.NC.US

Technology Opportunities

September:
⇒ 5th Smartboard basics training
East Lee 3:00 – 4:00
⇒ 6th Smartboard basics training
West Lee
⇒ 6th eBistro at West Lee
3:00-4:00 register on Schoollink
⇒ 11th, 18th, & 25th Computer test simulation with West Lee staff
⇒ 19th Introduction to Technology at Southern Lee 3:00–5:00 register on Schoollink

October:
⇒ 4th Microsoft Office at Southern Lee 3:00–5:00 register on Schoollink

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BACK TO SCHOOL
Smartboard Tips

The Smartboard is an excellent tool to use with the techno-savvy students we are teaching. This area will explain a few tips that you can use to enhance your Smartboard experience.

Open the Smartboard software by going to the Novell Applications box and click on Smart Notebook.

From the notebook, you can write, insert pictures, insert documents, link to websites, and many more features. One of my favorite features is the shade.

On the tool bar, there is a picture of a window with a window shade. If you click on this, your page will be covered. You can then adjust the shade from either side, top or bottom. This allows you to show your audience only the part you want them to see. You can show them the rest when you are ready.

An example of using the shade feature, is when you are giving a multiplication quiz and you have the problems written out and the answers covered. You can uncover the answers after the quiz or as the students do the problem.

Professional Tips

Distance learning opportunities

Are you considering pursuing a degree online? The following link will lead you to a list of accredited online graduate programs.


Using digital cameras in the classroom

http://www.wacona.com/digicam/digicam.html

Want to use technology in your classroom, but feel insecure? Why not start with small steps and make a PowerPoint of your daily homework and agenda?

To make a slide show:

1. Click on PowerPoint in Novell Application box. This will show you a page that instructs you to click to add title & click to add subtitle.

2. Click on add title. When you do this, you are ready to type your information for page 1.

3. When you are ready for an additional page, click on Insert, then New Slide (you can also click Ctrl + M).

4. Again, click on title or text and begin typing.

5. Make sure you save your information! Click File, Save As.

6. To view your show, click Slide Show, View Show (or F5).

7. Congratulations! You have made your first PowerPoint.

Next time, we'll change colors and add backgrounds.

Technology Tips

Five Minute Fillers
http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/archives/fillers.shtml

Learning Games
http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/archives/learninggame.shtml

Middle School Word of the Day
http://www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/words/junior/

"The measure of a man is how nice he is to people who can't do anything for him"
Unknown