Finally, we have snow! But, with the snow and ice come make-up days. The workdays scheduled for February 19th and 20th are now regular school days. That’s a shame, because we had a great technology round-robin workshop scheduled. Hopefully, we can offer that again before school is out for the year.

The Technology Thursdays have begun with a great turnout at East Lee. I hope more teachers will take advantage of these technology workshops. They are meant to be interesting and designed so you can make a project to use in your classroom the next day.

Curriculum Links

Art:
- Sand Art
- Art History

ESL:
- Spanish bilingual resources
- ESL Games

Health & PE:
- Fitness Journal
- Get Body Smart

Language Arts:
- Writing contest ages 6-18
- Online Storytelling

Math
- Math Nerds
- Math Teaching Ideas

Music:
- Online Metronome
- Instrument Lab

Science:
- Live Science Cams
- Toxic Town

Social Studies:
- National Atlas Maps
- My Name in Hebrew

**Click on the title and you will be directed to the site.**
Now that most of the students and teachers have been trained in Gaggle, I'm going to share some ideas for using Gaggle in your classroom.

Email:
- Keyboarding Skills: use email as a means of allowing students to work on and improve their keyboarding skills.
- Vocabulary and Letter Writing: email can be used to help students improve their letter writing and grammar skills, and it can also help increase their vocabulary.

Gaggle Tips

- Email Grading: require your students to write at least 3 emails per week, and select one email per student to grade for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation as part of their Language Arts grade.
- Impersonations: interact with others who are in character. This is a fantastic way to learn about great people in history, different cultures, etc.
- Question and Answer: include everything from ask-a-reporter to ask-a-scientist. Students become experts and other students email them questions.

Quote of the Month:
“Yeah, I'm a thrill seeker, but crikey, education's the most important thing.”
— Steve Irwin

Web 2.0 Tips

Blogs
Blogs are a great learning tool and easy to design. Edublogs.org offers free blogs to teachers.
- 4th grade classroom blog
- Mrs. Young's Reading Camp
Blogs aren’t just for teaching. They are a great way for you to communicate your thoughts and feelings.
- Always Learning

Wikis
Some of our own staff members are producing some great wikis! Take a look!
- Civil Rights by Cynthia McFadden
- 7th grade SS by Gregg Halkuff
- 7th grade SS and Language Arts
  By Terri Blumatte
- 8th grade Science by Judy Knight
- Bragg, East, & West Lee Middle Schools
  By Danita Russell

Social Bookmarking
Accessing your bookmarks can be difficult if you save them on one computer and need them on another. These sites will allow you to get your bookmarks from any computer that has Internet.
- Del.icio.us
- Blinklist
- Magnolia

Technology Tips

From this point, it becomes a bit techno-geeky, so just know that a program will change it into a useable format to upload it onto the web.
A group of young men at West Lee are trying out Podcasting by summarizing the basketball games. They love it!
- Aaron
- Carlos

Okay, but how can you use this in your classroom?
- Book reports
- PowerPoint presentation
- Great way to proofread writing
- Oral reports
- Classroom discussions
- Classroom debates
- Explain math problems