



The Link

Office of Catholic Education - Tech Newsletter

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The Catholic Educators Roll in Preparing Students for the 21st Century

If you haven't heard or read Pope Benedict XVI's message from the 43rd World Day of Communications message, you should read it. In his message he speaks of digital technologies being a gift to humanity, and he challenges Catholic educators to holding sacred the dignity of persons within the technological age. One concern he addresses in his message is that social networking and technological communication will shift patterns of communication from human relations to all digital. He states " It would be sad if our

desire to sustain and develop online friendships were to be at the cost of our availability to engage with our families, neighbors and those we meet in daily reality of our places of work, education and recreation. If the desire for virtual connectedness becomes obsessive it may in fact isolate individuals from real social interaction while also disrupting the patterns of rest, silence and reflection that are necessary for healthy human development." This is a wake up call for Catholic educators, being able to balance

the gifts of digital technologies with healthy human relations and to teach our children to do the same! Below is a survey for both teachers and students to take to see if your curriculum of the Internet promotes a culture of respect, dialogue and friendship that is healthy for us. To read Pope Benedict XVI's entire message: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/communications/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20090124_43rd-world-communications-day_en.html

SURVEY from: Momentum September/October 2009

How does your curriculum application of the Internet promote a culture of respect, dialogue and friendship that can frame our students' participation within the digital age as grounded in Benedict XVI's message?

Teachers: To what degree does my curriculum address Benedict XVI's concerns?

Students: As I explore the places I navigate online, how do I find Benedict XVI's key ideas expressed there?

Rating Scale: A (always) - S (sometimes) - N (never) - NS (not sure)

Respects the dignity and worth of the human person

- Recognizes the giftedness of each person
- Communicates in a respectful voice and tone
- Avoids sharing words and images that are degrading of human life
- Avoids promoting hatred and intolerance
- Avoids debasing goodness and intimacy of human sexuality
- Avoids exploiting the weak and vulnerable

Opens the Way for Dialogue Among

- People of different countries
- Cultures
- Religions
- People of different traditions and values
- Honest and appropriate forms of expression

Supports

- Attentive and respectful listening
- Genuine and mutual searching for truth

Sustains Friendships to Promote and Respect

- Solidarity among people
- Peace and justice
- Human rights
- Human life
- The good of all creation

What specific contribution does our Catholic school education program offer the new digital continent?



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Special Thank You

To Nicole Pescatrice from St. Christopher School in Rocky River for presenting the Edline Tips and Tricks January session!
A special thank you to Jennifer Berardinelli at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Meg Cosgriff at St. Ann, Rose Wunker at St. John Nepomucene and Harry Selner at Seton Catholic for having me to their schools!



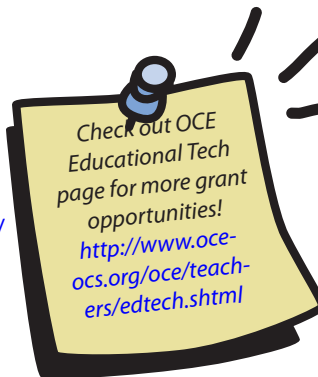
Funding Opportunities

A database of a variety of grant offerings for all areas of your school.

<http://www.cpsb.org/Scripts/abshire/grants.asp>

An excellent site for a variety of education grants for classroom and larger school and technology grants is available at: <http://www1.center.k12.mo.us/edtech/resources/grants1.htm>

This is a site that has many different educational technology grants:
<http://technologygrantnews.com/grant-index-by-type/educational-technology-grants.html>



Technology Integration

In planning for Lent here are a couple of links for you to use:

- <http://www.catholic.org/clife/lent/>
- <http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/default.aspx?id=21>
- <http://www.silk.net/RelEd/lent.htm>
- <http://catholicfaitheducation.blogspot.com/2007/03/stations-of-cross.html>

My favorite thing I did with my junior high students was have them create modern day stations of the cross. In this integrated activity we had them reflect on each station and then try to relate it to a modern day experience. Here is a link to help you: <http://www.cpryon.org/prayer/child/stations/01.html>

I Need Your Help!

Each month I have included integration lessons that I used when I taught. I love to share my ideas, but I would like to share some of your ideas too! If you have a technology integration lesson you would like to share, please submit it to me so I can share with others the great things that go on at your school!

In order to make this monthly newsletter fit your particular needs, please take a moment to contact me at dbruno@dioceseofcleveland.org with any suggestions for the newsletter.

Professional Development

Office of Catholic Education

Be sure to go to the OCE PD site for upcoming opportunities!

NEW - For second semester:

- Edline Trainings
- EXCEL sharing session
- ACTIV Studio make and take sessions
- SMART make and take sessions



To register and check out the details for all the Office of Catholic Education Professional Development opportunities go to our site at: <http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/register/>

Resources

OCE Ed Tech Page

http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/teachers/teacher_resources.shtml

Willoughby-Eastlake Tech Page

<http://www.willoughby-eastlake.k12.oh.us/classroom/technology>

Promethean Planet - ACTIVBoard Resource

<http://www.prometheanplanet.com>

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