



The Link

Office of Catholic Education - Tech Newsletter

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I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy and Blessed New Year!



I have been very blessed in this job working with all of you. Please let me know how I can continue to provide service to your school to continue the mission of Jesus to transform the world.

5 K-12 Technology Trends for 2010

Since this is the first newsletter for 2010, I decided to highlight an article from December 10th issue of *THE Journal*, written by Bridget McCrea. In her article she spotlights the top 5 trends in K-12 education for 2010. Her focus in the article was how schools can gain the most benefit from the latest hardware and software available to educators. Here they are:

1. eBooks - although it is not anticipated that they will totally replace the traditional textbooks, their use is definitely on the rise, especially for fiction and non-fiction books. A definite benefit is easy access to the books

and eBooks lessen the load the students need to carry around.

2. Netbooks - These devices might be the solution that many schools have been looking for when considering the one-to-one computer initiative. These devices are inexpensive and easy to use and can eliminate the need for multiple devices.

3. Interactive Whiteboards - although these boards have been around for about 10 years, now they expect their usage to continue to blossom, especially because of the emphasis being placed on "engaged learning" within the framework of the 21st century skills.


4. Personal devices - iPods and cell phones aren't traditional tools used in the classroom but that is expected to change. Why not use the technology the students already have and know how to use?


5. Technology enables schools to have tailored curricula. It allows educators to plan for the needs of all the students in ways that weren't always so easy in the past. If you would like to read this article in its entirety go to:

<http://thejournal.com/Articles/2009/12/10/5-K12-Technology-Trends-for-2010.aspx>

Check this out!

There is a new and easy way for your school to connect to your parents when there is an emergency alert. EventLink is an affordable, easy to use system to connect with your school community. You will use a login and password to enter the system and then your families can receive the message in a text to their cell phone, on twitter or facebook. To find out more information go to <http://www.eventlink.com> or call 1-800-705-7526.

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 There is a new booklet released by the Federal Trade Commission called "Net Cetera: Chatting with Kids About Being Online". In short, the booklet is about "The conversations that make kids good digital citizens aren't about the technology; they're about communicating your values as a parent," and "Teaching kids to treat others as they'd like to be treated online is key. Net Cetera tells you how to start those conversations—even if you think your kids are more tech-savvy than you are." To view details about this booklet go to: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?print&i=62284>

Special Thank You

To Sr. Christin from St. Helen School in Newbury for hosting Best Practices using ACTIVStudio, and to Theresa Basch from St. Albert the Great in North Royalton for being my presenter!

A special thank you to Mary Marunowski at Holy Trinity in Avon and Donna Sejba from Assumption Academy for having me at their schools.



Technology Integration

In planning for Catholic Schools Week, there are many opportunities to integrate technology. Here are just a few: Have your students create bookmarks to be passed out at the open house highlighting what they like about their school. Create candy bar covers with your school logo or mission to give out. Have your Jr. High students create a power point of their years at the school -highlighting special events, sacraments and daily life and have them running while parents are touring the building.

Check out this link - it's photo editing made easy! <http://www.picnik.com> An easy and fun learning tool to engage your students!

Funding Opportunities

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

This is a site I just found that has many different educational technology grants:
<http://technologygrantnews.com/grant-index-by-type/educational-technology-grants.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
- ACTIV Studio make and take sessions
- SMART make and take sessions
- Technology Integration 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>

The Whole Child - An ASCD Blog

<http://www.wholechildeducation.org/>

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