



Office of Catholic Education

October 2011

iPad For Special Needs Students

While attending the 2011 iste (International Society for Education Technology). I attended several sessions on using mobile devices in schools. Many of our schools purchased mobile devices for their schools. It is a fact that K-12 education is the only group not taking advantage of mobile devices. Higher education, business and a medical fields all are taking advantages of the opportunities mobile devices offer. It's time we get on **board!**

One session I attended was using iPad in a special needs classroom. The presenter focused on how she used the iPad to enhance her students' learning. She stated by using the built in camera to record her routines and activities in the classroom the child could watch the recording over and over. This process helped the students engage more in quality time and it helped with parent enforcement. Along with her traditional methods of teaching, she recommended the following apps. To help students focus on following directions: *clicky sticky* and *cookie doodle*. For fine motor control *finger sketch* and *air sketch* were recommended. For story telling, *story kit*, *toontastics* and *sonic pic* were recommended.

The Dawn of Mobilism

Another session on mobile devices I attended was "Dawning on the Age of Mobilism." The theme of this session was how the upcoming generation is not part of the "digital generation," but has moved to the "mobile generation." The presenter defined mobile learning as learning a variety of content and skills on devices you can carry, and he emphasized how students in this generation will learn best with mobile learning. Some examples of success stories were given. One is, St. Marys City Schools in Ohio. They are nationally known for their success in the use of mobile devices in math and science. In the few years they have used the devices, their OAA scores have improved. Check them out on the web: http://www.smriders.net/Mobile_Learning/. The curriculum is created in learning modules using verizon phones with no voice or text capabilities. They have a camera, Internet access, and apps all used in education. The program began in intermediate grades, connecting real world to the curriculum.

The third session I attended on mobilism was titled "The Death of the Digital Age" presented by a teacher from Tennessee. His main point was that we are past the PC age, past the age of the Internet; we are in the age of mobilism. In June 2010, the time students spent on mobile apps vs. web consumption was 64 minutes on mobile and 41 minutes on apps. In June 2011, 74 minutes on web and 81 minutes on apps. This new era will transform pedagogy. Teachers are not the bearers of all information; they are the people who teach how to analyze and synthesize the information. Teachers are teaching how the information fits together and why it is relevant.

So now what? You need to research and decide the best device to use with your students. ALL cellular companies can provide you with devices and air time. When using cellular devices for schools you can turn off text and talk, purchase appropriate apps and start connecting! There are also many tablets out today HP, iPad, and many more! Here are some places to start your research:

<http://www.apple.com/education/why-apple/?kmed=ppc>
<http://www.districtadministration.com/viewarticle.aspx?articleid=2198>
<http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2010/10/20/01mobile.h04.html>
<http://b2b.vzw.com/industrysolutions/educationresources.html>



The Link

Grant Calendar

Check this PDF link out from Tech Learning. It has a monthly calendar of grant due dates. As Catholic schools, there are a couple we may not qualify for, but the majority we do. A great resource to print out and hang up for your teachers!

<http://www.techlearning.com/article/grants-calendar-and-directory-2011-2012/48056>



iPad Apps

Catholic Bible
Doodle Buddy for iPad
Evernote
CNN App for iPad
NASA
ShowMe Interactive Whiteboard
PBS Kids Video
Science 360



Site of the Month!

Library of Congress

Teaching with Primary Sources. At Library of Congress you can access millions, yes millions, of free unique historical artifacts for use in lessons with your students. There are also professional development opportunities for educators online. Be sure to check this out!

www.loc.gov/teachers



Upcoming Technology Workshops

Digital Citizenship Academy

This monthly series will provide basic understanding of the 9 themes of digital citizenship as outlined by International Society for Technology in Education (iste). It is our goal to increase specific knowledge of the current trends in technology while discovering how to meet the needs of digital natives. At completion of the academy, each participant will receive a FREE Internet Safety Curriculum. Our first session was in September; the topic was Digital Access. Our next session is October 12, 2011, at Academy of St. Adalbert in Berea. You can still register!



Technology Teachers and Coordinators Professional Learning Community

This group is designed to gather in order to collaborate with other technology leaders in the diocese. The main purpose of the sessions is to gather and share lessons, activities, challenges and success stories with other professionals from across the diocese. The next session is October 27th at St. Clare. We will be spending time on using the iPad in classrooms and on more teaching sharing! There is always room for more! Go to our registration site to register!



Classroom Curriculum and Technology Integration

This series of after school sessions will address how classroom teachers can use different technology tools to enhance student learning. These sessions are **NOT** “how to” use the particular piece of technology! Each session will be broken down by technology tool and grade level. Interactive white board, iPad and Web 2.0 tool are the technology tools being highlighted.

Dates:

*Math: October 25, 2011 - St. Mark School

*Science: November 17, 2011 - St. Joseph, Avon Lake

*Social Studies: February 23, 2012

*Language Arts: April 24, 2012

