



New Teacher Newsletter

Technology in the Classroom

By now you should be comfortable in your classroom and ready for some new strategies and tools. If you have not been utilizing the available technology in your classroom and/or school - it's time. This edition of the New Teacher Newsletter will provide resources for using technology in your classroom from Tipton County Technology Trainer Tiffany Kelley. Mrs. Kelley is available to assist teachers with technology in the classroom. If you need assistance contact her at tkelley@tipton-county.com.



What is Technology Integration?

Technology Integration is "connecting curriculum and technology seamlessly". Technology integration is when technology is used as a tool to enhance the learning in a content area or multidisciplinary setting. Effective integration of technology is achieved when students are able to select technology tools to help them obtain information in a timely manner, analyze and synthesize the information, and present it professionally. The technology should become an integral part of how the classroom functions as accessible as all other classroom tools. (Source: http://cnets.iste.org/students/s_currinteg.html)

Examples of technology integrated learning activities can be found at: http://cnets.iste.org/students/s_book.html

Internet4Classrooms.com

Internet4Classrooms.com (I4C) is a teacher favorite! The site provides so many valuable resources for teachers – we will spotlight two links on their homepage which are valuable for test preparation.

On the home page of I4C near the top of the page you will find a button labeled "Grade level help K-8." That will link teachers to a page that provides state assessed skills at K-8 level. The links are grade and content specific to help students practice. The resources are listed by SPI's and Reporting Categories based on the TN Curriculum Standards.

On the home page you will also find a link for "Assessment Assistance." These are resources to help students practice skills required on elementary, middle and high school assessments. The elementary and middle links will link back to the skill builders previously mentioned but there are additional "TCAP practice skills" links. High School teachers will find Gateway and EOC resources.

There are many other links of interest within I4C. Teachers may utilize the "Online Practice Modules" for teaching and learning computer applications. Also, the "Links for K-12 Teachers" provides a multitude of resources.

Summer Institutes

Information regarding Tipton County Summer Institutes and other professional development opportunities offered this summer will be available by **March 1st**. Teachers may attend these professional growth opportunities for a stipend or recertification points. Topics will include math, science, technology, RTI, COMP and more. Look for the brochure in your building or check the website at http://www.tipton-county.com/staff_dev.htm.

New Teacher Meeting

On March 4, 2008 the County-Wide New Teacher Meeting will be held in two different locations. New teachers in schools that use Mac computers will meet at Crestview Elementary and new teachers in schools that use PC computers will meet at Brighton High.

Helpdesk

Teachers are reminded that if you have problems with your technology equipment, you must log a ticket on Helpdesk. The helpdesk is located at <http://helpdesk.tipton-county.com>.

You will login using your school's three or four letter abbreviation, i.e. AES or CIAA. The password is the same. Please be sure and provide as much information as possible regarding your problem. This will assist the technology department in determining your school's repair needs.

Websites of Interest

Education World Tools & Templates

http://www.educationworld.com/tools_templates/index.shtml

Internet4Classrooms

<http://www.internet4classrooms.com/index.htm>

Iknewthat.com (quizzes; many activities are free)

<http://www.iknewthat.com/>

Jefferson County Schools' PowerPoint Collections

<http://jc-schools.net/ppt.html>

PortaPortal (free web based bookmarking tool--take your bookmarks everywhere!)

<http://www.portaportal.com/>

New York Times Lesson Plans' Archive

<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/archive.html>

Jefferson County Schools' TCAP Resources

<http://jc-schools.net/terranova-res.htm>

Mark Your Calendar!

February 18 - Presidents' Day - No School

February 21 - Afternoon In-Service 3:15-6:15 p.m.

March 4 - County-Wide New Teacher Meeting
PC Schools - BHS; Mac Schools - CES 3:30 p.m.

March 20 - Afternoon In-Service 3:15-6:15 p.m.

March 20 - Mini-Tech Conference BHS & BES
3:15 - 6:15 p.m.

March 21-28 - Spring Break

April 7-15 - TCAP

May 6-9 - Gateway Tests

May 6-14 - End of Course Tests

Black History Month

As we celebrate Black History Month teachers are urged to utilize the Black History Month page located on the Teacher Resource Page.
http://www.tipton-county.com/Black_Hist.htm

New Middle School Mentor

This issue marks the first with Mrs. Jane Spray as the Middle School Mentor. We are pleased to have her in place to aid teachers in the middle schools. She brings a wealth of knowledge to our team.



County-Wide Mentors

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