

tapped

PLAYERS

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in Learning to study the online social and technological infrastructures needed to support a large and diverse community of education professionals. Since the virtual doors of Tapped In opened in 1997, it has become the online home to a community of thousands of teachers, librarians, administrators, university faculty, students, and researchers, who gather here to learn, collaborate, share, and support one another.

HOW TO USE TAPPED IN

Using Tapped In, educators can attend activities hosted by education organizations, conduct their own activities, take online courses, bring their students online, experiment with new ways to teach, and expand their circle of colleagues by participating in community-wide events. Teacher professional development projects, university teacher education programs, and school districts become part of the community through "tenant" partnerships. Tapped In staff and volunteers from the community help orient new users, form interest groups, and plan and conduct online activities. The technology that supports the community is a Web application framework that provides synchronous and asynchronous communication mechanisms and support tools.

More than 30 different organizations have brought teams of educators into Tapped In. Tapped In staff members provide coaching to these education professionals on how to work successfully online. Noteworthy past and present tenants include:

Azusa Pacific University (APU)

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)

Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS)

National Writing Project (NWP)

Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)

Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology (GSEP)

Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) Teacherline

KEY PUBLICATIONS

Our community model from a theoretical perspective:

Schlager, M., & Fusco, J. (2004). Teacher professional development, technology, and communities of practice: Are we putting the cart before the horse? In S. Barab, R. Kling, & J. Gray (Eds.), Designing for virtual communities in the service of learning. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

professional development community. In J. Willis (Ed.), Proceedings of the 11th International Conference of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (pp. 2178-2183). Charlottesville, VA: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education.

Schlager, M., Fusco, J., & Schank, P. (1998). Cornerstones for an on-line community of education professionals. IEEE Technology and Society Magazine. Special Issue: Wired Classrooms: The Internet in K-12, 17(4), 15-21, 40.

Schlager, M., & Schank, P. (1997). TAPPED IN: A new on-line teacher community concept for the next generation of Internet technology. In R. Hall, N. Miyake & N. Enyedy (Eds.), Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Computer Support for Collaborative Learning, (pp. 231-240). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.

www.tappedin.org





smoothly. We continue to add new features requested by the community and ASO events. Our newest tenants,

the National Writing Project and Alameda County

members to the community. We look

forward to the future evolution

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