

Title of Session: MSP - Middle School Portal Wiki

Moderator: Kimberly Lightle

Title of File: 20090608msp2wiki

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Room: Middle School Portal Group

TrudyS joined the room.

TrudyS: got it

TrudyS: thanks

BJB2: good, Trudy...now let's make it easier

BJB2: above this chat is a Welcome note

TrudyS: ok

BJB2: the third sentence down has a green i in it

BJB2: click on the green i

BJB2: you should now see the group ID page...

BJB2: at the top of the page is Join this group...select that

TrudyS: ok

BJB2: when you have successfully joined the group, click on Room View at the top of your screen

TrudyS: ok

BJB2: now take a look at the drop down menu in the top right of your screen next to the Go! button

KimberlySL joined the room.

BJB2: you can go to any room listed in that menu from any location in Tapped In

BJB2 waves hi to Kimberly

KimberlySL: hi everybody

KimberlySL: I realized what time it was when I saw Trudy join the Middle School Portal group!

BJB2 smiles. Then it's a good thing she did that!

HeatherAS joined the room.

KimberlySL: Hi Heather!

HeatherAS: Hi

KimberlySL: Are you familiar with TappedIn?

HeatherAS: I am from Shedd Aquarium and heard about this chat today

HeatherAS: Yes, I am familiar - thanks for asking

KimberlySL: Great! Do you work with Christian?

HeatherAS: Yes, he actually notified me about today

KimberlySL: Excellent - tell him Hi for me

HeatherAS: Will do

HeatherAS smiles

BJB2 . o O (I've been tweeting the TI events, if you like to keep up :-))

HeatherAS: Is MSP on twitter?

HeatherAS: or are you tweeting from your personal twitter

BJB2: I'm tweeting from tappedinorg

HeatherAS: interesting!

HeatherAS: I didn't know that you could do that

BJB2: you can tweet with any username...I just chose that one ;-)

HeatherAS . o O (needs to store that info for future use)

KimberlySL: Middle School Portal 2 has its own twitter account - MSPortal2

KimberlySL: MSP2 needs followers!

HeatherAS: I will have to follow, thank you

JeffC joined the room.

JeffC waves

TrudyS: Am I in the right spot?

JeffC: yes Trudy

KimberlySL: Hi Jeff and Trudy

TrudyS: hi Kimberly

KimberlySL: Let's introduce ourselves

KimberlySL: I'm a science educator at Ohio State University - I'm the project director for the Middle School Portal 2 project

TrudyS: North Royalton Middle School- 8th grade science

KimberlySL: Heather - what do you do at the Shedd?

HeatherAS: Youth and Family Programs Coordinator, Education Department, Shedd Aquarium

HeatherAS: also work with K-12

KimberlySL: that's great - well - let's get started

KimberlySL: The project I want to talk about today is the Middle School Portal 2: Math and Science Pathways project.

KimberlySL: It was funded through National Science Foundation.

KimberlySL: One of the things we were funded to do is to take the NSDL Middle School Portal static pages – <http://msteacher.org> (MSP1) – and make them active.

KimberlySL: I'm going to talk about MSP1 and MSP2 today - I'll try to keep them straight!

KimberlySL: One of the ways we are doing that is to move MSP1 pages into a wiki environment.

KimberlySL: Is anybody using wiki?

KimberlySL: How are you using it?

HeatherAS: Yes

TrudyS: I have wiki pages for a Pringles packaging project that exchanged scores with other schools

HeatherAS: Used it for graduate school, but also for projects with co-workers

KimberlySL: that's great - so you know what wiki allows

KimberlySL: What does wiki allow you and your students to do?

HeatherAS: collaborate in a cloud computing environment (different locations, but on the same program)

HeatherAS: discussions, questions, exchange of information, sharing, etc

KimberlySL: We are using it because it allows us to easily update content.

KimberlySL: yep - all of those things

TrudyS: That seems to be limited by liability...we have been warned that students writing about other students' writing could be a legal issue

KimberlySL: that was going to be one of my questions - problems at the school level

KimberlySL: I want to hear more about that - Trudy lives close to me!

TrudyS: Originally I had hoped to post questions to ponder and gather student responses

TrudyS: Then the issue of open forum became a stumbling block

KimberlySL: Do you know of schools that block wiki-based web content?

HeatherAS: I have heard many teachers complain about access - I know sometimes we have access and other times we don't

BJB2: Schools may use password protected wikis

TrudyS: The cautions came from a union guru for multiple school systems. Anything that students write can backla sh if inappropriate...onto the teacher

TrudyS: The problem with even passwords is the parents

BJB2: how so, Trudy?

KimberlySL: Well I sure don't know the answer about using wiki with students

TrudyS: Parents need to be able to enter any site--even protected--and complain if they think anything is inappropriate.

KimberlySL: Let's go to the MSP2 wiki pages – they can be accessed through the MSP2 social network at <http://msteacher2.org>

BJB2 nods

KimberlySL: I know that Trudy is a member of the MSP2 network

TrudyS: I think that kids need to learn what is appropriate--especially in the middle school--and just like written work or verbal usage have consequences. Otherwise where do they learn?

KimberlySL: MSP2 is specifically designed for educators (not students)

KimberlySL: I agree

KimberlySL: The left side of the main page includes all of our MSP2 and Beyond Penguins (another one of our projects) work.

TrudyS: Any convincing ideas for my principal?

KimberlySL: Good question - I'm going to start doing some investigating and will get something on the MSP2 network

KimberlySL: Looking at the left side of the Main page

KimberlySL: Look at the left side of the page – you can click on Math Publications or Science Publications.

KimberlySL: Scan the images and then click on one that grabs your attention.

KimberlySL: or two

KimberlySL: Look at a couple of them – and compare the table of contents.

KimberlySL: We have tried to be consistent – Background Information first, lessons, activities, and then standards.

HeatherAS: I like the consistency, very helpful when moving from topic to topic

KimberlySL: I really want feedback on these pages (as well as gardeners!) - what sections would you like to see added?

KimberlySL: Gardeners as in people that will feed and seed these pages but we would also like people to write for us on topic that they are passionate about!

HeatherAS: is the thought to have discussions from those who used these resources? Maybe encourage a discussion on the pages or a place for comments

HeatherAS: or would that be done on the main site

HeatherAS: when you join msp

KimberlySL: that is a great idea - people could provide comments on how they have used the resources

TrudyS: successes and modifications

TereseGst4 joined the room.

KimberlySL: We also have Diigo lists that include many of these resources but no context - you can easily add comments to Diigo (but we are talking wiki today)

BJB2: welcome, Terese!

KimberlySL: Hi Terese - we're looking at the wiki pages on <http://msteacher2.org>

KimberlySL: left side of the page - click on math publications or science publications

KimberlySL: Trudy and Heather are looking at the Science pubs page - can you think of a science topic that you would like to see addressed?

HeatherAS: It would be cool if you had a Environmental Stewards resource . . .

HeatherAS: we get many groups that want to participate or have to participate in stewardship projects - the green page sort of offers one, but it would be neat to expand it

KimberlySL: Would it be "How to be a steward of the environment?"

HeatherAS: Yes!!!

HeatherAS: that would be nice

KimberlySL: Good topic! We have lots of blog posts that we've addressed various topics - we could bring them all together - great

TrudyS: A resource for projects that interact with other schools-- national and global

HeatherAS: Planting is mentioned in the green topic, but it could be trash pickup (can link to a database or even do pickups close to the water ways, maybe even partner with Alliance for Great Lakes - they have a data base) just some thought

BJB2 . o O (Terese, since you are new to Tapped In, you may want to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH)

HeatherAS: and of course more projects - that is the first that came to my head

KimberlySL: keep the ideas coming!

HeatherAS: You can even have no waste lunches (it could be a competition in class or among classes) - get into math and graphing and predications, etc

KimberlySL: We can also address more than just science or math topics - we are just finishing up with one on Developing Science Vocab - http://wiki.nsd.org/index.php/MiddleSchoolPortal/Vocabulary_Development

TrudyS: Kids need to feel like the are doing "real" science the gathering of data would be great

KimberlySL: How appropriate - collecting real data!

HeatherAS smiles

BJB2 . o O (like the BirdSleuth Inquiry project)

TrudyS: yes

BJB2: citizen science

TrudyS: what's that

HeatherAS: Is there thought to expand on Climate change? I know it is part of one of the topics

KimberlySL: http://wiki.nsd.org/index.php/MiddleSchoolPortal/Quantitative_Literacy - there are lots of real data projects in this pub

TereseGst4: I'd like to see students gather data, then use it to persuade/convince others to join them in some action.

HeatherAS: oh, there is also a frog monitoring citizen science project

BJB2: the kids become the researchers and post the ir data

TrudyS: how is the data then used

HeatherAS: and it goes to actual databases and research

KimberlySL: All the citizen science projects and the CIESE projects are great - and GLOBE, etc

BJB2: Cornell does BirdSleuth

KimberlySL: They are one of good partners - we've worked with them alot

KimberlySL: About Climate change - we have only scratched the surface on many of these topics

HeatherAS: it is a big topic, but one that we hear more and more each day

HeatherAS: what about science careers? I know that it is sort of tied into an existing topic, but thoughts on expanding?

KimberlySL: What I would love is if somebody that was passionate about Climate change for instance would come in an contribute to the existing pages or start one of their own where they collected and contextualized exemplary online resources

KimberlySL: Funny you should say science careers - one of the MSP2 partners has a site called FunWorks - we are going to start integrating the career info from that site into all of these wiki pages

HeatherAS: We are running a camp on Climate Change this summer, I would be happy to share what resources we used and how they worked

KimberlySL: funworks is <http://thefunworks.org>

KimberlySL: Heather - that would be wonderful! we also have three project blogs that we are always looking for guest bloggers

TrudyS: Is the camp independent or part of a bigger project

KimberlySL: the project blogs are on the left side of the Main page of <http://msteacher2.org> - Connecting News, Resources for Math/Science, and Polar News

HeatherAS: It is our annual summer camp for 11-14yr olds - this years focus happens to be on Climate Change

KimberlySL: Maybe you could write a blog each day about the content and activities

that you are going to cover that day?

HeatherAS: maybe

HeatherAS smiles

KimberlySL: just a thought... ha

HeatherAS: I will try to put it in my schedule, but don't want to promise and not be able to fulfill

HeatherAS: I think it is a great idea

KimberlySL: we have had lots of educators look at the wiki pages but have yet to have any body actually add any content or a comment, etc.

KimberlySL: and lots of good feedback

BJB2: hopefully you will get more input and activity after Summer break

KimberlySL: http://wiki.nsd.org/index.php/MiddleSchoolPortal/Favorite_Blogs - here is another page we would like people to give us help with

KimberlySL: You'll see on the homepage of MSP2 we have RSSed a couple of the NYT article feeds and the Engineering Pathway This Day in Science History

TrudyS: Do we get transcripts of these pages or do I need to write down the addresses

KimberlySL: You get transcripts - it's a lovely feature!

BJB2: your transcript will have all the urls, Trudy

TrudyS: Thanks

BJB2: Terese, as a guest you won't get a transcript

BJB2 . o O (membership to TI is free!)

KimberlySL: I wondered if there were other blogs that educators should know about even if there wasn't enough room on our home page

KimberlySL: so I would love it if you added to our Favorite Blogs wiki page

KimberlySL: http://wiki.nsd.org/index.php/MiddleSchoolPortal/Favorite_Blogs

HeatherAS: hmmm, I will have to survey around and see what blogs our teachers and

educators are using/viewing and add

KimberlySL: That would be great! We have a link to that page on the left side of the main page of the MSP2 network

HeatherAS: is the Thinking Stick up there? I will need to check - that is a good one

KimberlySL: to comment/add/edit the wiki pages one does have to register with NSDL but I'm not doing any moderating

KimberlySL: I'm not familiar with the Thinking Stick - add new categories to the page if needed!

HeatherAS: is NSDL registration free like other wikis

KimberlySL: it is free

KimberlySL: I do have all the pages on my "watchlist" and every day I go there and see if there has been any activity - alas - nothing yet

BJB2: as you know, it takes time, Kim

TrudyS: and right now everyone is a bit burned for time

BJB2 . o O (and lots of publicity. I'm tweeting the links you're giving us right now!)

HeatherAS: but the word will get out

BJB2 . o O (not that I have a ton of followers...but working on it)

HeatherAS: and then growth (and learning) and sharing will take place

BJB2 agrees with Heather.

HeatherAS: I am following now

BJB2 . o O (if the grant money just holds out long enough!)

BJB2: thanks, Heather

KimberlySL: so true - but sharing just one comment would be wonderful a great place to start

KimberlySL: Teachers/educators have such insight, knowledge - it needs to be shared

KimberlySL: you can follow MSP2 at MSPortal2 on Twitter

BJB2 nods to Kim...already signed up for that ;-)

TereseGst4: I agree strongly with the idea that teachers hold such valuable insights---and would help their colleagues by sharing. Comments don't have to be formally written-- maybe just lesson ideas or a resource found!

KimberlySL: I want to thank everyone for the feedback on topics/issues - if you think of anymore please go to my page in MSP2 and throw a comment on my wall - Kimberly Lightle

BJB2: Kim, will you have an MSP discussion in Tapped In in July?

HeatherAS: will do, thank you for sharing some new resources and ways we can get involved

BJB2 . o O (if you get a Tapped In membership you can join this group, Terese...another option for posting ideas)

BJB2 . o O (that would work for you too, Heather)

TereseGst4: Thanks for the invite!

KimberlySL: We will - - should be on the July 13 - but conversations can continue to happen on the ning (msteacher2.org)

BJB2 nods to Kim

TrudyS: good hearing from you all

HeatherAS: Have a good remainder of the day everyone

KimberlySL: Thanks Trudy - did you tell me how far N Royalton is from Columbus?

KimberlySL: Heather - talk to you soon!

TrudyS: southern suburb of Cleveland -- 2 hours north

BJB2: Thanks, Kim, for the great discussion. Thanks for your input, Heather, Trudy and Terese

HeatherAS: yes :)

HeatherAS left the room.

KimberlySL: bye!