

Title of Session: Technology in the Classroom

Moderator: Susan Roseman

Title of File: 20050302techclass

Date: March 2, 2005

Room: After School Online Room

BJB2 tap dances on the tables

TimR: applause

BJB2 laughs. How about if we start with introductions, please

BJB2: tell us a little about where you are and what you teach or hope to teach

BJB2 . o O (and why you are participating in this discussion)

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania who likes to integrate tech into my curriculum

SarahBelz: well, I am from Northern Virginia and I teach at Mount Vernon high school and I am participating to learn how to better use technology in the classroom as well as to fulfill a requirement for my grad school class

JulieMar: Julie from Houston Texas I hope to teach 4th grade. I am in my student teaching currently and I am participating because I want to learn how to incorporate technology in my classroom.

ChristinW2: Hi, I am Christine. I am a pre-service student at the University of Houston. I want to teach Math 4-8. I am participating in this chat for a UH tech course.

YvonnePH: My name is Yvonne and I am a student at University of Houston. I hope to start teaching next year and teach Middle School Math

AnitaMB: I'm from South Louisiana. I teach first grade.

MichelleTJ: My name is Michelle, I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston. I hope to be teaching middle school math in the fall. I am participating in this discussion for mandatory time for my Teaching in Technology class.

TimR: I live in Wichita Falls, Tx (Sheppard AFB) and I am a Instructor with the Air Force teaching Jet Engines. I want to learn more about Tech in the Classroom to try and maybe incorporate some in our classrooms and part of my Master degree in Training and Development

MaryRM: Mary from Opelousas, Louisiana. I teach Middle school Social studies. I use technology in my class and am always looking for new and better ways to use it. I am also participating in a class and taking part in a session on Tapped-in is part of my assignment.

BJB2: looks like lots of candidates for your K-3 group, Sue

SusanR: hmmm

SusanR agrees

YvonnePH: That is very cool Tim....My Husband is an A&P Mechanic with Continental

JasonDe joined the room.

BJB2: hi, Jason. Just in time for introductions

JasonDe: great!

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher from Canada and K to 3+ Great Resources Presenter here at TI

TimR: I have been doing this for 11 years

JasonDe: I teach a combined grade 1 & 2 class in Canada and am the lead technology teacher at school

BJB2: wow...looks like we cover K-20!

ChristelH joined the room.

BJB2: If Donna is unable to log in, Sue and I will lead the discussion...

BJB2: but it looks like you all have lots of experience and can teach us a thing or two!

BJB2 hopes Sue doesn't mind being volunteered...figured that was in keeping with the military presence

TimR: voluntarily volunteered

BJB2 nods solemnly

BJB2: there are so many different ways to integrate tech...but the best way is to create the lesson first and then use tech to meet the lesson objectives

BJB2 . o O (not use tech for tech's sake)

BJB2: have you all seen the Tapped In calendar of events?

BJB2: . o O (duh....that's how you found out about this discussion!)

ChristelH: Right

SusanR: It's my evening habit to check the calendar on a daily basis

BJB2: when you look at the calendar, take note of the math and science discussions available

BJB2: cheers for Sue

BJB2: and look for the wonderful K-3 resources if you teach elementary

JulieMar: I will second that...

ChristelH: That is what I need.

SusanR: And if you missed YESTERDAY'S Special on Science/Math Fair.. do look at the archived transcript

JasonDe: Susan, could you tell us a little about Trackstar?

SusanR: which should appear in the ASO within a week or so

SarahBelz: thanks, I am plan on teaching elementary when my husband and I move to Fort Drum this summer and need some additional resources to get started

SusanR: Oh..

SusanR: one moment

ChristelH: So what is Trackstar?

YvonnePH: I found a lesson from Trackstar this past week for my proportional reasoning class. It is loaded with good stuff!

SusanR: TrackStar is your starting point for online lessons and activities

JasonDe: it appears to be a powerful tool

SarahBelz: is there a web address?

SusanR: Educators can organize and annotate Web sites for use in lessons

ChristelH: I would like the web address

JulieMar: sounds helpful

SarahBelz: sounds like it could cut down on planning time

MaryRM: Trackstar is a great resource. I have used it several times.

BJB2: <http://trackstar.4teachers.org/trackstar/index.jsp>

ChristelH: Thank you!

JulieMar: Thanks

SarahBelz: thanks

AnitaMB: thanks

BJB2: if you have a pop up blocker, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard

ChristinW2: what kind of lessons does this site have?

ChristinW2: For every subject and topic?

SusanR: Here are some of the TOP TRACKS...gives you a general idea

SusanR:

<http://trackstar.4teachers.org/trackstar/?jsessionid=DAC89A7ADD55413793977A552278211E>

SarahBelz: are they organized according to standards or program of studies?

SusanR: Click on "See all TOP tracks"

BJB2: all the tracks are teacher created, is that correct, Sue?

SusanR: These are all teacher created tracks

ChristinW2: can you post lessons?

SusanR: so it would depend on the individual

TimR: sounds like this tool would benefit those of you in elementary and secondary education.

MaryRM: Can't you create a track to post?

SusanR: Try a Keyword Search on a particular topic or theme

JulieMar: This is very helpful thank you VERY much

SarahBelz: yes, I agree

SusanR: It's ideal for posting lessons, Christine

ChristelH: I will try that when I write my midterm for the class I am taking.

AnitaMB: I tried one it told me I needed a password.

ChristelH: So is this a program you have to sign up for?

BJB2: yes, Christel. But it's free

SusanR: just create an account and away you go

TimR: Are there any fees or subscriptions?

TimR: Or is it like Tapped In?

BJB2 chuckles. You won't find many sites like Tapped In, Tim!

SarahBelz: I just signed up

BJB2: but I don't think there are any fees or subscriptions

SarahBelz: it's free

SusanR: FREE with no advertising

TimR: I can share this with my classmates

SusanR: Tapped In is unique

AnitaMB: I agree

TimR: I am beginning to find that out about TI

JulieMar: classmates will be sorry they missed this...

ChristelH: I am new at it but I am starting to like it too.

MaryRM: Me too

TimR: true Julie and I reminded them last week about this session

MichelleTJ: I definitely think it has potential. I am new also and just learning

JulieMar: their loss

SusanR: This one illustrates how a classroom teacher builds Trackstar into her/his lesson plan

<http://trackstar.4teachers.org/trackstar/ts/viewTrackMembersFrames.do?org.apache.struts.taglib.html.TOKEN=208b1d649248a575bd735f31357c9219&number=237061&password=>

ChristelH: How often a week do you use the computer with your students?

TimR: We started discussing web-based lessons. It looks like something right up our alley!

JulieMar: in my student teaching classroom I try to use them three times a week

MaryRM: I use it everyday with my students.

JulieMar: they use them daily to take AR tests

TimR: My students use laptop computers in order to read the technical information necessary to perform their jobs

ChristelH: Do you see an improvement in motivation to learn, since you started using the computer?

SusanR: If it fits with the lesson I use it, Christel

SarahBelz: I have in my students

MaryRM: Yes. I have

TimR: yes they really seem to enjoy this tool

JulieMar: kids love them and I think it keeps them more on task

SarahBelz: and if I can fit it with the lesson, I try to use technology when I can, but sometimes it's hard to get computer lab time

ChristelH: I have done some research on this motivation thing lately, and I found out that the computer can really help with math.

SarahBelz: I don't have any computers in my classroom

JulieMar: 3 in all rooms at our school

MaryRM: I usually use it to show them something that happened in history and this really helps them understand the concept I am teaching better.

ChristinW2: I had to complete a research paper recently on Technology in Math for Middle school age kids

SarahBelz: I like the quizstar link that is on the trackstar web page, sign up for that was also free as well...

TimR: The Air Force uses them along with SmartBoards to display information to the students.

ChristinW2: All the research I found stated that it improved their student achievement and increased learning

ChristelH: I wish we would have had computers when I went to school. It was so embarrassing if you could not do a problem on the blackboard or miss an answer.

SusanR: Then you will find this site/workshop handy, Christine

SarahBelz: the quizzes can be posted onto the web, that's really cool for taking math quizzes, if a student misses a day I can just email them the link and have them take the quiz

ChristinW2: Is that in class? or at home?

SarahBelz: either or

YvonnePH: I absolutely LOVE smartboards....that is what I want for graduation

ChristinW2: what is a smart board?

JulieMar: kids make good use of smartboards in our classes

JulieMar: a portable keyboard for the kids to type on

SarahBelz: our department just got a few of them

SusanR: If you are integrating math keep this site on file
http://edweb.tusd.k12.az.us/RTC/workshops/Math_Integration/Elementary/integrating_technology_into_math.htm

ChristelH: Please tell us about Smart board.

BJB2 is really impressed with how this group is collaborating.

JulieMar: they hook up to the computer and input the text in word

MichelleTJ: How exactly do they work? I am writing a paper and I am not sure what the difference is in Interactive Boards and SMART Boards, or are they the same thing?

JulieMar: smartboards are used when all students can't be in front of a computer

TimR: SmartBoards are basically a chalkboard where you can project information and using different colored pens write on them to assist in the learning process

ChristelH: This is so interesting. Tell us more please!

MaryRM: So you only need one computer?

TimR: that is correct

ChristelH: Where do you get those things?

JulieMar: there is a connection you just hook up to your computer

ChristinW2: do all the students have one?

MaryRM: Do you need an averkey?

YvonnePH: And with a SmartBoard you display your desktop on the SmartBoard and you can navigate from the board around your computer

JulieMar: there are at least 9 issued to my classroom alone at my school

YvonnePH: double click on the board and open Internet Explorer.

ChristinW2: does it hook up to one computer, Julie

SusanR: Smartboards are appearing in more classrooms

SusanR: <http://www.smarttech.com/>

TimR: take for example; if you had a SmartBoard hooked into your computer you would have a 54" projection of what we are typing right now.

JulieMar: any computer, I think

MaryRM: So basically it is like using an in-focus?

TimR: interactive in-focus

YvonnePH: I saw a 7th grade math teacher use hers last week on a geometry lesson. Kids came up to the Board and plotted pointsVery Cool!

MaryRM: I need one for my class.

ChristinW2: do students use it one at a time?

ChristelH: I would really like to see one of these!

MichelleTJ: Is it teacher lead, or student lead?

SusanR: They could bring classrooms into the 21st century

TimR: If you have ever watched Monday Night Football with John Madden and how he draws the play that is something like a SmartBoard

MichelleTJ: cool!

ChristinW2: awe

YvonnePH: Could be either Michelle.

JulieMar: good comparison Tim

YvonnePH: Kids really love them

TimR: The nice thing is that the information projected onto the screen can be saved, printed out for others to see

MichelleTJ: Besides SMART boards, what are some other tools math teachers might use in their class?

MaryRM: So if a student is absent you could just print out the information they missed.

YvonnePH: or for you to remember how far you made it with a particular class from the previous day. (printouts)

TimR: correct

SusanR: Are they used more in intermediate classrooms, Tim?

ChristelH: Can elementary school kids handle them?

TimR: the Air Force began purchasing them in line with Classroom 2000

JulieMar: we have math games, I am sure like everyone else, on the computer for the kids to manipulate.

JasonDe: sorry, will you post the site again....

SusanR: Some Smartboard integration ideas
<http://www.waukesha.k12.wi.us/WIT/SmartBoard/specificapps.htm>

JasonDe: thank-you

TimR: I just did some research for a project dealing with math and a web-based lesson plan

MichelleTJ: How did that go?

ChristelH: How else do you use the computer, besides Math?

JulieMar: looking up information for research

JulieMar: creating PowerPoint's to reflect their research

TimR: http://www.education-world.com/a_tsl/archives/00-1/lesson0064.shtml

MaryRM: Creating graphs

JulieMar: the kids are smart they know how to do more than most adults on computers

MichelleTJ: We have seen students create their own movies in English and other content areas

TimR: It deals with having the students making a PowerPoint presentation of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire"

ChristelH: Does anyone use Microsoft Access for databases

JulieMar: at first I didn't give my students any credit, they proved me wrong very quick

BJB2: anyone do digital storytelling for language arts?

MaryRM: Mine too

JulieMar: BJB have not tried that but would love to when I have more time

JasonDe: would love to see some examples of digital storytelling...

ChristelH: I have worked with autistic kids. The computer is their favorite toy!

JulieMar: my students just created a PowerPoint as a class on 18 different insects

AnitaMB: I would like to see examples also.

BJB2: or use the student activity center in Tapped In for literature circles between two schools?

MaryRM: No but that sounds interesting.

SusanR: You may want to join the K to 12 Student Support Group here at TI.

BJB2: and the Art of Storytelling Group

JulieMar: sounds great

YvonnePH: I have done digital storytelling for Math

ChristelH: How does that work?

BJB2: or the Blanket the World with Peace group

BJB2: Christel, how does what work?

ChristelH: storytelling for Math

YvonnePH: <http://www.coe.uh.edu/digital-storytelling/> (Here is a great link for digital storytelling from University of Houston)

MaryRM: Thanks

ChristelH: Thanks. I hope it works for Math.

JulieMar: very helpful website

YvonnePH: It also provides a link for new software that is FREE if you have Windows XP called Photo Story 3

YvonnePH: Story telling in math.....students or the class as a whole can use pictures to describe a word problem

YvonnePH: they can also tell (microphone) or with text the process they went through to solve the problem

ChristelH: I think I understand.

ChristinW2: That's sounds really interesting. I had not heard of this before

YvonnePH: It is really cool and interesting for the students

YvonnePH: they can really get into the creative process

ChristelH: Do you think the computer is really helping you, compared to how you used to teach?

JulieMar: I think it grabs the students' attention in different ways

MaryRM: It has really changed the way I teach and plan

ChristelH: So we are back to motivation?

ChristelH: But it also helps you prepare better?

YvonnePH: exactly....I think it is just a wonderful tool

MaryRM: Definitely

TimR: with the programs mentioned it seems that computers have really been a blessing to teachers

MaryRM: I have gotten ideas off the web to help my students that I would never have dreamed of.

AnitaMB: Same here.

ChristelH: So you are also saying that teaching is more fun and learning too?

MaryRM: Yes

JulieMar: yes

MaryRM: I learn new things too!

BJB2: wow! That sounds like the perfect note on which to end this session.

ChristinW2: I see the internet and educational websites as a time for collaboration and sharing of ideas

ChristelH: I understand that the computer also raises self-esteem for the kids. Have you noticed anything like that?

SusanR: Computers have added a new dimension to both learning and teaching.

BJB2: Donna will be disappointed that she missed such an exciting discussion

BJB2: Thank you all for being such great participants

MaryRM: Goodnight to all

AnitaMB says thanks!

SusanR agrees with BJ. She can always catch the transcript

ChristelH: Thank for all the new ideas! Good night!

ChristinW2: Thank you for helping me learn several new things!

BJB2 waves goodnight

ChristinW2: Have a great night!

JasonDe: good night

TimR: thank you all for a very impressive way to share how technology HAS changed the way we teach

BJB2 . o O (even this discussion was evidence of that, Tim)

BJB2: collaboration has given us all so many more opportunities for professional development

YvonnePH: This was a great chat. Thanks Everyone

BJB2 waves goodnight. Thanks for joining the discussion.

SusanR: Thank you Tim for your contributions