

Title of Session: ISTE Special Interest Group for Tech Coordinators - Blogs

Moderator: Karen Connaghan and Ted Sakshaug

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Room: After School Online Room

KarenConna welcomes all to the SIGTC chat on blogging

BJB2: A reminder for those new to Tapped In to go to the Actions menu in the top right of your chat window and click on DETACH

TedSa: Hello all and welcome to this chat

BJB2: if you don't have your pop up blocker disabled, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click on a url when Karen shows one

TedSa: OK let's get started

BJB2 provides a drum roll for Ted!

TedSa: First of all blogs- any one need a start on what one is

IsisA: me : (

TedSa: OK, a blog is a web log

TedSa: what that means is you can post just about anything easily to the web

PamLB: like an online journal , etc ... ?

TedSa: There are many types of blogs out there, we will look at how they are use in ed

KarenConna nods to Pam

DouglasRM joined the room.

TedSa: yes a journal

CindyGa: what the difference between a blog and a webpage/website?

TedSa: one of the best parts is how easy it is to post and make one

GregMa joined the room.

PamLB: or a newsgroup or any other type of message board ?

TedSa: also it allows for comments to be made to it

DouglasRM: good evening everyone!

StaffanyR: Hello everyone

StaffanyR: Sorry I'm late

DouglasRM: me too

KarenConna: blogs are generally reflective types of writings

TedSa: Simialr to a message board with you or a group controlling it

KarenConna: whereas webpage can be anything

PamLB: thanks Karen

LoriBu: web page tends to be "webby" and a blog is more linear, if you know what I mean

TedSa: There are some good examples in the SIGTC discussions on blogs

BillCon joined the room.

SusanR joined the room.

DouglasRM: I am maintaining both a blog and a website as part of my preservice teaching curriculum

BillCon: Hello all

DouglasRM: hi Bill

KarenConna . o O (there's a whiteboard where you can enter blogs that you currently maintain in the SIGTC room also)

LoriBu waves to all the new comers

TedSa: I have posted some places where you can get free blog space on the whiteboard

StaffanyR: Me too

TedSa: I use blogger- owned by google for my personal blog

StaffanyR: How do you respond other people's blogs

LoriBu: usually there is a place to click to post a comment

TedSa: Depending on if they allow response, there is usually a button to reply

LoriBu: however, there are a few that don't offer that option

StaffanyR: even if you don't have their blog name

DouglasRM: you can press the "comments" button

TedSa: sort of like sending them email, but it goes to their blog

LoriBu: sometimes you have to be a registered member or an invited person in order to post

TedSa: I also like blogmeister- David Warlick's site for classroom blogs, it is free-for now

PamLB: Staffany, you would need to provide them with the URL to your blog ... whomever "them" might be

DouglasRM: we use blogger too

KarenConna: Anyone interested in running their own blogging server?

LoriBu: hmmm, not sure

TedSa: I have tried my own server

LoriBu: what would that mean/involve?

StaffanyR: How can you do that

IsisA: not sure either...kind of lost

TedSa: Messed around with sql and php to do it

KarenConna: I'm using Pivot and b2 evolution

TedSa: It is easier to use one of the services IMHO

KarenConna: tried movable type but problems with php and mysql

GregMa: Like blogging [on an] Intranet, closed to outsiders?

KarenConna: Pivot was a breeze to install

LoriBu: I don't think I'm ready to host my own server yet

KarenConna: yes, Greg if that's what you want

KarenConna: great for education since it's closed and controllable

SusanR: What's involved in running your own blogging server?

MichaelRu: I'm using movable type - some features hard to figure out but general posting is a snap

TedSa: First you need a server. Not everyone can get one

KarenConna nods to Michael

BillCon: Pivot is all php no mysql required

TedSa: I spent too much time setting my server up, and it did not do what I wanted it to

TedSa: I might look at Pivot

StaffanyR: What the easiest

IsisA: what's pivot and php?

KarenConna: Staffany - I'd say Pivot

KarenConna: because it uses only php - so it's a good starter one

KarenConna: and it's free

GregMa: We are using SharePoint as a staff portal. A student portal is in the works. We were thinking students could blog in it.

TedSa: I think using blogger might be easiest for the average user here

BillCon: However you need write and execute permissions on some files and folders (777 permissions)

KarenConna agrees with Ted if all you want to do is use blogging

GregMa: Yes, blogger is simple

PamLB: blogger is simple

EmilyW: Blogger is very easy to use

StaffanyR: I haven't had any problems with blogger

TedSa: Let's continue this discussion on the message board and move on please

TedSa: Types of education blogging

LoriBu: and you can close it to invited people if you want to (blogger)

StaffanyR: I just wanted to get others blog info to respond to their posts

LoriBu: to only invited people I meant

TedSa: I have found three types of blogs used in schools

MichaelRu: any issues w/advertising showing up with blogger that may not be appropriate for ms students?

PamLB: which three are those Ted ?

BillCon: Greg do you have sharepoint configured with specific users or do you have IUSR acct applied

TedSa: first the informational blog- that is school or class announcements

TedSa: this type usually does not allow for comments

TedSa: a place for homework or general announcements

TedSa: class pictures and the like- a classroom newsletter

StaffanyR: This seems help for students, teachers and parents

PamLB: is that more where a teacher would post items for all the students to view?

GregMa: Yes, we have specific user IDs for SharePoint. Permissions and IDs are huge with SharePoint. Who you are limits what you can and can not see.

TedSa: yes, and the announcements are archived to go back and see what was going on

StaffanyR: Do you have to get parents permission in order to put students' pic on the web?

LoriBu: nice way to involve kids in the posting a reporter of the day kind of thing too

TedSa: Depends on your board policy

DouglasRM: I think I would, Staffany

TedSa: there are several first and second grade blogs that have the kids post

CindyGa: Ted at what grade level are you seeing blogs being used?

DouglasRM: I wouldn't want to make anyone upset when or if they were to find out without me telling them first

TedSa: I have not seen a K, but I am sure it is out there

BillCon: Thanks Greg, I considered using SP for blog but would have to give IUSR post permissions

StaffanyR: Ted when do you think children should start blog

TedSa: As soon as they can write they can blog

BillCon: Word of caution on students blogging out in the public.

GregMa: Bill, are you running SP, then?

TedSa: The writing for a blog is for a wider audience rather than just the teacher

StaffanyR: Really

TedSa: There are other types of blogs that allow only members of the class to reply to the blogger

BillCon: Check with solicitor about age required that parent permission is required

CindyGa: Are there special directories that post a link to student/school blogs?

KarenConna: besides publishing - blogs are excellent tools for metacognition

BillCon: Greg yes, but not for blogging.

IsisA: I guess you could make up names for your students and just tell them not to display "real" names or things like that

DouglasRM: what would you have a student blog about, Ted, meaning that if they have just begun to write, what can they talk about?

KarenConna: and that should be encouraged at all ages

LoriBu: I tell students I work with to only use their initials

KarenConna: so think about them also as a tool to help students think at deeper levels and learn about their own learning.

TedSa: they can write about their day or what the class did that day

CindyGa: or maybe as logs/journals for projects

StaffanyR: And who reading what their blogging

TedSa: This type of blog would be used for parents to see and not really for comments

LoriBu: a 1st grade class I work with has created a blog about falcons which they are studying via a web cam on Kodak's office building in my city

PamLB: anything, just to get them writing ...

DouglasRM: I like the idea of limiting the access to certain people, i.e. classmates, teachers, parents, etc. but what is the best way to do that?

TedSa: what have they said about the falcons Lori

CindyGa: the students in different classrooms or grade levels could read each other's blogs

LoriBu: They are writing observations they've been making on the web cam...

TedSa: you could get different classrooms or different schools to read each others stuff

LoriBu: and also things they've been learning in class...

IsisA: that sounds neat

SusanR: What about having a Poetry Blog...National Poetry Month...students could post their own Poetry creations

DouglasRM: that does sound good, Lori

StaffanyR: Sound interesting

IsisA: I think that reading other kids compositions is a good idea for encouragement

LoriBu: shared it with a local raptor researcher who is now coming to their classroom

PamLB: good idea, Susan

BillCon: Douglas that requires you to maintain usernames, passwords and permissions

GregMa: Oops, had a slow down there: Consider implementing the iSAFE curriculum before starting with blogs. The training is eye opening: www.isafe.org

KarenConna . o O (remember to press the control key before clicking on the link)

LoriBu: I also am doing a school - wide blog in a K 6 building with 2 focuses...

CindyGa: I think that students should be getting feedback/comments on their blogs, so they can expand their ideas.

TedSa: as the students get older, allowing each other to comment on their postings works well

TedSa: If you use a tool like blogmeister, the teacher can control all posts and has to approve before anything gets posted

KarenConna: how do you handle inappropriate comments made by students into the blog (their own) or others?

DouglasRM: hopefully, though Ted the students could be instructed to keep the comments positive, agree?

IsisA: What about other students in other states, can teachers contact other teachers and have the students read each other's blogs? other countries?

LoriBu: I use blogmeister and that allows me to approve or not any comments

TedSa: yes positive is good, which is why I like the blogmeister

LoriBu: adds a small delay in the posting, but I think it's definitely worth it

StaffanyR: I believe student receiving feedback from their peers is helpful

GregMa: Teachers may need to approve post before they go live

IsisA: blogmeister...how do you start that?

BillCon: Have SME's (subject matter experts) read student posts and comment back to students

KarenConna: Some work with the students about appropriate use, replies etc would go a long way to keeping things positive

MichaelRu: One application I want to encourage is the daily warm-up writing piece be in a blog for all to see/share/comment

TedSa: I have a link to blogmeister on the whiteboard in the sigtc area

CindyGa: I like the idea of getting feedback from experts

DouglasRM: I don't want to stifle anyone's freedom of speech, but just to be safe and weed out the inappropriate comments, so that no one is discouraged by mean remarks. I don't want anyone to stop writing out of fear of what someone will say about them or their thoughts in the blog

TedSa: could you elaborate on that Michael?

PamLB: good idea Bill

LoriBu: we have one of our school wide ones focusing on friendship

IsisA: thank you...sorry, how can I access sigct?

StaffanyR: I agree Doug

TedSa: SIGTC is one of the rooms in Tapped In-

PamLB: good point, Douglas

IsisA: thank you Ted

StaffanyR: student should be discouraged to write what they believe are feel strongly about

BillCon: The falcons that students are blogging about could get feedback from an aviary or park ranger.

CindyGa: Lori can you describe the friendship blog

GregMa: do a search on the "secret life of bees" and one of Will Richardson's <http://www.weblogg-ed.com/> class blogs comes up near the top. His class blogged with the author.

LoriBu: I post a weekly prompt about friendship and then encourage kids to respond

LoriBu: also involve our character ed characteristics too

LoriBu: the principal makes a weekly announcement encouraging participation

CindyGa: do the students get to respond?

ElizabetJR: What age of students do you use the friendship blog with?

LoriBu: K-6

MichaelRu: many ela classes have a warm-up to the class be 2-3 minutes of journal writing on a topic of student choosing. What if the journal entries were entered into a blog so that the class (and selected others) could read/share/comment?

CindyGa: is the friendship blog integrated with other lessons or units?

LoriBu: Yes, students respond to the friendship blog through the comments

DouglasRM: that would be a good idea, Michael if you had enough computers

LoriBu: I encourage the teachers to use it in class.

PamLB: would some students be intimidated by that Michael?

LoriBu: we also have classes come to the computer lab to blog all at once

DouglasRM: the class I am observing has a grand total of ZERO computers!

GregMa: no computers?

DouglasRM: zip zero nada

GregMa: lab access?

PamLB: ZERO ... that is A LOT of nothing !

IsisA: me too

CindyGa: Douglas is there no computer lab available for the kids to use?

DouglasRM: you got that right!

LoriBu: It started in conjunction with the principal wanting to focus on friendship throughout the school

TedSa: and people complain they only have three in their classroom

MichaelRu: enough computers would be an issue - probably a visit once or twice a week in the lab? sometimes have kids journal at home

TedSa: I was amazed at the number of computers at home with internet access

AndyAK: Do kids contribute from home? Or is it all at school??

LoriBu: I've also sent the link home and have encouraged kids to blog with their families

StaffanyR: Doug are they trying to do anything in order to get computers in that school

IsisA: do you think blog will eventually replace journal writing on paper?

TedSa: we just did a survey and came up with 70%

PamLB: do you think all students have computers at home ?

DouglasRM: there is a computer lab, but there is no time set aside for the students to use them on a regular enough basis to allow them to blog regularly

CindyGa: How are the home responses working out Lori? Are the parents participating?

AndyAK: Nationally the average is 80%

TedSa: blogging needs to be a regular thing

StaffanyR: How often do they go to the lab

MichaelRu: the blog concept is nothing new to many kids - xanga.com is a popular kid's blog site (not educational in nature...)

TedSa: I have seen many dead blogs out there

AndyAK: And.....this was a surprise to me.....half of home access was broadband.

LoriBu: Not too many yet, but we have a vacation next week and teachers are pushing blogging at home over vacation some, so we'll see

TedSa: I just got access this winter

GregMa: Myspace is also popular and racy

BillCon joined the room.

TedSa: fan fiction is similar- not really a blog however

DouglasRM: what do you mean by racy?

LoriBu: Not filtered and full of personal stuff

PamLB: good question, Doug

AndyAK: I'm guessing with elementary it's not a big problem, but with upper grades and students doing stuff from home....."away-from-school" language being an issue.

GregMa: check it out, lots of trolling...

IsisA: how do kids find blogs online? search for them?

TedSa: that is why I would encourage blogmeister at school- do I sound like an ad?

EmilyW: Livejournal is also very popular for kids

MichaelRu: word of mouth (word of chat...)

LoriBu: <http://www.landmark-project.com/blogmeister>

TedSa: there are some blog search engines

DouglasRM: I will have to take a look at blogmeister

TedSa: thanks Lori

PamLB: yes Ted, but that is okay safety first

LoriBu: at blogmeister you can click on a state and then on a teacher in a drop down to look at some blogs

DouglasRM: will do, later...don't want to get kicked out again

IsisA: that sounds great!

LoriBu: some are people just looking so some are blank

TedSa: being able to have passwords for your class and control over what is posted is important to schools

BillCon: Data listing computers use at home.
http://www.pewinternet.org/trends/User_Demo_03.07.05.htm

PamLB: exactly !

DouglasRM: I agree, Ted

IsisA: do some districts have their own blog?

MichaelRu: If you check out blogmeister, David Warlick has a blog about blogmeister to give you an idea of what its like

CindyGa: Ted, what are some examples blog search engines?

TedSa: yes some do

TedSa: I don't have my list here- it is at work, but will post it in the AM

CindyGa: thanks

GordonKD: On the theoretical, some discussion is going on with respect to the effects of blogs on news and the news business. With WiFi, blogs and pods are "near realtime" news observations in 1st person. Hmmm.. "everyone" a reporter?

DouglasRM: thanks

StaffanyR: Thanks

LoriBu: using blogging in an elementary school, I wanted to keep some control to ensure safety so that's why I don't use blogger or something like that

TedSa: the bloggers are becoming important part of the media

TaraCo: one of the most powerful uses is for student reflection

KarenConna nods to Gordon

DouglasRM: just look at how blogs influenced the election, Gordon, everyone is a reporter these days

TedSa: IF you get people to read your stuff

PamLB: like powerline and free republic ...?

TedSa: Not many read my blog

MichaelRu: Last year at NECC there were "on the floor" reporters posting to blogs continually - I learned about some things that I would have not known w/o the almost real-time blogging there!

KarenConna: think about how technology in general puts communication in the hands of everyone not just the government

CindyGa: Lori, so how do u ensure safety? what do u use?

DouglasRM: I think those are more like discussion forums, right Pam?

LoriBu: blogmeister which allows me to approve everything before it's posted live

CindyGa: oh ok, thx Lori

TedSa: democratic underground and free republic are discussion boards

LoriBu: sure

ElizabetJR: Do you send out permission to parents before you begin a blog?

IsisA: so blogmeister is the way to go, huh!

TedSa: I think so Isis

DouglasRM: it looks that way, Isis

KarenConna: You should Elizabeth

PamLB: parental permission would be important

CindyGa: Question. What's the difference between a blog and a discussion board?

GordonKD: What critical thinking/literacy skills go into blog "reading" for students?

LoriBu: on blogmeister (I also sound like a commercial) there is a blogger's pledge which we used with the students

ElizabetJR: What is it like

IsisA: so, does blogmeister also come in Spanish?

PamLB: cool, Lori ... what does it state in general?

LoriBu: it's really an AUP but specifically talks about ethical use of information and so on

TedSa: you could write in Spanish on it

CindyGa: Gordon, maybe identifying fact from opinion or summarizing/main idea

LoriBu: opened a nice discussion and we insisted all students sign it before blogging

LoriBu: I'll post a link to it on the whiteboard later or Ted can

KarenConna: Gordon - empathy and other perspectives

IsisA: if students write from different parts of a city they can update each other on transitions of plant growth or things like that I guess

TedSa: other uses of blogs in education?

StaffanyR: Isis I like that idea

LoriBu: another one I just began is a write a story blog

TedSa: Can it take the place of the literary magazine? cheaper printing

LoriBu: I post a story starter and ask the kids to write an ending

DouglasRM: Cindy, blog is a place where one person posts their thoughts, opinions, etc, discussion board is where a group of people carry on a discussion, but not like a chat, more of a "post it now and come back later to see if anyone has responded to me yet"

TaraCo: reflection

IsisA: surveys to integrate other subjects

GregMa: Students contribute to an online student guide - W. Richardson

PamLB: Ted, could you list the three types of blogs, as a recap ?

TedSa: basic information- sort of a classroom newsletter

BillCon: Elizabeth there is an age limit that you must get parental permission for students to blog. Even if you don't use their name.

TaraCo: having students reflect can really be a powerful way to change the way students think

IsisA: talk about national issues

TedSa: students write with no comments allowed, reporting on the day

BillCon: Parent permission is the best CYA

ElizabetJR: Bill what is that age?

TedSa: student writing or discussion- hopefully protected- with comments allowed

AndyAK: I think 13 is the legal CAPRA....and I can't remember what CAPRA stands for...

BillCon: In Pa I think its 16 but check with school solicitor

TedSa: always a good idea to check with your legal people

KarenConna: CIPPA

LoriBu: I think this permission issue is different in diff states and districts

KarenConna nods to Lori

BillCon: Yes Lori

BillCon: correct

KarenConna: there's other legal issues too besides the Federal CIPA law

TedSa: we have a policy about web posting should check about blog posting

TedSa: another use for blogs is for class discussion

TedSa: the teacher can post a prompt to write about

LoriBu: yes, we would use the same district policy for posting to a blog as we would for posting to a regular web site

TedSa: or students can discuss an assignment

BillCon: Yes please check with school policy first

PamLB: thanks Ted

BillCon: don't want to get anyone in trouble

TedSa: There is a neat blog for AP English out of Chicago,

TedSa: the students have good posts and discussions

IsisA: do they discuss books they read?

TedSa: I have that linked in my quick blog lesson- which is on the whiteboard

TedSa: yes books

SusanR . o O (a good use is for reflective math journals)

TedSa: poetry

KarenConna: there's actually a great blend that can occur among podcast, blogging, and discussion boards

BillCon nods to Jedi

KarenConna: I love that idea Susan

DouglasRM: I would like to check that one out, Ted thanks

BJB2 . o O (what about role playing? A student could role play a well known scientist or author or artist and the other students would have to guess who the student represented)

KarenConna: What a wonderful way to get students to think/talk about conceptualization

TedSa: good idea BJ

TedSa: sort of like what some adults do on discussion boards anyway

DouglasRM: that is very cool, BJ

KarenConna: Cool BJ

BillCon: excellent BJ

SusanR . o O (a school newspaper)

LoriBu: It's amazing how powerful collaboration can be for students including feedback from someone other than the teacher

IsisA: I taught this lesson where I dressed up as Betsy Ross, that would go well with BJ's idea!

CindyGa: for long term science fair projects students could keep a blog about their investigations and explorations

EmilyW: there are so many ideas with blogs

TedSa: yes the science fair- I have an example of that in my lesson

TedSa: student was making a bridge I think

IsisA: They can talk persuasively about current events

LoriBu: I read one somewhere where a student journaled his whole experience with a science fair project

CindyGa: for example if they are following the life cycle of insect

LoriBu: hmmm maybe I read it in

LoriBu: Ted's resources

TedSa: the only problem people have with reading the blog- is you have to read backwards

CindyGa: backwards?

BillCon: Have a red herring contest

TedSa: backwards- the most recent is at the top

DouglasRM: that is so hard for me to get, Ted

StaffanyR: me too

LoriBu: and it's a little more difficult for young students just beginning to read because it's so text intensive

MichaelRu: for those who have blogging teachers in their schools, are they the "tech" heads, or have blogs attracted a different type of teacher to technology?

IsisA: so they would have to start reading from the bottom?

PamLB: is there no way to reverse the order of posts? I was looking for that on blogger.com ...

TedSa: so the science project you look for the oldest entry and go to there

DouglasRM: I want to find out what happens next, scroll down and...nothing!!!! to be continued!

KarenConna: Good idea Doug

KarenConna: a to be continues

BrookeM: what about adding images into blogs? do people find them helpful?

KarenConna: the never ending story

TedSa: pictures are great

LoriBu: I think so

TedSa: not to hard to do

DouglasRM: I've got a couple pics on mine

LoriBu: in a local college they had a fire in the Law Library...

IsisA: pictures great for sequence of events!

LoriBu: and they have a blog to keep people informed

GregMa: why limit to text?

LoriBu: included lots of pictures

TedSa: trick of pics is getting a host for them

DouglasRM: but blogger makes you download programs...ugh!

LoriBu: documenting the fire and the rebuilding process

PamLB: try photobucket.com for image hosting. it is free

TedSa: art teacher posts work for others to comment on

LoriBu: imageshack.com provides free hosting

GregMa: host on yahoo and point to pics

EmilyW: have a picture and students have to write about it

BrookeM: my school won't give asses to download blogger's image program

LoriBu: I'm using that for the school blogs

KarenConna: art analysis of photos

TedSa: or get your own server

KarenConna: and artwork

KarenConna: great use

BrookeM: it seems worth the fight though

TedSa: art history stuff is good

CindyGa: is there an easy program like Frontpage, but for blogs, where students could design their blogs?

TedSa: not really much to design

SusanR: Photobucket gives you access to the HTML code..easy to insert in your blog

TedSa: some templates to use

BillCon: Pivot

TedSa: the words are the thing here

KarenConna: Cindy - pivot

DouglasRM: I'll have to check out photobucket, is it free?

LoriBu: if you use blogger, they have Picasa and Hello that makes it very easy to post pictures

TedSa: flicker is free

PamLB: just copy and paste, Susan

LoriBu: imageshack.com is free also

TedSa: I have some links to images on the whiteboard

DouglasRM: cool, thanks

PamLB: yes Doug free it is

EmilyW: another thing you can do is make a webpage that shows the images and then on an entry put the link to the page

BrookeM: I have learned to put up image links in TI

BrookeM: the students like them

BrookeM: cause you can add text

IsisA: students can guess where the images come from

DouglasRM: no problem, just kidding

EmilyW: another idea is to post links and have students write about what they liked about the websites

TedSa: or plant growth over time

LoriBu: I love to see images that the kids drew themselves scanned and uploaded

LoriBu: we are doing that on the Falcon blog

IsisA: like that Emily!

EmilyW: thanks

LoriBu: teach them web site evaluation and post the reviews to a blgo

LoriBu: blog I mean

CindyGa: me too, Lori, it makes their work more relative and personal

TedSa: another type of student that likes blogs is the reluctant responder in class

EmilyW: the evaluation is a good idea too

EmilyW: there are SO many things you can do

TedSa: the student has time to think before writing or speaking

BillCon: <http://www.pivotlog.net/>

DouglasRM: so that he doesn't feel threatened?

PamLB: I was wondering about that, Ted!

LoriBu: exactly, Douglas

TedSa: shy folk like me

DouglasRM: me too!

PamLB: me too, Ted ~

LoriBu: hard to believe, but me too

CindyGa: and if his/her classmates read the blog the student will still be participating with the whole group.

IsisA: that's a great idea!

TedSa: give time to reflect before speaking

BrookeM: I supervise a student teacher...i have encouraged her to blog about her experiences instead of keeping a journal..it makes my management of her a lot easier cause I can comment on the blog at anytime

BrookeM: plus she can print it out for her profs

LoriBu: great idea

IsisA: I guess blog can also be used by students who always interrupt or take time away from those who are shy

TedSa: Lori pointed out some first year teacher blogs to me- not that good

LoriBu: or to extend the classroom discussion outside of the classroom

GregMa: not good?

TedSa: not too happy teaching

BrookeM: yes Lori

GregMa: oh

PamLB: good point Isis

DouglasRM: that's what we're using ours for, to reflect on our observations of the day

BrookeM: cause I am busy with the kids in school so I can give her my undivided attention on a blog

BillCon: I have a tech who blogs to me about task assignments

BrookeM: instead of collecting her journal

MichaelRu: extending the classroom is an awesome feature

BJB2 knows that Karen has to leave soon.

SusanR . o O (Blogs..great idea for teacher portfolios and professional growth)

BJB2 . o O (perhaps we should bring the discussion to closure?)

DouglasRM: yep, Susan is correct

IsisA: I guess it is good to keep identity secret when blogging so that you can really express yourself...that can help students who have trouble at home who do not want to state personal details

TedSa: sure, just as my hands are cramping up

TedSa: There are lots of uses for blogs as we have seen

TedSa: blogs being web logs

KarenConna . o O (thanks for reminding me BJ)

TedSa: can be used by teachers or students

BillCon: It allows me to track his progress because I have him on a different shift

TedSa: or a combo of both

TedSa: easy to use

GregMa: This has been a great chat, but my kids are home now and participating becomes almost impossible. Thanks everyone!!!

DouglasRM: thanks, everyone. this has been a great discussion!

TedSa: thanks for stopping by

TedSa: join the discussion in the SIGTC room

KarenConna waves goodbye and leaves for the next meeting

MichaelRu: thanks for great conversation

TedSa: we have some good stuff there

BJB2: please join the SIGTC group

KarenConna left the room.

StaffanyR: Thanks everyone

BJB2: to join the group click on the SEARCH TAB in the top right of your screen

PamLB: Thanks Ted, enjoyed the session !

BJB2: then click on GROUPS

TedSa: thanks everyone

TedSa: I had fun

DouglasRM: nice work, ted

BJB2: enter SIGTC

LoriBu: Very informative and lively discussion, Ted. THANKS!

BJB2: when you get a match, click on the group name next to the green i

ElizabetJR: Enjoyed the ideas and information on blogs!

BJB2: that will take you to the group ID page where you can join the group

IsisA: Thank you

CindyGa: thanks everyone

TedSa: good night all

LoriBu: Bye Ted