

Title of Session: Technology in the Classroom

Moderator: Donna Hendry

Title of File: 20050601techclass

Date: June 1, 2005

Room: After School Online Room

GailH joined the room.

DonnaH: Hiya Gail!

MichaelRu joined the room.

DonnaH: (good I made it...was afraid I'd be late to my own session!)

DonnaH: (we'll give a few minutes for everyone to make it.)

JeffC joined the room.

GailH: I have been having some connectivity problems with my ISP. So if I start leaving and re-entering, just ignore my revolving door-ness. It isn't Tapped In issues at all.

DonnaH: *grin* Thanks for letting me know Gail:)

SusanR joined the room.

JeffC sits in the back of the class and pretends to pay attention.

SusanR: Hi Donna

DonnaH: sorry I was a bit late...daughter had her chorus thing tonight.

DonnaH: hey Sue!

SusanR: How did the job interview go

DonnaH: Okay. I guess we should get started.

DonnaH: (kick butt...principal pulled me aside before hand...'don't worry, relax; we were only going to observe 2 presentations...and the second person dropped out...')

DonnaH: so I'm just waiting for them to observe another presentation to make it 'formal'.

SusanR: Congratulations!

DonnaH: In case you haven't figured, *chuckle* My name is Donna Hendry, and I'm the leader for the Tech Class forums.

DonnaH: (I'm still trying to be a bit cynical...my name isn't on paper yet...but it is certainly looking good)

EmilyW joined the room.

EmilyW waves hi

DonnaH: (and for those who know me and are wondering what in goodness's name Sue and I are talking about...I just had a final presentation interview for a Technology Integration specialist position in a very technology forward system

GailH wishes Donna luck!

DonnaH: Please, everyone, introduce yourselves! It helps me to help you

DonnaH: (I can use all the luck I can get:!!!)

EmilyW: (sorry just came in and missed what you were saying)

SusanR . o O (I was in a lab the other day where 5 out of 12 computers were working)

JeffC is trying to land a similar job to Donna's here in Forest Grove.

GailH: I am Gail Hoskins. I am with Eisenhower National Clearinghouse (ENC) in Columbus OH.

MichaelRu: Michael Russo, Technology Integration Teacher in Western NY

GailH: I am also looking for a job.

SusanR: K to 8 Occasional Teacher from Ottawa, Ontario..always looking for a job

DonnaH: Well, seems like job hunting could definitely be a session tonight *chuckle*

EmilyW: I am looking for a job too. I am a web designer. I hope to design educational websites.

SusanR: hubby is looking for one as well

DonnaH: (and yet they say that the job market is getting better *pbth*)

DonnaH: sorry.

GailH: OK -- finding jobs that use technology in education.

DonnaH: With the exception of Sue, are we all in the US?

GailH: Ohio

SusanR: Canadian eh

CarolHi: Raleigh, NC

DonnaH: <http://www.reap.net/>

BeckyGst4: Raleigh, NC

EmilyW: Texas here (but looking for a job in the future in DC)

DonnaH: About half the states are currently using this

DonnaH: job listings are REALLY easy to look through

DonnaH: and it helps being able to look in states you aren't currently in.

DonnaH: There IS a 'tech' listing...but you need to be careful, as many schools are calling what we used to call shop or industrial arts, technology education.

DonnaH: (I still don't get it...but there you go.)

DonnaH: (assumes we're all quiet because we're looking?)

GailH: Yep, and finding helpful stuff.

GailH: But we can do that later.

DonnaH: (if this goes too fast, you can go to the 'actions' box, and click Detach for a larger screen.

DonnaH: Is everyone looking K-12? or are there some looking for higher education?

EmilyW: I am looking for whatever

JeffC: ditto

GailH: Ditto -- but classroom is a possibility for me.

DonnaH: Okay...does anyone here belong to ITForum?

DonnaH: (it's a listserv)

CarolHi: Is this session about searching for jobs on technology in the classroom?

GailH: no

EmilyW: not sure

DonnaH: ITForum quite often lists Technology positions for post secondary situations

EmilyW: where is the ITForum?

DonnaH: it's an email forum...lemme get you the subscribe info (digs in her email box)

GailH listens attentively.

DonnaH: ITFORUM@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU

EmilyW: I've seen that forum before

DonnaH: I BELIEVE (and I'll look while we chat) that you simply put 'subscribe' in the subject.

DonnaH: some of it is useful, but for me, most is too post secondary to be useful if you focus on k-12.

GailH: <http://it.coe.uga.edu/itforum/>

DonnaH: ah, thank you Gail:)

DonnaH: (I don't tend to work with the webversion...only the email...but that's been for 4 years now.

GailH: That's how I deal with WWWedu, but to get started I think the web site helps.

DonnaH: Here's another place

GailH: I just searched their archive for jobs.

DonnaH: (it does:) thanks:))

DonnaH: <http://teachers-teachers.com/>

GailH . o O (the place ITForum)

DonnaH: this is another place to check...it is strictly for placing teachers.

DonnaH: use the keyword positions, Gail...I think you'll have better luck:)

DonnaH: (is this all helpful so far?)

GailH: Yes!

DonnaH: (just no one come to CT...I have enough trouble finding jobs without having to fight you guys for 'em!)

DonnaH: I applied for a position in this one district...less the 2k students...

BeckyGst4: I am a graduate student who has to do this for a class. Is this session strictly about finding jobs?

DonnaH: in the whole district.

DonnaH: It's part of technology, Becky:) Who is your Professor?

DonnaH: (and part of teaching is making contacts, and finding out how to use what others know...it's all good:))

BeckyGst4: I am in school at Meredith College in Raleigh NC as well as teaching third grade. We are learning to incorporate technology in to the regular education classroom.

DonnaH: Well, while they are searching, is there something you would like to know/need help with?

GailH: I am interested in that discussion too, Becky.

BeckyGst4: Do you have any good examples of webquests?

DonnaH: (we tend to jump topics:))

DonnaH: Give me a subject...'webquest' is a bit vague, as there are so many:)

EmilyW: Becky, look at some old transcripts

EmilyW: there is a regular session on here about webquests

DonnaH: (though, Bernie Dodge, the 'father' of the webquest, offers sessions here...what, guys, once a month?)

EmilyW: (and a group too)

DonnaH: I would be happy to show you one I'd created, and why it is a good webquest.

EmilyW: Journal of Research on Technology in Education

BeckyGst4: Thanks for the help. I would like to see yours if you don't mind-Donna.

DonnaH: Sure:)

DonnaH: <http://www.geocities.com/dhendry26/hpwq.html>

DonnaH: (you'll have to excuse me, I'm a monster Harry Potter fan)

DonnaH: but I'll explain through the WHY it is a webquest.

DonnaH: The setup for a webquest usually include the first 5 topics listed at the top in yellow.

DonnaH: gah, sorry 6.

EmilyW joined the room.

BeckyGst4: Thanks for the example. That was helpful!

GailH:

<http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webquests/zoo/>
is Prisoners or Protected? A WebQuest for Exploring the Humanity of Zoos

GailH: It is probably more for grades 5-7...??

DonnaH: What makes this a webquest is the fact that it isn't a 'search/hunt' and it makes students think beyond what they ARE looking at online.

EmilyW: what type of webquests are you looking for?

DonnaH: the Harry Potter one?

DonnaH: I've used that up to 10th grade; though the 9 & 10th grade ones were a lower level class.

MichaelRu: do you still have your site techforteachers.org? I tried the link and got something else?

EmilyW: I tried that too

BeckyGst4: We can choose any subject matter and any grade level. We can pretty much do what ever we want. I have done a scavenger hunt before but have not attempted a webquest yet.

EmilyW: what do you have to do?

DonnaH: Michael, I have to admit, my site is a major sore spot. I had the URL pirated.

DonnaH: *turns blue with anger*

SusanR: Good grief, Donna

MichaelRu: yikes

GailH: <http://studenthome.nku.edu/~webquest/gabbard/> is a webquest for middle grade math about place value. It is good.

DonnaH: It's a good thing the person who dealt with my website lives so far away or I might have done something really and truly inappropriate.

DonnaH: well, and illegal. but that's me.

DonnaH: (angry and ticked off don't' even touch it...)

BeckyGst4: Thanks Gail.

DonnaH: I do have a slightly older version in beta here though, if its something you're curious about

MichaelRu: You can set up and host free webquests at <http://teacherweb.com/TWQuest.htm> which is part of teacherweb.com

CarolHi: I teach middle school (6th grade) math and will look forward to looking at the website you listed...Thanks!

GailH: Becky, you may also want to look at <http://www.enc.org/features/focus/archive/webquests/> -- use the navigation on the right.

DonnaH: (but really, it was just popped up...so you'll have to ignore some stuff on it...like notes and such)

DonnaH: <http://dryad.justpc.com>

DonnaH: (I think)

DonnaH: yep

BeckyGst4: Thank you so much. Sorry to take up your time. You have been extremely helpful.

DonnaH: nope...that's what I'm here for.

DonnaH: you have to realize...I almost NEVER plan a session for here.

DonnaH: because invariably, I'll plan a lovely lesson for elementary social studies, and end up with all high school science teachers.

GailH: I'd like to ask a question.

DonnaH: shoot:)

GailH: Sue mentioned being in a lab where less than half of computers worked. My question is....

GailH: is there a site or place with ideas for handling Big Problems or surprises like that?

SusanR listens

SusanR: I did a few quick on the spot repairs

DonnaH: More like hardware issues, Gail?

SusanR: switched some mice

DonnaH: *thinks hard*

JeffC is busy filling out his REAP profile... if people want help with tech and curriculum... email me at jbcoops@gmail.com and I'll be happy to help...

GailH: What I am looking for is a site with ideas for dealing with that (not hardware fixes, etc.) for those, it has to be based on what I myself know at the time.

DonnaH: of course there must be; but the ones I know are more like coding type sites.

GailH: Like ideas for doing stuff where you shove too many people on one computer

DonnaH: I'm not sure I understand what you're looking for, Gail.

EmilyW: I think I understand what Gail means

EmilyW: doing lessons with one computer?

GailH: Maybe a site called "helpful hints for the technology teacher with unexpected trouble"

EmilyW: maybe I did not understand

MichaelRu: "punting" ideas...

GailH: Yours is part of it, but more like what to do with the students -- not the machines.

GailH: They can be the REAL problem.

EmilyW: what to do with students with computer trouble?

EmilyW: that did not make sense

DonnaH: Is this something you see happening often?

GailH: Sorry to be so unclear. What to do with the class -- when there are major problems in being unable to do what you had planned.

EmilyW: that is what I was trying to say

DonnaH: Well, I always make backup plans, myself.

EmilyW: I couldn't come up with the right words

DonnaH: I plan for major problems.

GailH: I obviously haven't been either!

DonnaH: (but then, I'm a bit OC...so...)

DonnaH: If things going wrong are like website's opening...I always have a secondary site that would do in a pinch, but might not be as cool as the first...

DonnaH: if nothing opens,... I'll either put it off...or if it is something that happens on a semi regular basis...I'll download the whole bloody site, and put it on a disk, and use it that way.

GailH: I do stuff with teachers in strange labs at time, and often the person who sets it up doesn't do what they should -- say the whole thing is password blocked and I have to punt and do something totally unplanned for half an hour while he gets things figured out.

DonnaH: onsite links should still work if you download the whole thing

SusanR: If all else fails I always use the template assistants that come with Appleworks.. and try to apply it to student's curriculum

DonnaH: (there are programs that will do this for you...though their name escapes me at the moment)

GailH: When I am showing my site, I have simulation -- no problem. But when I go in a strange lab and I and all those machines are somebody else's mess -- it can be bad.

DonnaH: I always make sure I have the opportunity to run through it before I have a roomful.

DonnaH: even when I did my presentation for that job interview, I had requested to see the lab before hand.

DonnaH: very helpful, really.

DonnaH: I really do go in expecting problems...

GailH: I get invited to do things like for a Saturday class in a facility I haven't been to before. And the lab is used by regular students all during the week. Just on Sat. for some seminar they let folks in, and I "am" the problem.

GailH: Obviously I do that too, and I have done OK in those situations. But that is kind of thing I need to improve on.

DonnaH: Well; would it help to have your website on disk instead?

DavidWe joined the room.

EmilyW waves to David

DavidWe waves

DonnaH: or, is there are smartboard, where you can use just one computer, but still have it interactive?

DonnaH: Have you considered bringing your own laptop that you could hookup to a projector or smartboard?

GailH: I do have mine on it, but if all those computers can't get to it, it defeats the hands-on that I am supposed to be doing for them.

EmilyW: that is a really good topic you brought up

DonnaH: Then what happens is you need to get *excuse my French* ballsy and tell them you need tools that work for what you need to do.

GailH: Every room or situation is unique. In some I barely have a projection screen large enough for a postage stamp.

DonnaH: I do presentations too; and I tell them what I need.

DonnaH: and I tell them where I can make do.

DavidWe gives Gail a BIG postage stamp

GailH: Is it US or Canadian?

DonnaH: it is THEIR equipment...and they know it...they can't expect me to know it, and work within their limits without screwing up their systems

DonnaH: I'm in US

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: I'm in New Jersey

DonnaH: so far, everyone has agreed with me...they'd rather arrange what I need, rather than me bugger up their system.

GailH . o O (wondered about the stamp's nationality.)

GailH: I think the resolution is that I need to not settle for the lowly helper they give me to make arrangements but insist on somebody bigger who can make things happen like they say they will.

DonnaH: yep.

DonnaH: don't be afraid to tell them what you need.

DonnaH: otherwise, they're just throwing good money after bad.

GailH: OK, thanks for the advice.

DonnaH: if they are paying you...they WANT you to be good:)

DonnaH: (least that's the way it's looked at up here.)

DonnaH: the other choice would be to invest in a way to bring the presentation with you in entirety...

GailH: Agreed -- but that doesn't help if it is to be hands-on-training.

DonnaH: (there are portable smartboards...then get a projector and a laptop...but you're looking at a crapload of money)

GailH: Though it is a good backup plan.

DonnaH: a smartboard wouldn't ruin the hands-on...

DavidWe will always give Gail his laptop in a crunch

GailH: David has -- seriously -- years ago.

DavidWe smiles

EmilyW: what type of hands-on-training do you do?

GailH: Often it is very subject/grade specific -- but idea is to have teachers exploring THEMSELVES websites in their domain (and consistent with standards, etc.)

GailH: Often identifying which MATCH their district's benchmarks, etc.

EmilyW: exploring websites for them to use?

DonnaH: the only thing I could never get my way about was the whole 'chat' environment.

DonnaH: they wouldn't unblock here from the schools' filter...

GailH: Yes (to Emily) but with a rubric type thing while they do so.

DonnaH: (just an fyi...technically our meeting time is up:))

MichaelRu bids goodnight

GailH . o O (and I do have to run.)

EmilyW is enjoying this

GailH: Thanks Donna.

GailH enjoyed this very much.

GailH: It was like two three sessions in one, jobs, webquests, and tech presenting.

SusanR: interesting discussion

SusanR: . o O (Canadians have discovered a tiny transistor that will revolutionize electronics)

GailH: See you around. By the way, I got a new granddaughter Sunday night.

SusanR: congrats, Gail

GailH: Thanks!

DonnaH: congrats, Gail!

SusanR: so technology continues to improve..molecular transistors

DonnaH: *and its no problem...it's why I hold the sessions:))

JeffC just finished being REAPed.

DonnaH: ah well. I too, am off:)

GailH: See you guys.

DonnaH: (that does take some serious time, Jeff:))

JeffC: Thanks for the lead Donna... good luck with your job possibility.