

Title of Session: Web 2.0 Tools for Schools

Moderator: Lynne Wolters

Guest Speaker: Terry Smith

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Room: Web 2.0 Tools Group

JamesC: I always have questions.

LynneW: James, what are your questions tonight?

JamesC: Currently I have two computer in a class of thirty learning body systems at the High school level. How can I use them?

JamesC: Just fishing for ideas.

LynneW: Everyone, we are waiting for our guest speaker to arrive.

LynneW: James has posed a question. Anyone can chime in with suggestions.

JaneKr: Internet ready computers?

LynneW: There are 3-D modeling web sites that can be very helpful.

JaneKr: Yeah what do you teach?

JaneKr: omg I thought "learning body systems" was your students. hahahah

JamesC: Yes internet ready. I don't want to use them to passively display information. I want something student centered.

JoanHu: that would be a new way of describing students! haha

JaneKr: Do you have a projection system?

JamesC: Yes I have a projector.

TomSmy: smartboard....!

MaureenB: they are the best

MaureenB: just got one

JamesC: No smart board.

JoanHu: why not have the students build the knowledge of the body systems - could use a wiki or something more graphical?

JoanHu: with hyperlinked and collaboratively developed knowledge base

TerryS joined the room.

LynneW: James, our guest speaker is about to arrive.

LynneW: Welcome Terry.

JamesC: I was thinking of giving some of them the option of writing scripts for diagrams and using voicethread.com as a way to showcase their work.

TerryS: Hello

LynneW: James - I have some resources to share at the end of our session.

JaneKr: They could certainly create shared docs in google d&s that they can also contribute to from home or library computers.

LynneW: Welcome everyone to our January Web 2.0 Tools For Schools session.

JaneKr: Or have them take turns contributing to a blog post. OK done

LynneW: Let's begin our session.

LynneW: Self introductions please.

JamesC: Hi Terry

TerryS: Hi James - Sorry - I had my times wrong tonight.

LynneW: I am a teacher educator, educational technology in Portland OR

JaneKr: Hi, Jane Krauss here, teacher, education writer, jack of all trades

MaureenB: Maureen fourth grade teacher Putnam County, NY

JoanHu: Hi Terry, I'm an associate prof of learning technologies at UT Austin. (former elem and midd school computer teacher in CA - a while ago!)

JamesC: I teach Life Science at the high school level in 29 Palms CA.

TomSmy: Univ of South Carolina Aiken - Ed Tech and Reading Educ

NikkiW: I'm a master student in Instructional Technology program in UT-Austin.

LynneW: Anyone else?

TerryS: I teach an elementary class in Hannibal, MO but I'm really quite spread out among the continuum of student levels: elementary – high school – college. I used to live north of Austin.

TerryS: Great to be here.

LynneW: Terry is a colleague and has become a friend.

LynneW: It is with great pleasure that I share him as a resource for you here this evening.

LynneW: Terry, you have "the floor".

TerryS: OK

TerryS: I teach English to Taiwanese high schoolers at Zhong Lun Senior High in Taipei, and I teach online educational technology at Concordia University (Lynne is lead instructor for Concordia classes), and I also teach online at Antioch University in Los Angeles.

NikkiW: Where were you in that picture? I saw some Chinese.

MaureenB: Terry I visited your website and borrowed a number of your links for my fourth grade students

TerryS: I was in Taipei.

NikkiW: Wow~I'm from Taiwan.

TerryS: Ni hao Nikki.

NikkiW: Ni hao

TerryS: I'm not as organized as I would like, but I'll muddle through some show and tell of some methods and tools I use with my 4th graders in Hannibal.

LynneW listens intently

TerryS: I made my first web page in 1995 as a 3rd grade teacher in Granger, Texas using raw html and Netscape.

TerryS: The main fun for me then and now has been using the Internet to make lasting connections with other classes so my kids could get a feel for a larger world.

TerryS: Lots of years later, that thrill of going beyond my own classroom walls has led me down an incredible path.

TomSmy: (FredMail?)

TerryS: I've partnered with lots of teachers, but most notable has been my connection with Kang Chaio Bilingual School in Taipei, Taiwan.

LynneW: Terry, how did you originally connect with them?

TerryS: Because of our classroom projects beginning in 2002, I've been able to take my 4th graders to Taiwan, to an International Summer camp in 2004 and 2007. Nice payoff for using technology!

JoanHu: in reality or online?

DavidW smiles

TerryS: My original connection was via the Univ of Missouri

TerryS: Show Me the World program

TerryS: So many years later...

TerryS: I have a class web, wiki pages, and kid blogs. I've had the web since 1995 but only 2 years for the wiki and blogs.

TerryS: To get started I'd like for show a few very short videos.

MaureenB: ready

TerryS: We all need to open another window and go to a google doc

TerryS: The address is on the page under my photo

TerryS: Shall we?

LynneW: OK

JaneKr: Love the Monster Project

JoanHu: the smithclass.org?

TerryS: http://docs.google.com/View?docid=dct4qdwr_78czdkx5zh

TerryS: I have a pic of my school and a few lines of intro

TerryS: Is it working for everyone? I'd like you to look at the Learning Centers video.

LynneW: Terry it is working for me.

TomSmy: yes

JamesC: I see kids sitting on the sidewalk.

TerryS: a typical morning in my classroom.

TerryS: Go down the page to Learning Centers Tom

TerryS: I'm going to move fast...

TerryS: Next - Newspapers

JamesC: I must be blind. Learning centers?

TerryS: Under Video/Podcast

JoanHu: just above the yellow stuff

JamesC: thanks

TomSmy: nice video example, Terry.

TerryS: Newspapers – we wrote a newspaper today in class. It is my most important writing activity. Peer writing, typing the story, then transferring it to kid editors, who finish the job by assembling the newspaper. Edit it as a class on Fridays

TomSmy: (makes me want to teach 4th grade!)

TerryS: Next: have a glimpse of a video session with Naches, Washington.

JoanHu: at some point I'd like you speak to the issue of showing kids on video on the web ... permissions?

JaneKr: I like that you don't need the newest technologies to get tons done.

TerryS: True!

JoanHu: what one is naches?

TomSmy: but are you addressing standards :) [of course you are - thoroughly.]

TerryS: Video Conferencing is with Naches.

TerryS: Aren't we all totally, madly, standards driven?

TerryS: Has everone seen those 3 videos?

JaneKr: It's easy to backbuild to standards when you know you have a good and rigorous project idea

TerryS: Exactly.

JoanHu: naches seems to be still loading video.....

TomSmy: yes Jane!

TerryS: I won't go through everything - just wanted to do a sampling.

TomSmy: looks great, Terry

JaneKr: your students look very self directed

JoanHu: yes, engaged.

TerryS: I aim for independence

JaneKr: another bonus of lots of practice in centers, projects, etc

TomSmy: authentic activities

TerryS: As part of the Monster Project, we expressed ourselves in classroom movies. Kids wrote the stories and my job was to help them break the story up into scenes, a useful writing technique. Kids brought their own costumes and acted out the stories.

TerryS: The yellow chart is an attempt to show an overview of tools, projects, and partners.

JoanHu: nice!

TerryS: Classblogmeister has been a great tool for getting kids excited about writing.

TerryS: Before blogging, my kids mainly wrote email to other kids – which we still do. But with blogging they get to see their writing stay on the computer in a place that they basically own. And they really like the act of commenting on other kidblogs.

TerryS: That leaves it up to the teacher to do what we always do – take advantage of anything that works for kids and teach them a few things!

LynneW: Terry, how do you handle showing your kids on video available on the Internet?

TerryS: Under projects, you'll see Landmark 2008 - it's just getting underway

JamesC: Do you give them topics to blog about?

TerryS: How do I handle? Permission?

LynneW: Yes

TerryS: OK

TerryS: My district is not heavy handed about permissions.

TerryS: I never identify a kid really -

TerryS: Communications go through me.

JoanHu: does your district provide email addresses for students?

TerryS: On blogging I approve all incoming comments.

TerryS: no my kids do not have their own addresses

JoanHu: so then the students don't "own" their blog ... is it a class blog then? owned by you?

TerryS: Email is done by typing in a word processor - then I assemble it and mail it

LynneW: What guidelines do you give them about what makes for appropriate blog commenting?

NikkiW: Is Landmark a kind of webquest?

JaneKr: OK this Eraser Kindness video is killing me

JaneKr tries to pay attention

TerryS: Kids do own their blogs, but they understand that I am watching for appropriateness in manners as well as good writing.

TerryS: Guideline are the same as face to face.

JoanHu: but most blogs require the person to have an email address to sign up for it - is it diff with classblogmeister?

MaureenB: I like the playground perimeter. Wish there wasn't snow on the ground

TerryS: If kids choose not to follow the guidelines, they don't blog. And that kills them!

TerryS: They LOVE to use their blogs.

TerryS: So lots of experimenting goes on as I try to stay with the standards.

TerryS: Notice that Pakistan is one of our partners.

TerryS: We were very much involved with the Pakistani kids when Benazir Bhutto was killed.

TerryS: One of my students was in process of reporting on Ms. Bhutto when it happened. we did a voicethread.

JamesC: Google translations or do they read English in Pakistan?

TerryS: They speak English and teach us Urdu.

JaneKr: Can you explain a voicethread? Skype?

TerryS: The voicethread link on the google doc goes to our latest effort.

TerryS: I used it to explain and display the Monster Project also.

JamesC: Have your students used the video doodling yet?

TerryS: NO but I have shown it to them.

JaneKr: got it. wandered into the BENZOO Bhutto one, too

TerryS: Voicethread is very nice and kid friendly

JoanHu: I love it

TerryS: Each kids speaks their report on the voicethread.

TerryS: You can advance forward or back at your own speed.

JamesC: Do they write or outline the report first?

TerryS: Yes James - rough draft just like any other writing we do.

TerryS: Same when they do a podcast.

JoanHu: so assessment ... what do you do anything differently in providing assessment feedback on these types of activities (podcast, vodcast, voicethread etc.)

TerryS: So the projects sort of happen all through the school year.

TerryS: Assessment - kids have the chance to show multiple intelligences

TerryS: so their "grades" are based on how well they do with they they have.

TerryS: I translate it all into the typical ABCD thing.

JoanHu: "what they have" means ?

MaureenB: I agree we did a podcast instead of a persuasive essay but all the skills for being persuasive were taught

MaureenB: they choose the subject video games

TerryS: I try to get a kid to do their best with their abilities - that's what I mean by what they have and build on the areas where they are not quite as strong -

TerryS: constant assessment

JaneKr: There's no ceiling or floor on projects like this, everyone's got space to make progress

JoanHu: do you use any technologies in the assessment/feedback process?

TerryS: That's where differentiated learning comes in.

MaureenB: and everyone wants to write to be a part of it

TerryS: Projects are perfect for allowing all kids to take part.

LynneW: Terry, did you have another video or site you wanted us to view before our session ends?

JaneKr: It's powerfully motivating to produce work others can see and comment on, too.

TerryS: And I can distribute work and assignments accordingly

JoanHu: Jane - yes it is more meaningful if it is not just the teacher looking at it

TerryS: plus - kids create as they go along and the projects can change with their input

LynneW: In what ways do these projects affect student self image and do they create a "world view"?

JaneKr: Terry you've just made my del.icio.us pile o' links even deeper. these are wonderful ideas

TerryS: Lynne - the world view is one of my goals. Kids can now discuss England, Taiwan, Pakistan with a new sense of these places.

TerryS: With their blogs, they look into other classrooms and see what kids in New Zealand are doing for example.

LynneW: So, let's recap the Web 2.0 tools that make these projects possible.

TerryS: There is so much going on I cannot track it. Kids tell me when they find things.

LynneW: Blogs

TerryS: Tools and sites sort of blend

LynneW: Wikis

LynneW: Flickr

LynneW: Skype?

JoanHu: voicethread

TerryS: also Sightspeed

NikkiW: Do you receive any support from your coworkers or kids' parents?

TerryS: Some of my peers are interested. Parents like their kids blogging.

TerryS: It is spreading slowly

LynneW: Are there any other teachers in your building do similar learning activities?

TerryS: Many of my kids do not have computers at home.

JaneKr: What is your professional circle? Are your school colleagues part of this with you or are you at the vanguard? Who do you learn this stuff with?

MaureenB: when you teach elementary and have to do every subject it is hard to take on something new one more thing

TerryS: My peer 4th grade teacher is learning and she does blogs and joins in the projects.

TerryS: Other teachers have a hard time fitting anything else in it seems.

MaureenB: but the motivation does make it worth the time and effort

TerryS: The philosophy of "fitting in" is where the problem lies.

JaneKr: Maureen, I think you don't add on one more thing, you do things differently

TerryS: yes - you change how you do it not add more work

MaureenB: but it is the learning the tech piece

TerryS: true

JaneKr: I'm working with teachers to feel like they are teaching even when they are not in front of the room delivering.

TerryS: but with wikis and blogs it had gotten much easier

NikkiW: Do you reveal what you're going to do with technology in your class on Parent's Day?

MaureenB: I am there but I see where others are not

JoanHu: how do your new ideas form?

TerryS: I tell parents what I am doing but most of my parents are poor and hardly find the time to take care of their kids.

JoanHu: do you see tools and get ideas? OR do you have ideas and then seek tools?

TerryS: Both Joan

JoanHu: do think one or other has more success?

MaureenB: I see that you have many different types of computers in your classroom

TerryS: I like to have fun, I like to challenge myself, and I don't want to not know about what is happening!

MaureenB: any compatibility issues

TerryS: my macs are not on the net

NikkiW: It really surprises me that you do all the stuff alone as an elementary school teacher

TerryS: I have XP and Win 98

JaneKr: You belong to Classroom 2.0 don't you? It's certainly for-us by-us professional learning

SusanR joined the room.

TerryS: Yes I am in ning - classroom 2.0

LynneW waves hello to Susan

LynneW: Hey Sue

SusanR: Sorry got the wrong time

TerryS: I am also in Kidlink

SusanR: Hey Lynne

LynneW: This is a tranny you will love reading.

TerryS: Kidlink is where I got started in international projects

TerryS: I highly recommend it

LynneWNEEDS TO ASK A QUESTION

LynneW: I need to discuss February session(s) with y'all.

LynneW: Would you like to extend this session to keep the conversation going a bit longer?

TerryS: I can go a little longer

JamesC: Roll on.

TerryS: we have momentum

JaneKr: hate to leave, but I'll read the transcript. Thanks, Terry

MaureenB: would love to learn more

TerryS: Do you all use this things as well?

JoanHu: you mean extend Terry into Feb. or right now?

KarenAF: I'm just lurking cos I'm new to tapped in

NikkiW: I think we can email our questions to Terry before next session so that he can think of some answers in advance

SusanR listens and will check the transcript for details

JoanHu: or look thru transcript for unanswered ?s

BJB2: a reminder to everyone that when you log out you will automatically be emailed a transcript of the session during which you were logged in

LynneW: MY QUESTION

TerryS: Please send anyone in my direction interested in joining the Landmark project.

LynneW: We have a group of preservice teachers who would like to offer us a session on a Tuesday night next month.

JoanHu: (graduate students)

LynneW: I would also like to extend an invitation to Terry to come back for a second session

LynneW: Would you be willing to attend two different sessions next month?

TerryS: I'll join sometime as part of the group - how's that?

LynneW: Or, do you want to do just one session?

LynneW: Terry, you have too much to contribute!

TerryS: I can make the next session - sounds like fun.

BJB2 recommends two sessions

TerryS: I might not live that long!

NikkiW: I will join both of them

TerryS: teaching is exhausting

LynneW: Terry, will you do (stop, I'm ROFLOL)

JoanHu: yeah

JamesC: I will try. I catch them as I can.

LynneW: Terry will you come back for a second session next month?

TerryS: yes

LynneW: Great!

BJB2 cheers

DavidW: Sounds like a plan

LynneW: Thank you Terry for this wonderful session.

JoanHu: THANK YOU

TerryS: you're welcome I enjoyed it

LynneW: If you are not all members of our group room, please join.

NikkiW: Thank you for sharing these great ideas.

LynneW: Then, you will get the emails reminding you about our monthly sessions.

LynneW: Thank you so much for giving of your time to attend.

LynneW: See you all in February.

BJB2: if you don't know how to join the group, please let us know and we'll help

DavidW: Congratulations, Terry, on what you and your class are doing. It's very impressive

JamesC: Lynne. Was Jane a speaker a few months back?

BJB2: Thanks, everyone, for a fabulous discussion!

TerryS: Goodnight all

LynneW: Yes she was.

MaureenB: nite

JamesC: Thanks Terry

TerryS: you're welcome James

LynneW: She and Suzie Boss have a new book out about project-based learning.

JoanHu: from ISTE

JamesC: Amazon finally sent me her book. It looks good.

TerryS: did anyone order and get XO laptops?

LynneW: I am enjoying it very much.

LynneW: Very grounded in good advice, easy to read, and has a really teacher-to-teacher tone.

LynneW: I thought about it but didn't.

JamesC: The XO is good for the back country. I would checkout the Esus for the US.

TerryS: ok - mine hasn't arrived yet

LynneW: My peers at other Colleges of Education in Oregon have just received theirs.

TerryS: alright - I'm gone - see you later Lynne and all

JamesC: Getting one to another country is great.

LynneW: Thank you Terry.