Title of Session: MIRACLES Tech
Moderator: K. Jackie Onyia
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Room: K. Jackie Onyia's Office

KJackieO: Hello Christina

KJackieO: Welcome

ChristinW: Thanks.

KJackieO: Glad you could make it.

ChristinW: I am sorry I am late I tried for 15 minutes to get here.

ChristinW: What do I need to do?

BJB2: relax for starters :-)

ChristinW: OK

BJB2: and you might want to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

BJB2: that will make your chat larger and easier to follow

ChristinW: Thanks

KJackieO: We will get started

KJackieO: Hi, my name is Jackie.

KJackieO: Thank you for joining me today for this session.

KJackieO: I am a former classroom and technology teacher.

KJackieO: Now I work with curriculum and training.

KJackieO: Tell me about your backgrounds related to education and what you do now

ChristinW: My name is Christina. I am a Spanish Teacher at WFHS and I am working on my masters in Curriculum and Instruction at MSU-Moorhead

BJB2: I lie around eating bon bons all day since I'm retired ;-)

ChristinW: But I love bonsbons

BJB2: I'm located in south central Pennsylvania

ChristinW: I am here exploring professional development through technology

KJackieO: I wish I could retire and I love bonbons

KJackieO: I am in Dallas Texas

ChristinW: I am in Fargo, ND

BJB2 . o O (time, Jackie....don't wish your life away)

KJackieO: Technology is a wonderful thing isn't it.

BJB2 nods solemnly

ChristinW: It can be if you can it get to work

KJackieO got you

ChristinW: I have to figure out how to do those actions

BJB2: start the line with a colon followed by the action   :waves

KJackieO: Before I get started, you can reach me through Tapped In as **KJackieO**.

KJackieO: I just learned

ChristinW nod

BJB2: good, Christina

ChristinW smiles

BJB2: Jackie, Christina is brand new to Tapped In. Maybe a little background on MIRACLES?

KJackieO Bravo

KJackieO: The program, called MIRACLES Tech, was created by the Todd Wagner Foundation – www.toddwagnerfoundation.org.

KJackieO: The foundation is a non-profit organization that helps improve lives of inner-city residents by increasing access to technology, education and capital.

KJackieO: One of the ways they increase access to technology is through free high-tech after-school programs for youth living and learning in underserved urban areas.

KJackieO: The Foundation adapted the MIRACLES Tech program from an intensive program they developed called MIRACLES.

KJackieO: I started out with the foundation as one of the instructors.

ChristinW: interesting

KJackieO: Any questions so far?

ChristinW: What is the difference between the two programs? Or will you get to that?

KJackieO: MIRACLES is more comprehensive and structured

ChristinW: I know nothing about MIRACLES but what was on the intro

ChristinW: OK

KJackieO: MIRACLES Tech is modular and you and design the classes any way you want.

ChristinW: flexibility is good

KJackieO: We will get to that.

KJackieO: First, I want to show you how to get to the website and give you time to sign up for an account if you want to.

ChristinW: Ok

KJackieO: Very good.

ChristinW: What happened?

KJackieO: Don't know.

KJackieO: You can always sign up later if you would feel more comfortable doing that.

KJackieO: Then, we can talk about specifics on how to use the curriculum.

ChristinW: What is the website again?

KJackieO: http://www.miracles.org

BJB2: Christina, hold down ctrl when you click on the url

BJB2 . o O (that overrides pop up blockers)

KJackieO: When you get to the website, you will click on the yellow MIRACLES Tech tab at the top.

ChristinW: Thanks. I see the tab

KJackieO: Then, you will see 3 choices: Instructor Signup, Instructor Curriculum and Student Tests.

ChristinW: yes

KJackieO: We will go to the Instructor Signup.

KJackieO: When you sign up, in the section that asks "How did you hear about the MIRACLES Tech program?" please select "Conference or Workshop" and type "Tapped In" in the explanation box right below it.

KJackieO: Spend a couple of minutes signing up for an account and join us back here as soon as you can.

ChristinW: Okay

KJackieO: Good.

KJackieO: Select Links on the left hand menu and select the MIRACLES Tech link.

ChristinW: Does that have the Module 1,etc

KJackieO: Yes

ChristinW: I'm there

KJackieO: Good

JeffC joined the room.

RowenaM joined the room.

KJackieO: When you are signed up let me know and we can move on.

KJackieO: Hello Jeff and Rowena

RowenaM: I'm sorry, it took a bit to get the Java working on this computer.. Hello... what should we be signing up for?

RowenaM: I apologize for being late

KJackieO: http://www.miracles.org

KJackieO: We are signing up to be able to access the MIRACLES Tech Curriculum

KJackieO: No problem. Glad you could make it.

ChristinW: I think I am signed up:) I can click on Module 1

KJackieO: When you get to the website, you will click on the yellow MIRACLES Tech tab at the top.

KJackieO: Then, you will see 3 choices: Instructor Signup, Instructor Curriculum and Student Tests.

KJackieO: We will go to the Instructor Signup.

JeffC: great

KJackieO: Rowena, did you get that?

RowenaM: ahh yes ok

KJackieO: Take a couple of minutes to sign up and we will move on.

ChristinW nod

KJackieO: When you sign up, in the section that asks "How did you hear about the MIRACLES Tech program?" please select "Conference or Workshop" and type "Tapped In" in the explanation box right below it.

ChristinW nods

RowenaM: ok

KJackieO: Thanks

KJackieO: First of all, this is a free resource.

KJackieO: It is an instructor-led curriculum.

KJackieO: It is broken down into 8 project-based modules.

KJackieO: Each module runs between 12-15 program hours.

JeffC: I had signed up before, but still can't log in.

BJB2: Jeff, make sure you check the right tab

BJB2 . o O (miracles tech)

JeffC: I don't think I mentioned Tapped In though.

KJackieO: I will look into it Jeff and see what the problem may be.

JeffC: I'm only getting a "curriculum" option.

KJackieO: Jeff make sure you are logging into MIRACLES TECH and not MIRACLES.

ChristinW: I had that. Go back to the page where it said Module 1

KJackieO: Make sure you select the Yellow Tab

KJackieO: MIRACLES TECH

KJackieO: The modules can be used in any order, although the first 3 work well by going through them sequentially to give a really good basic foundation in technology.

KJackieO: The areas the modules cover are: basic tech skills, clay animation, web design (Frontpage), video production, image manipulation (Photoshop), robotics, intermediate web design (Dreamweaver) and web animation (Flash).

KJackieO: Each module includes planners to help organize the lessons.

KJackieO: And a materials list so that you know what you need.

KJackieO: There are detailed lesson plans, which I will show in just a minute.

KJackieO: They also have student guides that you can copy or print for your students as they walk through the projects.

KJackieO: I will use the Video Production module so that I can show you how to navigate through and use it.

KJackieO: Any questions right now?

RowenaM: no

KJackieO: Good.

KJackieO: We will be looking at some of the documents included in the Video Tech module.

KJackieO: An introduction to the module is included at the beginning of each module.

KJackieO: This introduction highlights what the objectives of the module are.

ChristinW: No. It is Module 4 right

BJB2: I've found that the modules are quite comprehensive!

JeffC: ok...I'm in now.

KJackieO: yes

KJackieO: For example, in the Video tech module, students move through the entire video production process.

KJackieO: The module uses Adobe Premiere software but there are also how-tos for Windows Movie Maker.

KJackieO: Good Jeff.

JeffC: ok... quick question... is this free for everyone?

KJackieO: If you have a different version of software, you should still be able to use the curriculum, but might have to make a few adjustments.

KJackieO: This curriculum is PC based, but can easily be adapted to MAC.

KJackieO: Absolutely

KJackieO: Free

KJackieO: N0 Charge to use the curriculum

JeffC: fantastic

KJackieO: Ad free website also.

ChristinW: Clarify ad free website

KJackieO: So you don't have to worry about anyone trying to sell you anything

ChristinW nods

KJackieO: There are no ads from any outside vendors.

KJackieO: MIRACLES website and everything is free of charge.

KJackieO: In the beginning of the binder there is a list of what students should be able to do by the time they complete the module.

KJackieO: Things like creating a storyboard and using video editing software to create a professional looking video.

RowenaM: If you don't mind me asking, who supplies all this and allows for this to be a completely free source?

KJackieO: You can download the curriculum free.

KJackieO: The Todd Wagner Foundation.

KJackieO: Go to the Files link on the left hand menu and open the Video Tech Description document.

KJackieO: Look over it for just a minute and then come to the chat and we will go on.

ChristinW: Is there a way they control its use>?

KJackieO: We do require that all teachers wanting to use it sign-up for an account.

KJackieO: That way we have some idea of who is using it or downloading it.

KJackieO: That's it.

JeffC: I downloaded the complete binder for Module 1.

KJackieO: It is copyrighted

ChristinW: I have the description document

JeffC: One thing I wish is that there was an online interactive version rather than .pdf.

KJackieO: You can download the complete binder but we also upload the individual sections (lesson plans)

KJackieO: PowerPoints, images, etc.

KJackieO: You mean that you would rather have a word document?

KJackieO: Do you have any questions?

RowenaM: Where do you find this type of curriculum works best....what kind of environment?

ChristinW: No. It seems very detailed

KJackieO: After-school, summer program

ChristinW: Is this geared more towards middle or high school students?

JeffC: no... not a word document... html.

KJackieO: But there are many teachers that use it in school.

KJackieO: Yes.

RowenaM: In these programs do you supply all the electronics the students may need? are there grants for things like this?

KJackieO: I got you.

KJackieO: That is something to think about.

KJackieO: I will ask Robin what she thinks about that.

KJackieO: Maybe we can come up with something.

KJackieO: MIRACLES Tech curriculum is aligned with the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS).

KJackieO: You can also find them here...
http://www.iste.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=NETS

KJackieO: The NETS are included for each lesson is listed in the yellow box on the first page of each plan in the upper right hand corner.

ChristinW: For students I assume?

ChristinW: Are they linked for teachers too?

KJackieO: There is a materials list in each module that tells you what you should have on hand to successfully complete it.

JeffC: it would be great to have the questions/quizzes online so that a student could just check the answers and submit them, and automatically be graded (using Quia, Quizstar, etc.). Of course, online quizzes all cost now.

KJackieO: The tests are online.

KJackieO: pre and post test

KJackieO: I love Quia and write it into the regular MIRACLES program.

KJackieO: I am going to let you explore on your own because we only have 10 minutes left.

KJackieO: I am going to move on

RowenaM: ok

ChristinW: ok

KJackieO: When we are done, If you will please visit the website and look at all the documents.

KJackieO: Look at one of the materials list.

KJackieO: 3 planners are included in each module.

KJackieO: Planners provide suggestions on how you can structure your class whether it is 1 week, 6-weeks, 12 weeks, or other time increments.

KJackieO: Lesson plans are written in one hour segments so you can easily adjust or modify the planners to fit your needs.

KJackieO: When you have time go to the Files link on the left hand menu and open the 1-Week Planner document.

KJackieO: Do you have any questions?

KJackieO: The lesson plans that are included all follow the same format.

KJackieO: A preparation section explains what you need to do to prepare to teach the lesson followed by a detailed, step-by-step, scripted (if you need it) lesson plan.

ChristinW: No but I don't have a files link. They are all clicks

RowenaM: Files on this page not the MIRACLES page

JeffC: I got an error message taking a student pre-test.

KJackieO: My link is working fine.

ChristinW: Maybe I have a different link but I see what you are talking about???

ChristinW: It's okay.

KJackieO: BJ will the participants be able to get back to my office after the session?

BJB2: yes, Jackie. To help, you might go to Add to my favorites at the top of the web window

JeffC: You might want to consider creating a "MIRACLES" group room here K Jackie.

JeffC: That way you could have educators join your group, etc.

KJackieO: They are designed so that a teacher with little or no technology experience can pick it up and run with it provided they know the software.

KJackieO: If the teacher does not know the software he/she probably learn enough to begin by working through the lessons and student guides.

KJackieO: I have and I will do that tomorrow.

JeffC: cool

KJackieO: Don't forget to add me to your favorites list so that you can come back and visit all the links.

KJackieO: They are designed so that a teacher with little or no technology experience can pick it up and run with it provided they know the software.

KJackieO: If the teacher does not know the software he/she probably learn enough to begin by working through the lessons and student guides.

ChristinW: OK. Thank you for everything (especially your patience).

KJackieO: No problem.

RowenaM: Yes! Thank you!

BJB2: Jackie, will you schedule another MIRACLES discussion for July?

ChristinW: The detail looks like it would be easy to pick up.

KJackieO: Students can take pre- and post- tests for each module online.

KJackieO: The website will score the test automatically.

KJackieO: However, it will not save testing information so you need to be sure to have the student print out his or her test with the score.

KJackieO: I will

BJB2 . o O (or did you want to wait till August?)

ChristinW: Good. okay.

KJackieO: What do you think would be better?

RowenaM: ok

BJB2: I'd wait till August when teachers will be getting ready to go back to school

ChristinW: August for the same reasons that BJ has

KJackieO: Then August

KJackieO: Let other teachers know.

KJackieO: They don't need to come to a Tapped In session to use this, but can if they want some explanation about the curriculum and how to use it.

KJackieO: As long as you are using for educational purposes, you can make as many copies as you would like and distribute them to your students.

RowenaM: But not too late because some teachers may want to get better acquainted with the material before Sept 1

KJackieO: I will shoot for the 1st week in August

KJackieO: Was this helpful? Do any of you think you will be able to use the curriculum?

KJackieO: Would you use it after or during school or in the summer?

KJackieO: What other questions do you have?

RowenaM: That sounds fair. Thanks!

ChristinW: This was interesting and new.

BJB2: Thanks, Jackie...this is a great program

KJackieO: Thanks. Sorry I had to rush.

ChristinW: I will look at it further and pass it on to the appropriate people in my district.

KJackieO: you can email us at support@miracles.org

KJackieO: With any additional questions.

ChristinW: I might use it to learn the info myself a little too:)\

RowenaM: I think because of the time requirements for different projects esp with the video curriculum, something like the video tech over a summer course would be best

ChristinW: Thanks.

JeffC: thanks much... this looks like some great stuff.

KJackieO: Thanks.

KJackieO: See you guys in August.

ChristinW: Bye--I have to go save the babysitter:)

RowenaM: thank you again for all your time and explanation'

BJB2 waves bye

KJackieO bye