

Talk Nerdy To Me

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Technology Integration Specialist Class of 2013

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CTE CLASSROOM BY: BOB JOHNSON

From Staff meetings to lesson plan reviews to state CTE conferences, we have all been hearing it for years now, “You need to be using more technology in your classrooms. Here at Fred W. Eberle Technical Center we are not lacking in technology. Every classroom is equipped with a laptop computer, Interwrite whiteboard, digital projector, and I-pad. We also have 2 mobile computer labs containing 30 laptops each, and this year we added a 30 tablet mobile lab. My problem has been the same for years, as a diesel equipment technology instructor, I have struggled to find different ways to use this technology in my classroom. A couple of years ago I piloted an online training program called [ToolingU](#), but unfortunately they had no content that was diesel specific. However, if any of your schools have ma-

chine trades, welding or metal works program, they should look into this because there is dozens of courses related to these trades.

Attention all Auto and diesel tech instructors, there is good news everyone, to quote one my favorite survivor songs, “The search is over.” Jones & Bartlett Learning has developed 2 new, complete online training programs designed specifically for our students titled [CDX automotive](#) and [CDX Heavy vehicle](#). I piloted the CDX heavy vehicle last year and my students loved it. Most of the same material that I have been teaching, preaching, and power pointing my students to death with over the past several years is covered in the online courses. Don’t get me wrong, I still teach the



Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

same way I always have; however, the CDX is a great way of reinforcing the students learning, and since it has audio the students get to hear someone else’s voice besides mine. Furthermore, there is air conditioning and hydraulics course that I try to squeeze in since they are important areas of instruction which are not included in the current diesel tech. CSO’s. If it’s cost you are worried about, worry no more. Both ToolingU, and CDX as well as with

TALK NERDY

CDX CONTINUED

I-CAR for the collision repair programs are 100% funded by the WVDE. You may be asking yourself with Key Train, WIN, and everything else, when will I ever have time to fit this in. The answer has to come from you; however, with so much emphasis being placed on 21st century learning and instruction, you may want to make time. As an example, what I do is set aside

one day a week for web based training, bring in one of our mobile labs, and assign a course module for completing by the end of the class period. Anyone interested in any of the programs discussed in this article can contact me at my e-mail for more information.



“We need technology in every classroom and in every student and teacher’s hand, because it is the pen and paper of our time, and it is the lens through which we experience much of our world.”

– David Warlick

PRESENTATION TUBE

Looking for a tool that will let you create and share your and/or your students’ presentations? I ran across this new toll the other day. It was last updated in December 2012.

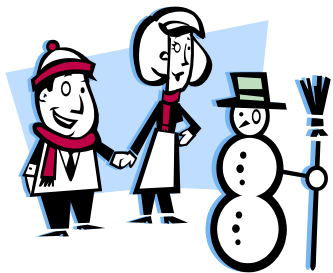
Presentation Tube is a web service that lets its users share the presentations they have created. You create these presenta-

tions using the site’s desktop tool for Windows called Presentation Tube Recorder. With the application you create PowerPoint format presentations that you can edit using a variety of slides, drawing tools, audio, and video.

The presentations you create can then be directly uploaded to Presentation Tube

where people can stream it as a video. The video presentation can also be embedded on other websites or shared on social networks.

More information can be found at:
http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech-in-the-classroom/presentationtube.shtml



Turn your snow days into joy days.

SNOW DAYS ...JOY DAYS

It is becoming more and more common to need to have a back up plan for students when school is closed due to weather. It can be something as simple as a few worksheets on basic skill review. Some teachers as-

sign a grade appropriate book report. Well since we are wanting the students to utilize more technology in their free time, how about providing some educational websites for the students to research. It is imperative to

include websites on all subjects. A great resource for teachers to find websites is symbaloo.

<http://www.symbaloo.com/>



5 WEB TOOLS TO MAKE YOU A BETTER WRITER

As the Writing Assessment nears and we search for helpful sites that help us in our writing, these webtools might help you and/or your students become better writers by having less distraction while the work is being done.

1. **PlagTracker** can be used to check your writing for any accidental plagiarism. It is easy to use and free. <http://www.plagtracker.com/>
2. **Focus Writer** is a writing tool that emphasizes on a distraction free writing environment. It provides a clean writing space to keep you from being distracted while writing. The user interface is hidden

in on the edges of the screen. <http://gottcode.org/focuswriter/>

3. **Ommwriter** This writing tool will allow you to write your entire work by using the keyboard instead of the mouse because of the keyboard shortcuts. <http://www.ommwriter.com/>
4. **Q10** The user interface includes nothing but a small toolbar that shows the character, word and page count for the paper you are working on. <http://www.baara.com/q10/>
5. **WriteRoom** includes backup and

6. synchronization. <http://www.hogbayssoftware.com/products/writeroom>



All of these writing tools are free to use.

TEXTING IN THE CLASSROOM: 3 TOOLS TO DO IT RIGHT

My seven year old daughter is learning how to text. I have noticed that she is wanting to spell the words correctly instead of using the “slang” that older kids do. It has made me revisit some of the texting options out there. Not only do kids want to text their friends but I have parents who would rather receive a text instead of the regular notes going home.

I have found the following 3 sites that might be useful in your classroom.

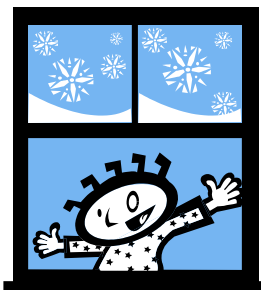
1. Remind101
2. ClassPager
3. ClassParrot

Each of these sites allows teachers to send

messages from their computers and the phone numbers are kept private.

More information can be gathered at <http://edudemic.com/2013/01/texting-in-the-classroom/>

“It is not about the technology; it’s about sharing knowledge and information, communicating efficiently, building learning communities and creating a culture of professionalism in schools. These are the key responsibilities of all educational leaders”. – [Marion Ginapolis](#)



Where is the snow?

CCEE-COMMON CORE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Another acronym for us to learn...Yeah! Putnam County hosted a training from the state department introducing its special education teachers to the new common core essential elements. This was both an exciting and intellectually draining class. Our teaching toolbox is growing. Learning that all students should be in the LRE (least restrictive environment and not just self-contained) is not new, but having the tools to show general

education teachers strategies on how to incorporate our students was priceless.

For months, teachers have either ignored or complained about the common core standards, even going so far to state how special education teachers have it made (since we did not have any). Now special education teachers will be held to the same content as general teachers. With the use of technology every standard

can be taught. Every standard is broken down in to four levels so that it is easier to identify the student’s knowledge base. It is now the special education teacher’s job to share these resources and work with the core content teacher so the modifications are in place to ensure student’s success. The overall goal: get more students graduating with a regular not modified diploma.

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Upcoming Events



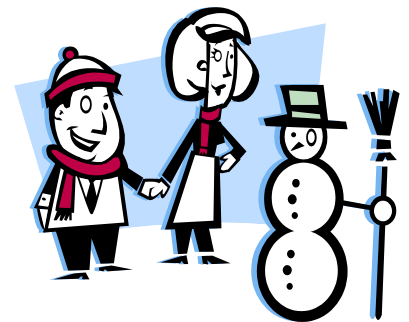
Important ISTE dates

<i>February 13, 2013</i>	<i>Access program online</i>
<i>March 31, 2013</i>	<i>Super early bird registration ends</i>
<i>May 01, 2013</i>	<i>Early bird registration ends</i>
<i>June 07, 2013</i>	<i>Mail in registration ends</i>

TIS RENEWAL, P.D. C.E. CERTIFICATE RENEWAL, PAYRAISES BY: BOB JOHNSON

Hopefully by now most of you have taken the Intel course through WV Learns. However; what you may or may not be aware of is that you can use this and other WV Learns courses for TIS renewal, Professional Development, Continuous Ed., Certificate Renewals, and pay raises. WVU, Marshall, and Concord University all offer 3 hours of Non-Degree Graduate Credit for qualifying courses at a rate of \$167, \$120, and \$99 respectively. Many teachers are unaware of this fact so spread the word to your co-

workers because nothing will make you look like more of a genius than saving someone money. Also, some of these courses are really interesting and stuffed full of valuable information. Recently 2 of my coworkers and myself signed up for the Google Applications for the Classroom course. Furthermore, all you TISs in training, if the course is considered a technology course' which most seem to be, you can get 45 hours towards the required 57 hours of elective study.



If you are experiencing technology overload, take a break and spend some time with your family.