

# TALK NERDY TO ME

KEEPING WV TEACHERS UPDATED WITH EMERGENT TECHNOLOGY VOL.1, NO.5

## KEEPING "ON TOP" IN HANCOCK COUNTY - BY KATHY GRIFFITH

Three years ago, Weir Middle School (Hancock County) became a PDS (Professional Development School). This Bethany College/ Hancock County RTI-PDS partnership was one of three such PDS partnerships funded by the WVDE to develop models for implementing RTI (now known as Support for Personalized Learning "SPL" in WV schools.)

We rolled up our sleeves! Of course, there was no manual; we were "building the plane in the air." The team consisted of two administrators, a college liaison, and three RTI teacher interventionists (yes, I was one of them). Grant funding allowed for the purchase of assessment materials, RTI tiers were assigned, intervention software was purchased, an RTI computer lab was created, and college students regularly assisted. Other counties, along with the state department, began to take notice and sent representatives to learn from us.

At the same time that RTI was progressing, a PLC room was created, complete with a central round table, shelves with slots for each student where a data folder was kept, and several laptops, etc. It is in this room that teachers/students/parents could gather each day.

Student Led Conferences were initiated in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Finally, students were able to take charge of their own learning and confidently explain their progress (or lack of progress) to their parents. Data folders were compiled as students became familiar with their own personal



data.

The team was honored to be asked to present at the National PDS

Conference in New Orleans in March 2010! And to think, it all started with just a handful of educators with a dream and a willingness to come together to create something truly amazing!

Bringing you up to speed: WMS continues to deliver the RTI initiative today. The PLC room continues to be used as a meeting place for grade level PLCs, and Student Led Conferences are now replacing Open House. Currently, WMS students have been busily preparing for this event as they learn to take charge of their own learning.

Be sure to check out our New Orleans powerpoint for more details! : <http://bit.ly/SGmnDb>



## WEB2.0 MONTHLY PICK- SCOOTPAD-BY CHRYSTALLE DOYLE



If you are looking for a Web 2.0 free tool to cover common core Math and Reading standards for K-5, look no

further than ScootPad. This program offers a lot for free. You can set up your class. You can also make more than one group for personalization of learning. The students get to choose an avatar and also be

"friends" with fellow ScootPad users. There are pre-scripted messages they can send to each other. ScootPad also has a free app in Edmodo and Schoology. Check it out and sign up at [www.scootpad.com](http://www.scootpad.com)

## Newsletter Team

### Members



Chrystalle Doyle– Mason County TIS. Serving Ashton, Beale and Hannan 304-576-9931  
[ccrabtre@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:ccrabtre@access.k12.wv.us)



Kathy Griffith-Hancock County teacher Special Ed 5-8 - Weir Middle School 304-748-6080  
[kmgriffi@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:kmgriffi@access.k12.wv.us)



Wayne Bennett-Berkeley County Science Teacher Hedgesville Middle School 304-754-3313  
[wybennet@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:wybennet@access.k12.wv.us)



Sharon Claggett-MA-CCC-SLP Lumberport Elem/Lincoln High Harrison County 304-326-7027  
[sckagett@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:sckagett@access.k12.wv.us)

## UPGRADING TO IOS 6 BY CHRYSTALLE DOYLE

iOS 6 is here and offers Facebook integration, faster processing speeds, longer battery life, turn by turn navigation, declining calls with text messages, and panorama photos. But be warned, not all features work on all devices. iPhone 4S and iPad 3 get the lion's share of upgrades with the new operating system. What devices are upgradable? The iPhone 3GS, 4 and 4S. iPod 4th and 5th generation only and iPad 2 and iPad3.

What's good– iPad 3 gets Siri when you update. iPad 2 doesn't. What's not good- YouTube and Google maps get kicked off the home screen. Google maps has been replaced by Tom Tom driven Maps created in house. Apple is trying to remove all ties



to Google, which isn't always best for the user. There have also been some problems with losing Wi-Fi after upgrading. Make sure you do your research before upgrading. As always, remember to back up before you change over. Be sure, not sorry.

To find out more- <http://bit.ly/PX6Vmh>

## THE NEW IPHONE 5-BY WAYNE BENNETT

The new iPhone (the biggest thing to happen to iPhone since iPhone hit the shelves September 21<sup>st</sup>. Apple, as always, has created quite a bit of "noise" over their latest electronic gadget. While the new iPhone looks like an excellent product, it's not perfect.

### What I like:

- Lightweight/thinner design
- Faster Speed A6 chip

- iSight – better camera (with panorama)
- IOS6

### What I don't like:

- Passbook (what is it and why is it there?)
- Maps (I know they are separating from Google, but their new app has a long way to go).
- Power cord/USB (yeah the old one was a pain, but now I have to buy all new attachments).



All things considered, I think the iPhone 5 is a solid product and the best iPhone to date. Let's face it, even without Steve Jobs, Apple continues to crank out A++ products!

To learn more about the new iPhone 5 click the link.

<http://bit.ly/Q3w2pA>

## ACUITY AND BRAIN POP TEAM UP



If you haven't heard, Acuity and BrainPop are now

working together to help improve test scores through instructional resources in Acuity tied to tested standards. If your school has a subscription to Brain Pop, you just need to enter your school user name and password and then all the movies will be correlated to skills that are tested in Acuity. This is to help enhance instruction. If you don't have a subscription CTB can set you up with one. Check out the Acuity Community for upcoming and recorded webinars about enhancements to Acuity.



### FREE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

#### **Pomeroy Smart Conference**

October 27 –8:00-3:00

West Side Elementary  
Charleston, WV

Register Now. Click the link

<http://bit.ly/QQBORD>



## ONLINE P.E. INTEGRATION

BY SHARON CLAGETT

Let's show the nation that daily physical activity is a priority in West Virginia. Sign up your school at

<http://www.jamworldrecord.org/>

JAM World Record 2012 is a national physical activity campaign led by schools and kids, which invite everyone to pause for just a minute to do the national JAM routine. This initiative has been created to:

- inspire America to move!
- raise awareness about the importance of making good health choices and making physical activity a daily habit.
- recognize the need to support schools to provide quality PE and PA for kids.
- spotlight educators for their work that creates a healthier nation.

### WV Is #1: Let's Move!

Start JAMMIN' WV students and use technology to promote physical activity. Lumberport Elementary and other schools in West Virginia are using the physical activity routine video online at :

<http://www.jamworldrecord.org/>

and making great activity breaks during the school day. WV started the school year in 2<sup>nd</sup> place for schools participating but has moved into 1<sup>st</sup> Place! Spread the word about this great way to get students moving this school year.

It's EASY, FUN and HEALTHY! Something EVERYONE can do and do together! It costs nothing! For additional information, contact Mary Weikle [mweikle@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:mweikle@access.k12.wv.us) or your



BY-WAYNE BENNETT

Berkeley County Schools kicked off its anti-bullying campaign this year. The following is a summary of what Berkeley County Schools is doing to prevent bullying.

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) prevents or reduces bullying in elementary, middle and junior high schools (students ages five to fifteen). OBPP is not a curriculum, but a program that deals with bullying at the individual, classroom, school and community levels.

Here is a list of Berkeley County's Anti-Bullying rules.

- We will not bully others.
- We will try to help students who are bullied.
- We will try to include students who are left out.
- If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school, and an adult at home.

Each week students are also engaged in guidance lessons that educate them in ways to deal with and stop bullying. For more information check out this link!

<http://bit.ly/PFWEKJ>



**Jury: Samsung copied Apple, should pay at least \$1.049 billion in damages.**

What will the future hold for Samsung and all its gadgets? Apple slapped Samsung with a \$1billion plus lawsuit alleging that Samsung infringed on many of its patents. If the lawsuit holds up, Samsung may have to come up with new ways for their phones and tablets to function. The lawsuit alleges that Samsung willingly stole multiple “utility patents”. Two of the utility patent infringements include a “bounce-back” and “tap-to-zoom” feature. Samsung is currently appealing the lawsuit and a decision is expected to be made in the next few weeks.

Everyone in the tech world is anxiously awaiting the court’s decision. Only time will tell.

**Upcoming TIS Group Meetings**

Oct. 12– RESA I

Oct. 25– RESA V

Oct. 26– RESA II

Nov. 9– RESA IV

Nov. 16– RESA III

These group meetings are a way for current TIS candidates to meet with experienced TIS professionals to collaborate and learn from each other

To sign up go to <http://bit.ly/Tr4uhG>

**READING AND TECHNOLOGY-THE FINAL FRONTIER**—BY SHARON CLAGETT

Science and reading collide in a technological adventure in Rebecca Jones’ classroom at Lumberport Elementary in Harrison County. When reading the story “A Walk in the Desert” by Caroline Arnold, her students were confronted with learning vocabulary words such as sand dunes, climate, arid, haven, forbidding, cactus, harsh, coyote, landform, discovery and precipitation. What are the students going to do?

Mrs. Jones had an idea! Each student

took a word and drew a picture to illustrate the word’s meaning. They each created a sentence using the words and wrote them on the artwork. Using a mobile iPad lab, students took photos of their masterpieces with their assigned iPads and “beamed” the photo to Mrs. Jones’ iPad using iPhoto. Then the students created a movie of the photos using iMovie. It was fun to make audio recordings of their sentences and word definitions that were used as the sound track.



The finished movie helped everyone learn the vocabulary and enjoy the story. Mission accomplished! Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock would be proud.



**SIMPLE K12 OFFERS FREE PD**

If you’ve never been to the website for simplek12, you are missing out. This site offers quality professional development from well-known educators. Follow them on Twitter @simplek12.

They now offer a free membership option in addition to the paid membership. With the free option, you can sign up for nearly all their live webinars. You can also get four tutorials and two archived webinars per year. The paid membership offers unlimited access to all the resources. There are literally hundreds of archived webinars in every subject area. Full membership is \$297 but they will usually offer a discounted rate during the webinar.

They also offer quantity discounts for schools and they take P.O.s. This is a great service to teachers. Counties just can’t provide the professional development with the depth and breadth of the areas covered here. Head to your computer to register and sign up. Check out these upcoming webinars in October.

<http://www.simplek12.com>

- October 13– 3:00 PM iPad Tips for Teachers
- October 17-2:30 PM Webtool Smackdown
- October 23-2:30 PM iPads in the Special Needs Classroom



Do you ever feel like your students need a little extra math practice? Well, they can get this practice for free at XtraMath.

Go and sign up for a free account at [www.xtramath.org](http://www.xtramath.org) This site is dedicated to helping students learn math facts. As a teacher, you receive a classroom code. Then you enter your students names and the program generates a PIN number for each student. The student then logs in by using the classroom code and finding his or her name and entering the PIN number. The student then practices math facts daily.

Once a student reaches mastery of a fact set, a certificate is available to them and they move to the next set of facts. XtraMath teaches addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts in that order. The students can finish XtraMath in less than 10 minutes a day. This program provides a solid foundation for Fact Fluency. Check it out and sign up today.

Make your own Tagxedo  
[www.tagxedo.com](http://www.tagxedo.com)



## YLI 2012 National Mock Election Is Here! -By Sharon Clagett

Youth Leadership Initiative's 2012 National Mock election will be open for student voting from October 22-November 1. Teachers may register with YLI and have the opportunity to engage their students by allowing them to take part in this important national election. This is the largest secure, student-only, online mock election in the nation, using electronic ballots tailored to each student's home legislative district. Teachers in all 50 states use YLI's Mock election. Over 3 million votes were cast in the 2008 election.



This year's National Mock Election features:

- Supporting lesson plans.
- FREE online teacher resources include downloadable posters, decorations and stickers to generate election excitement in your school.
- Customize your ballot! The default ballot includes races for the presidency, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, and Governor. Make your mock election meaningful for your students by adding local or school races.
- Flexible voting period. Voting can occur anytime during the stated period of October 22-November 1 at 6 pm (Eastern Time).
- Results for the mock elections will be available online on November 2. To view results, return to the National Election tab and click on the "Results" link. You will see the results for your class, school, state and the nation.

all students at that school to participate. However, if multiple classes in your school are participating and the teachers want to see their individual class' results in addition to the school and state, they will need to be registered and use their own Teacher Code when voting. Being registered also gives them access to YLI's supporting resources.

Educators already registered with YLI need only to log in at [www.youthleadership.net](http://www.youthleadership.net) and click the Mock Election link from the Welcome page. The Getting Started tab will have all the resources necessary to make voting in the 2012 National Mock Election a success. Not registered yet? Sign up with YLI for free to have access to the National Mock Election, lesson plans, online resources, and more.

YLI hopes the 2012 National Mock Election will increase student interest in the election and engage students in American democracy. Have questions? Call toll-free 1.866.514.8389 or email [ylihelp@virginia.edu](mailto:ylihelp@virginia.edu) for more information.

An unlimited number of teachers can be registered from a single school, but only one educator needs to be signed up in order for