

Supporting Innovative Classrooms

MARCH 2010

2010 Update

Over the past month, I have been meeting with you to discuss your projects and have been inspired by the things I have heard. I have heard that Supporting Innovative Classrooms is an important project; the timing of the project is perfect; it connects many existing initiatives; administrators are key players in creating a shared vision of technology infusion; and this project is changing the type of conversations in the jurisdictions.

I have also had the opportunity to go to a couple of schools and see the technology being used by students. We are definitely in a digital world. The students were either using student owned laptops/netbooks or they had access to those owned by the school. The students were excited about being able to access their work 24-7. Cell phones are being used in one Biology 20 class that I visited, where over 60% of the students used their own mobile devices to access school information.

Wow and congratulations.

I cannot overemphasize my own excitement following the conversations I have had with you and your teams. I have shared the good news with my colleagues in the School Technology Branch and all I can say is keep up the good work.

I am looking forward to our next meeting following your interim reports. If there is anything I can do in the meantime to support your project, don't hesitate to contact me.

Marilyn

Passport to the Internet



Alberta Education has signed a licensing agreement with Media Awareness Network for their *Passport to the Internet* online student resource, which is aimed at helping students to develop critical thinking skills for their online experiences. Using simulations of the most popular Internet environments, this interactive resource teaches students about online safety, authenticating online information, recognizing online marketing ploys, protecting their privacy, managing online relationships and dealing with cyberbullying.

Through the licensing agreement, all schools with Grades 4 to 8 students will be able to access the resource at no cost, until August 31, 2011. A teachers' guide is also available for this resource. Information on accessing this information has been sent out to all Jurisdiction Technology Contacts.

More information on the resource is available online at <http://education.alberta.ca/admin/technology/tools-and-resources.aspx>. For more information, contact Edna Dach at Edna.Dach@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-644-4586.

VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

Educational Leaders inspire a shared vision for comprehensive integration of technology and foster an environment and culture conducive to the realization of that vision.

**Standard 1 ISTE
NETS**

Emerge 2010 Summit

Registration Update: Early bird rates end on **March 31, 2010******

Sign up now to get the best rate!

A contemporary education, that equips all children for their future, can be effectively provided with technology. Today's schools have the ability to leverage technology to provide a contemporary education that is relevant, assistive, meaningful, authentic, intellectually complex and engaging. Through years of comprehensive research, Alberta Education has learned a great deal about the role of technology in transformational change.

The EmERGE 2010 Summit will examine the latest research on the use of technology in schools and provide first-hand accounts of transformational change in the classroom.



Internationally renowned speakers

Bruce Dixon - president of Anywhere Anytime Learning Foundation, educator, educational software developer, business and social entrepreneur, and strategic consultant. Bruce builds effective strategies for educational leaders and policy makers around the effective use of emerging technologies.

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

Sharon Friesen - co-founder and president of the Galileo Educational Network and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary. Sharon consults on a wide range of teaching and learning topics related to curriculum reform and school improvement. <http://galileo.org/>

Donald Knezek - CEO of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE®). Don is a leader of innovation for transforming education with technology and recognized globally for his leadership in collaboration, planning and standards development. <http://www.iste.org/>

Cheryl Lemke - President and CEO of the Metiri Group. Cheryl specializes in public policy for K-12 learning technology, working internationally at a variety of levels with policy leaders, governors, legislators, superintendents, business leaders and teachers. <http://metiri.com/>

David Merrill - graduate student at MIT's Media Lab and one of the creators of the Siftables project. Siftables are cookie-sized computers with motion sensing, neighbor detection, graphical display, and wireless communication that users physically manipulate to interact with digital information and media. A video of David Merrill

demonstrating Siftables is available [here](#). If you have not seen these, this is a must watch!

There are a wide variety of sessions that will be delivered by Alberta educators!

Keep an eye on the [program](#) - new speakers are being added as they are confirmed!

Visit the

Emerge 2010 Summit website

<http://emerge2010.galileonetwork.ca/>

Webinar Series—PD Opportunity

You are invited to participate in the First Annual Professional Improvement Fellowship (PIF) Webinar Series hosted by People Development in the Calgary Board of Education.

April 14, 2010 at 4:30 PM **What Structures Are Necessary for Effective Technology Implementation?**
Stephen Moses and Ken Weipert

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Educational Leaders
 model and facilitate
 social, ethical and legal
 issues and
 responsibilities
 Standard 5 ISTE NETS

What is a practical approach to execute a plan for the use of technology in schools today? What are the structures needed and why are they necessary for effective technology implementation? How does this impact Personal Development for teachers and administrators? Can this develop capacity among staff in a school with respect to implementation of new technologies? The presenters of this webinar will discuss their findings and research on some of the aspects of technology planning for school environments. They will explore accessibility as a result of technology and discuss structuring accessible learning environments through the use of technology. Finally, the presenters will explore the cultural conditions for implementing technology in school settings.

Webinars are offered online through the use of Elluminate. Participants will require a headset with a microphone. Links to the webinar will be sent out the day prior to the webinar itself.

To register, click here [Register Now](#).

Leading Our Way Forward—Leadership Conference

April 19th and 20th, 2010
Shaw Conference Centre - Edmonton

In partnership with CASS, the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium is proud to present an interactive and collaborative learning opportunity for jurisdiction leaders and their leadership team.

As we prepare our students for a world that is rapidly changing, the educational leaders of today must work to build learning environments that will offer our students the opportunity to develop the skills they will need to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The conference will provide jurisdiction and school leaders with the opportunity to build 21st century ecosystems in our schools – environments where growth of 21st century skills are available for today's students. It will focus on developing instructional leadership capacity in the area of effective integration of learning technologies into the instructional process.

Three expert keynote presenters, Julie Evans, Jim Hirsch and Bernajean Porter, will collaboratively share their knowledge and experience, and will work with jurisdiction teams to develop and/or refine their district learning technology plans through a process focused on the essential conditions of effective implementation.

Registration fees are \$250 per person. More information is available at www.eric.ca on the Programs page under the Leadership workshop theme.

SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT

Educational Leaders provide
 leadership to continuously
 improve the organization
 through the effective use of
 information and technology
 resources
 Standard 4 ISTE NETS

References of Interest

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Williamson, Jo & Redish, Traci. 2009. *ISTE's Technology Facilitation and Leadership Standards: What Every K-12 Leader Should Know and Be Able to Do*. ISTE http://www.iste.org/source/Orders/isteProductDetail.cfm?product_code=tlprep

Victoria J. Rideout, Ulla G. Foehr and Donald F. Roberts. January 2010. *Generation M2: Media in the Lives of 8-18 Year Olds*. A Kaiser Family Foundation Study <http://www.kff.org/entmedia/8010.cfm>

Ontario Public School Boards' Assoc. Jan. 2010. *What if? Technology in the 21st Classroom*. http://www.opsba.org/index.php?q=news/what_if_technology_in_the_21st_century_classroom

Digitally Inclined: Teachers Increasingly Value Media and Technology. 2009. GA Grunwald Associates LLC. http://www.pbs.org/teachers_files/pdf/annual-pbs-survey-report.pdf

Digital Citizenship using Technology Appropriately. Retrieved Feb 2010. <http://www.digitalcitizenship.net/>

Cheryl Lemke and Ed Coughlin. 2009. *Leadership for Web 2.0 in Education: Promise & Reality*. Metiri Group.

<http://www.cosn.org/Portals/7/docs/Web%202.0/CoSN%20Report%20042809Final%20w-cover.pdf>

Alberta Education. 2009. *Your Key to Success: Administrator's Guide to Raising Alberta's High School Completion Rate*. <http://www.education.alberta.ca/media/1164696/hsc-key-to-success.pdf>

Youtube: *Did You Know* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ILQrUrEWe8>

Youtube: *You Can't Be My Teacher* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VSymMbMYHA>

Youtube: *Is Social Media A Fad?*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFYpQjYhv8&feature=youtu.be&a>

DIGITAL-AGE LEARNING CULTURE

Educational leaders ensure that curricular design, instructional strategies, and learning environments integrate appropriate technologies to maximize learning and teaching
Standard 2 ISTE-NETS

EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Educational Leaders promote professional learning and innovation that empowers educators to enhance student learning through the infusion of contemporary technologies and digital resources.
Standard 3 ISTE NETS

School Technology Branch

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