

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY NEWSLINE

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April 2010: Volume 11, Number 6

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INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY SECTION UPDATE

DESE Budgets / Grant Programs

FY10 Education Technology and Safe Schools Programs

Grant recipients are reminded that expenditures for Materials/Supplies (6400) and Capital Outlay (6500) must be obligated by March 31.

Federal Title II.D ARRA-funded Formula Grants – Allocation update!

The 2009-10 Title II.D ARRA formula grant allocations are subject to change pending a final determination of bypass withholdings. If handled similar to the regular Title II.D bypass withholding, districts can likely expect a reduction – in order to avoid overpayments, DESE Federal Programs Financial Management issued a February 19 financial update stating that districts “are limited to request no more than 70% of their total approval budget for payment.”

FY11 Education Technology and Safe Schools Programs – Preliminary budget information

Proposed State and Federal ed-tech funding

Other than providing capacity to operate the federal Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT) Program, the state is unlikely to allocate ed-tech-specific funding. With regards to federal funding, the FY10 Consolidated Appropriations Act signed by the President on December 16, 2009, funds the Title II.D program at \$100 million (representing a nearly two-thirds decrease).

- **FY11 Title II.D Program**
The 2010-11 Missouri program will be 100% competitive. The estimated appropriation is sufficient to grant continuation grants only, and there won't be a call for new first-year applications. While there won't be new formula funding for 2010-11, districts having remaining FY10 funds after June 30, 2010, should budget these carryover funds in their 2010-11 NCLB Consolidated applications.
- **FY12 Proposed Ed-tech Funding**
In February, the Obama Administration released its FY11 education budget request – funding that would be distributed to states and schools in 2011-12. This proposal consolidates 38 education programs into 11 new program areas, with much of the funding awarded through competitive grants.

If approved, the Title II.D program would not be funded. According to a White House publication and a February ED conference call, technology would be an allowable use across many of the 11 program areas. Further, the new initiative called Effective Teaching

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and Learning for a Complete Education would “include a focus on integrating technology into instructional and using technology to drive improvements in teaching and learning” throughout the three focus areas: Literacy, STEM, and Well-rounded Education. At this time, it is unclear how much of the \$1 billion budgeted for the Effective Teaching and Learning Initiative would be spent on education technology.

FY11 Safe Schools Program – Preliminary budget information

The budget presented by the Governor in January proposed to fund the Safe Schools Grant Program at \$683,000, enough to continue supporting 15 existing grants. However, the House and Senate have not completed budget bills and the state is facing further budget deficits. While the future of the Safe Schools grant program is uncertain at this time, contacts for grants in their second and third year have been directed to submit preliminary applications [for year three or year four funding] by April 30. Should the program receive funding for FY11, DESE Instructional Technology will work with those eligible districts in completing and approving their applications.

MOREnet K-12 Technology Network Program (TNP) – Budget updates

<http://www.more.net/content/k-12-technology-network-program>

As reported previously, the MOREnet core budget item received a series of reductions for FY10, with the FY11 funding outlook following a similar course. MOREnet and DESE staffs and the MOREnet Council have been analyzing various strategies for dealing with the decreased funding, for this year and next. TNP members can expect correspondence soon from MOREnet regarding increased fees for FY11. Note, however, that the new fee structure will not be finalized until there is more certainty regarding final FY10 and FY11 funding levels.

Census of Technology – Core data entry due April 15!

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/inststech/statefunded/census/>

The data entry for the 2010 Census of Technology (Core Data Screens 30 and 31) is now open and ends April 15. Note that an updated FAQ, excerpted Core Data Manual instructions, and paper survey forms are posted on the COT website.

The annual Census of Technology (COT) provides important data for the Department to assess Missouri’s continuing investment in K-12 education technologies and share with state and national decision-makers to advance public policy and increase public awareness and support for education technology. It is aligned with the *Missouri Education Technology Strategic Plan (METSP)*, the *Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP)*, and the *National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)*. The COT serves as a primary data source for measuring progress toward meeting state goals and objectives.

COT is an online census (or survey) administered each spring via DESE Core Data-April Cycle Screens 30 and 31.

- *Screen 30* is a district-level census, completed by district-level administrators and/or technology specialists; it collects information for all Missouri school districts and charter LEAs, focusing on technology for the district/LEA as a whole.
- *Screen 31* is a school building census, completed by building administrators and/or technology staff; it assesses planning and training needs for each school, hardware and levels of Internet connectivity in computer labs, libraries, and classrooms, and technology usage statistics for building administrators, teachers, staff, and students. Note: All attendance centers, including preschools, elementary schools, middle schools, junior high schools, high schools, area career centers, complete *Screen 31*.

Regular Featured Items

- Upcoming Conferences
- Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities
- Videoconferences / Collaborative Projects
- Learning Opportunities
- From the Mailbag
- Newest eTHEMES
- Updated eTHEMES

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2010 Item Revision! Note that the first Technology Usage item on Screen 31 has been updated to align with the online educational resources available through MOREnet: Gale Databases replaced EBSCOhost.

STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS**e-Learning for Educators Program releases research results**

<http://www.aptv.org/APTPLUS/ELearning/impact.asp>

According to latest research findings for the e-Learning for Educators program, “high-quality online professional development courses can positively affect teacher content knowledge, teaching practices, and student achievement.” The research was conducted by Boston College to assess the effects of the online professional development in: 1) improving teacher content knowledge, 2) improving instructional practice and, subsequently, 3) improving student academic achievement.

Findings demonstrate that the e-Learning courses and process can have a positive impact on teaching and learning, in that both teachers and students made statistically significant improvements, and suggesting evidence of some cause-and-effect change due to the online professional development and those improvements did not occur by chance.

Missouri has been a member of the ten-state, five-year, *ED Ready to Teach* grant since October 2005. The purpose of the grant project is to develop a sustainable, systemic delivery of online professional development for teachers, particularly those in high-need schools. Partners include state education agencies and public broadcast stations in Alabama, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Alabama Public Television administers the grant; Boston College and Education Development Center staff provided technical assistance, consultation, and evaluation.

The five-page attachment provides a brief overview of the results. Note that more detailed results are available at: <http://www.aptv.org/APTPLUS/ELearning/impact.asp>.

ED releases ESEA reauthorization blueprint

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/blueprint/index.html>

On March 13, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) released a 45-page blueprint for revising the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which would ask states to adopt college- and career-ready standards and reward schools for producing dramatic gains in student achievement. The *Blueprint for Reform* “challenges the nation to embrace educational standards that would put America on a path to global leadership.”

The Blueprint (and proposed FY11 budget) consolidates 38 education programs into 11 new program areas, with much of the funding awarded through competitive grants. While this eliminates the Title II.D *Enhancing Education through Technology* (EETT) program, there is a statement of support for state and local educational technology leadership, technology is mentioned in several places throughout the document, and technology is addressed in the first cross-cutting priority for grant programs.

White House releases statement of ed-tech commitment

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/edtech%20final.pdf>

At the time the Obama administration released its proposed FY11 budget, the White House released a statement emphasizing commitment to educational technology. According to *A New Foundation for 21st Century Learning: Education Technology Investments in the 2011 Budget*, the budget makes a commitment to technology that transforms how educators teach and how students learn. “The President strongly believes that technology, when used creatively and effectively, can transform education...” It makes a broad array of Department of Education programs, including the \$500 million “Investing in Innovation” Fund, eligible for technology-related investments; encourages the infusion of educational technology across a broad range of programs in order to improve teaching and learning; and plans to build capacity at the state and local level to support better uses of technology for efficient and effective transfer of knowledge.

State and National News, cont'd.**ED releases national ed-tech plan draft**

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/index.html>

ED released a draft of the new National Education Technology Plan (NETP), titled *Transforming American Education: Learning Powered by Technology*. Announced March 5, the plan describes how information and communication technologies can help transform American education and provides concrete goals to inform state and local educational technology plans, and recommendations to inspire research, development, and innovation.

The plan is centered on five main goals, related to learning, teaching, assessment, infrastructure, and productivity. It calls for engaging and empowering learning experiences for all students; standards and assessments that measure key 21st-century skills and expertise; a shift to a model of “connected teaching,” in which teams of interconnected educators replace solo classroom practitioners; always-on connectivity that is available to students and teachers both inside and outside of school; and a rethinking of basic assumptions, such as seat time, that limit schools’ ability to innovate.

According to Secretary Duncan this a draft plan and ED is open to your comments, asking educators to "Tell us about how technology has changed your school or classroom."

To read the full report, see: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/netp.pdf>; to view an abstract, see: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/netp-executive-summary.pdf>.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) updates

- **Broadband Plan.** As mandated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the FCC delivered to Congress on March 16 its broadband plan, titled *Connecting America: The National Broadband Plan*. Over 370 pages in length, the plan sets a vision for broadband access in the U.S. by 2020. Instead of choosing a specific path for broadband in America, this plan describes actions government should take to encourage more private innovation and investment. The policies and actions recommended fall into three categories: fostering innovation and competition in networks, devices and applications; redirecting assets that government controls or influences in order to spur investment and inclusion; and optimizing the use of broadband to help achieve national priorities. <http://download.broadband.gov/plan/national-broadband-plan.pdf>
- **Children’s Agenda for Broadband.** In March, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski discussed recommendations in the National Broadband Plan to benefit children and their families and which foster the Commission’s Children’s Agenda for Digital Opportunity to help children and empower parents. “Children are our most precious national resource,” said Chairman Genachowski at a policy speech at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. “We must do everything we can to educate and prepare them to thrive in the 21st century, and keep them safe.” The National Broadband Plan proposes a number of recommendations to: ensure all children have access to broadband, allow children to develop digital literacy skills and benefit from digital learning, promote digital citizenship, and improve online safety. http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-296827A1.pdf

SETDA and CCSSO host technology policy and practice event

http://www.visualwebcaster.com/National_Press_Club/66798/reg.html

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) hosted “The Future for Technology in K-12 Education Policy and Practice” event in Washington, D.C., March 10. The event provided a briefing and dialogue on the future role of educational technology in K-12 education, featuring insights into ED’S National Educational Technology Plan and the FCC’s National Broadband Plan.

To view an archived recording of the event, made possible with support from Learning.com and Nettekker, see: http://www.visualwebcaster.com/National_Press_Club/66798/reg.html.

EDEN/EDFacts open comment period

http://edicsweb.ed.gov/browse/browsecoll.cfm?pkg_serial_num=4232

The federal register recently opened a public comment period for ED’s collection of elementary and secondary education data through EDFacts, a multi-year project to consolidate the collection of education information about states, districts, and schools in a way that improves data quality and reduces paperwork burden for all of the national education partners. The intent is to eliminate redundant data collections while providing for the timeliness of data

State and National News, cont'd.

submission and use. [Note that although the four ed-tech data elements are not specifically mentioned in the targeted questions, ED invites comments on all EDEN data elements.] The deadline for comments is May 3, 2010.

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS, RESOURCES**Common Core State Standards draft available for comment**

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

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers released in March the first official public [draft of Common Core State Standards](#) for public comment by April 2. The draft standards, developed together with teachers, school administrators and experts, seek to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce. They build upon the goals articulated in the college- and career-readiness standards released last year and will ensure our students are prepared to compete and succeed in a global economy.

These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs. The standards are:

- Aligned with college and work expectations;
- Clear, understandable and consistent;
- Include rigorous content *and* application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;
- Informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and
- Evidence- and research-based.

Comment period ends April 2. The standards are expected to be finalized in early spring.

Education Week releases 2010 Technology Counts

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2010/03/18/index.html>

This year's *Technology Counts* report, titled *Powering Up: Mobile learning seeks the spotlight in K-12 education*, examines how mobile devices are sparking a shift in the ed-tech landscape. While these tech tools are transforming teaching and learning, the impact on achievement is still up to debate. Feature stories and analyses in this issue include:

- Powering Up Change: The use of mobile devices for learning is shifting the ed-tech landscape
- Learning Benefits Seen In Laptop Initiative
- Portable Playlists for Class Lessons
- Solving Algebra on Smartphones
- Teachers Testing Methods: Educators are beginning to figure out how to incorporate mobile devices into teaching and learning
- Mobilizing the Research: Tracking the impact is a problem
- Ed-Tech Stats: District- and school-level data about the latest trends

Note that 2010 report does not issue state report cards or state policy reports, as in the past. Instead, the report examines district and school-level educational technology uses. The data section report includes statistics on the growth on online curricula, opportunities for online coursetaking, use of multimedia digital content, online testing, and school policies on cellphones, wikis, blogs, and various forms of social media.

Project Tomorrow releases Speak Up 2009 report

<http://tomorrow.org/>

Project Tomorrow released its Speak Up 2009 national findings for K-12 educators and parent sat a March 16 Congressional Briefing. The briefing included comments from Project Tomorrow CEO Julie Evans, Blackboard President of K-12 & K-20 Strategy Jessie Woolley-Wilson, and ED Director of Office of Education Technology Karen Cator. The presentations were followed by a panel discussion comprised of elementary, middle and high school students from Washington Lee High School (VA), Kenmore Middle School (MD) and Garnet Valley School District

Research, Publications, Resources, cont'd.

(PA) who shared their insights about the use of technology for learning in and out of schools. For more information about the briefing, including the presentation and a podcast of the event, see:

http://tomorrow.org/speakup/speakup_congress.html.

In fall 2009, Project Tomorrow surveyed over 368,000 K-12 students, parents, teachers, and administrators representing 1,215 districts and 5,757 schools. The 27-page report, *Creating our Future: Students Speak Up about their Vision for 21st Century Learning*, highlights students' recommendations for creating engaging learning environments where they can use: communications and collaboration tools to create and personalize networks of experts to inform their education process, technology to create learning experiences that transcend the classroom, and digitally rich curriculum and tools. To read the report, see:

<http://tomorrow.org/speakup/pdfs/SUNationalFindings2009.pdf>

Report released on open source assessment

http://grunwald.com/pdfs/Grunwald_Open_Source_Public_Report_v3.pdf

Market researcher firm Grunwald Associates released the report based on an in-depth survey on open source assessment. The survey was sponsored by Educational Testing Service (ETS) and conducted by Education Development Center (EDC), involving 82 state assessment and technology leaders and educational organization leaders. The 27 states includes states with widespread online administration of annual accountability assessments, those that have experimented with online testing, and states with limited or no experience. The 38 organization leaders represented associations, coalitions, and foundations; state and national policy organizations; business and nonprofits active in education issues' and, universities and research organizations.

The outcome, *A Report on Education Leaders' Perceptions of Online Testing in and Open Source Environment*, discusses leaders' perceived benefits and concerns about open source assessment, details two case studies of states' forays into wide use of open source technology, and lists strategies recommended by interviewees for approaching the technology.

Free online resource to assess one-to-one readiness

http://k12blueprint.com/k12/blueprint/story_CDWG_creates_1to1_assessment_tool.php

Are you ready for 1:1 computing? That's what CDW-G and Educational Collaborators are promising to help you find out. CDW-G, a provider of customized technology solutions for K-12 schools, and Educational Collaborators, a national education consulting organization, recently announced the availability of the "One-to-One Readiness Assessment tool" to help K-12 educators prepare to bring a one-to-one laptop computer program to their school.

Faculty, IT staff and administrators are invited to take the free survey to assess the technical and cultural readiness of a school's environment for a one-to-one program. From there, education leaders can engage consultants from Educational Collaborators to analyze the results and write up a report, complete with recommendations for next steps.

Free online career preparation course

<http://nroc.careerforward.org/careerforward/>

CareerForward: Career Preparation in a Global Economy is an award-winning self-contained online learning course that may be used in companion with a variety of online career planning tools to provide students with the opportunity to assess their career interests, explore career options and create an educational development plan. Created by MVU[®] through substantial partnership support from both Microsoft Corporation and the Michigan Department of Education, *CareerForward* is designed to help students understand how to plan their work lives and career opportunities amid the implications of the global economy.

As a result of major investments by Microsoft's Partners in Learning program and MVU, the course is now available to all middle and high students at no fee. Access to the website, online course, and web-based program is restricted to teachers, staff, and students who reside within the United States of America or its Territories, who are employees or students in a K-12 school or to parents and home-schooled students who reside within a school district within the United States of America or its Territories. Professional development and training plans related to *CareerForward* are made available for a small fee.

E-RATE PROGRAM

FY2009 Funding commitments

USAC will release FY2009 Wave 46 Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) March 30. This wave will include commitments for approved Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance requests at 80% and above and denials at 54% and below. As of March 29, FY2009 commitments total \$2.6 billion.

Use USAC's Automated Search of Commitments (ASC) tool to search for funding commitment information by funding year (FY), wave number, state, and/or applicant name. See: <http://www.usac.org/sl/tools/search-tools/search-commitments/>.

MOREnet UPDATE

submitted by Eric Nicklas

MOREnet Instructional Technology Conference (MITC) 2010: Winning at Instructional Technology

Join us for the 2010 MOREnet Instructional Technology Conference to experience the latest in cutting-edge technology, hands-on sessions, keynote presentations and exhibitors showcasing the latest information technology tools and solutions.

THEME: Winning at Instructional Technology

WHEN: October 3-5, 2010

WHERE: Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, Missouri

Call for Presentations is now open and closes April 30, 2010. Presenters will be notified by May 14, 2010, if their proposals have been accepted. To submit an online presentation proposal go to <http://www.more.net/content/mitc-call-presentations>.

Presentation Topics/Tags: 21st Century Learning, Administration, ARRA (the stimulus), Assessment, Authoring Tools, Blended, Learning, Blogs, Collaboration, Community, Convergence, Course Management, Critical Thinking, Digital Media, Distance Learning, Educational Content, eLearning, ePeGs, Funding, Grants, Interactive Learning, Leadership, Multimedia Content, Network Management, Networking, Online Resources, Podcasting, Policy, Security, Social Networking, Student Management Systems, Technology Integration, Videoconferencing, Virtual Field Trips, Virtual Learning Environment, Virtual Worlds, Web 2.0, Web 2.0 Policy, Web 2.0 Security, Wiki.

All presenters are expected to register for the conference. Only the main presenter will receive a complimentary registration for the conference, October 3-5, 2010. Additional presenters must register at the Early Bird fee or the regular conference fee.

Registration Information:

Early Bird - July 12 to Aug. 29 (Member: \$275; Non-Member: \$375)

Standard - Aug. 30 to Sept. 22 (Member: \$325; Non-Member: \$425)

Pre-Conference (Member: \$85; Non-Member: \$170)

For registration updates, visit the MITC website <http://www.more.net/content/registration-information>. If you have additional questions, please contact MOREnet at conferences@more.net or (573) 882-0289.

K-12 Chief Technology Officer Symposium

Effective 21st century technology implementation in an education environment requires strong and well-defined leadership skills in order to be successful in meeting the many needs of the school district.

To assist in defining effective leadership in education technology, the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) has released an updated version of its "Framework of Essential Skills of the K-12 CTO." To introduce CoSN's framework to Missouri technology leaders, MOREnet has partnered with CoSN to bring the first K-12 Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Symposium to Missouri.

MOREnet Update, cont'd.

The purpose of this symposium is to present essential components of CoSN's Framework of Essential Skills of the K-12 Chief Technology Officer and provide an understanding of what is needed to be a successful 21st century education technology leader.

The tentative agenda for the CTO Symposium will cover a variety of timely topics to assist technology leaders in managing and leading their organization's technology vision.

Session 1: Mastering the Moment: Strategic Technology and Budget Planning During Economic Crisis

Session 2: Essential Skills of District Technology Leaders

Session 3: How 2 B a Disruptive Technology Leader

Session 4: Open Technologies in K-12

Open source software, open standards and open hardware are poised to make a profound impact on K-12 education. The convergence of web technologies and a new spirit of collaboration in the education community make this an exciting time to get involved with open technologies. This session will assist technology leaders with the planning, evaluation, decision-making, and implementation processes associated with adopting Open Technologies in K-12.

Cost: \$100.00 (MOREnet member), \$175 (Non-MOREnet Member)

Target Audience: Missouri K-12 Technology Leaders

Lunch: Provided

For more information on the CoSN Framework of Essential Skills see the recently published eSchool News article on the new CTO Framework of Essential Skills. It is available online at <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=62036> or visit the CoSN website at <http://www.cosn.org>.

K-12 CTO Symposium Event Information

Date: Friday, April 30, 2010

Time: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Locations:**Cooperating School Districts**

1460 Craig Rd
St. Louis, MO 63146

North Kansas City School District

Staley High School
Special Events Room
2800 NE Shoal Creek Parkway
Kansas City, MO

For additional information on the K-12 CTO Symposium visit <http://www.more.net/content/k-12-chief-technology-officer-symposium>.

MOREnet Announces New Video Services and Features

In recent years, many MOREnet members have embraced and implemented videoconferencing technology in their organization. Today, more members than ever are relying on this technology to share resources, reach users, and reduce travel costs. Last year alone, MOREnet supported nearly 20,000 videoconference events and the growth trend continues.

Because MOREnet continuously works to improve the services that increase member productivity while minimizing the disruption of any processes and operations, we are excited to announce major enhancements to our videoconferencing services.

As part of a scheduled technology refresh, MOREnet Video Services is currently deploying new videoconference scheduling software and will soon deploy new videoconferencing hardware. These combined enhancements will improve the overall quality of both the scheduling and delivery experience for all members. MOREnet will deploy the Polycom RMX-4000 conference platform as the primary bridging engine to power our members' videoconferencing requirements. The RMX introduces a host of features, including improved video quality (with no additional bandwidth requirements) and high-definition conferencing options.

MOREnet Update, cont'd.

Some of the new features and enhanced services* we're working to provide include:

- Self-scheduling and conference monitoring options from most web browsers, including access for Macs and iPhones.
- Enhanced desktop videoconferencing. Don't own video conferencing equipment? Don't worry, members will have the option to participate in videoconferences directly from their desktop computers.
- On-the-fly conference/lecture recording and play back opportunities.
- Bulletin board features providing members with the ability to promote videoconferences and allow interested parties to sign up.
- Additional capacity to support several hundred videoconference end points and essentially unlimited streaming connections. Enhanced firewall traversal options.

*Note that some enhanced services may require user training or an additional fee.

What's more, even though you will have access to the latest feature sets, you don't have to change the way you currently conduct videoconferences. Your existing video equipment will be supported in our new video environment.

Please contact Video Services at (877) 896-9168 with any questions regarding this announcement.

iPhone App for Gale Resources

MOREnet is pleased to announce the availability of an iPhone app to access your organization's Gale resources. Using this app, iPhone users in your community can automatically authenticate and search the resources available within a 10-mile radius, while using none or your organization's network resources. The iPhone app uses the Global Positioning System (GPS) in the iPhone to identify libraries within range and to authenticate users.

This new feature is called AccessMyLibrary and will allow access to the Gale resources 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This service includes both MOREnet-provided Gale resources and any additional Gale resources your organization purchases separately.

Once downloaded, the app displays a map of libraries in the area based on GPS location. Users select their libraries then search the Gale resources available through that library. The GPS location is usually based on the address of the main or administration building. At this time, this service may not be available from all branch or satellite locations. This feature is only available to iPhone and iPod Touch users with GPS capability.

To download the iPhone app or watch a tutorial on how it works, go to <http://support.gale.com/gale/search2.html?searchstring=iphone> or <http://www.gale.cengage.com/apps/library/>.

This is a great way to increase the availability of these resources! This capability has been turned on for all MOREnet members. If you would like this application DISABLED, please contact MOREnet Technical Support at (800) 509-6673 or help@more.net.

e-LEARNING FOR EDUCATORS: MISSOURI UPDATE

submitted by Christy Terry

e-Learning for Educators: Missouri Online professional Development for Missouri educators

e-Learning for Educators: Missouri is a program for developing and delivering high-quality online professional development designed to increase teacher knowledge and skills to improve student performance. Experienced Missouri educators facilitate and develop online professional development courses for teachers.

Registration for summer semester opens April 14, 2010

Summer courses begin June 16 and run until August 3, 2010.

Register online at <http://www.elearningmo.org>

Courses Cost: \$125.00/course

Optional Graduate Credit: \$100/credit hour from UMKC, UMSL and MSU

e-Learning for Educators: Missouri Update, cont'd.**Summer 2010 courses include**

- Personal Finance *FREE
- Algebraic Thinking in Elementary School
- Best Practices for Vocabulary Instruction in the Elementary Classroom
- Best Practices for Vocabulary Instruction in the Middle School Classroom
- Classroom Management *NEW
- Differentiating Instruction: Empowering All Learners
- Digital Storytelling *NEW
- Geometric Measurement
- Getting Started in the School Library Profession
- Information, Communications Technology, and Media Literacy: The new GLEs and CLEs
- K-12 Course Design
- Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: An Introduction for Administrators (*University of Missouri – Columbia graduate credit only)
- Promoting Reading Comprehension Skills in the Elementary Classroom
- Promoting Reading Comprehension Skills in the Middle School Classroom
- Proportional Reasoning
- Rethinking Lesson Planning Using Backward Design
- Teaching Electricity and Circuits Through Inquiry
- Teaching Writing in the Elementary Classroom
- Teaching Writing in the Middle School Classroom
- The Complexities of Measurement
- Using Models to Understand Fractions
- Using Observable Phenomena to Make Sense of the Earth, Moon and Sun
- Using Technology in the Elementary Math Classroom
- Using WebQuests *NEW
- Water 9-1-1: Inquiry in the Science Classroom

Contact e-Learning for Educators

Web – <http://www.elearningmo.org>

E-mail – elearning@missouri.edu

Phone – (573) 884-4233

eMINTS UPDATE

submitted by Monica Beglau

eMINTS offers Cognitive Coaching seminars

Ever wish you could communicate more effectively with the people you supervise, work with or train? Do you find it challenging to help people solve complicated problems they are facing or to change how they are teaching or working with others?

The eMINTS National Center is pleased to offer an eight-day professional development opportunity for instructional coaches, administrators, teachers, mentors, professors, supervisors, eMINTS PD4ETS program participants, certified Educational Technology Specialists and anyone who wants to encourage self-directedness of others.

Find more information and register for the seminars – <http://www.emints.org/events/cognitivecoaching>.

eMINTS partners with Intel

As an Intel Teach Affiliate, the eMINTS National Center is on course to offer two of the Intel Teach programs to Missouri educators in 2010. Thinking with Technology is a face-to-face course focused on using technology to foster higher-order thinking skills. Master Trainers for the Thinking with Technology course are receiving training this spring. They will begin offering the TWT program in their school districts as early as summer 2010 and continue into the fall

eMINTS Update, cont'd.

and winter of the 2010-2011 school year. The e-Learning for Educators team is working with Intel's Elements course on Project-Based Approaches. e-Learning plans to offer the online version of the course during the fall 2010 semester.

Additional information and opportunities to participate in the Intel® programs will be posted on the eMINTS website.

eMINTS events on the website

Find detailed information about upcoming eMINTS events, links to register or RSVP, and maps and driving directions to event locations, all available from the eMINTS National Center website – <http://www.emints.org/events>.

Contact eMINTS

Web – <http://www.emints.org> E-mail – emints-info@emints.org Phone – (573) 884-7202

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2010	Conference
May 2 – 5	USDLA National Conference Hilton St. Louis at the Ball Park, St. Louis, MO http://www.usdla.org/2010_national_conference/home.html
July 22 – 23	MoDLA Annual Meeting University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, MO http://www.modla.org/

GRANT FUNDING and CONTEST OPPORTUNITIES

Due Date	Grant Program
2010 Opens for voting February 1	The Pepsi Refresh Project is hosting a grants program focusing on health, arts and culture, food and shelter, the planet, neighborhoods, and education. Each month in 2010, Pepsi will fund 32 projects, ranging from \$5,000 to \$250,000. Proposals are being accepted as of January 13, and full details are available on the Pepsi Refresh Project website: http://www.refresheverything.com/ .
February 1, June 1, and October 15 April 15	NEA Learning and Leadership Grants http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/ Michael Davis MUSIC IS REVOLUTION MINI-GRANT projects based on the concept of music education, through musical experiences, initiating students into a sense of their social, academic, and cultural identity. http://www.svengirly.com/mir2/pdf/Mini_Grant_Application.pdf
April 20	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Office of Elementary and Secondary Education ; Invites Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 for the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.364A. Dates: Applications Available: February 19, 2010. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 20, 2010. Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 21, 2010. The purpose of the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program is to improve student reading skills and academic achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media centers; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$100,000-\$600,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 53.

Visit <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-3164.htm> or contact Pilla Parker, (202) 260-3710 or pilla.parker@ed.gov for more information and the application process.

- April 25** **MIT: Lemelson-MIT 2011 InvenTeams** foster inventiveness among teams composed of high school students, teachers, and mentors. Teams identify a problem that they want to solve, research the problem, and then develop a prototype invention as an in-class or extracurricular project.
<http://web.mit.edu/inventteams/about.html>
- April 26** **Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Young Scholars Program**
The Foundation's Young Scholars Program is designed to nurture exceptional students who have demonstrated, through academic excellence and extracurricular activities that they have the potential to excel. Students apply for the program in 7th grade, enter the program in 8th grade, and continue through high school.
<http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships/young-scholars-program/>
- April 30** **ING Unsung Heroes®** <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/Education/INGUnsungHeroes/index.htm>
- April 30** **Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes** <http://www.barronprize.org/>
The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have focused on helping their communities and fellow beings and/or on protecting the health and sustainability of the environment. Maximum award: \$2,500. Eligibility: youth 8-18.
- April 30** **Teams That Make A Difference** honors an outstanding team that is truly working together for adolescents, sponsored by Pearson and National Middle School Association.
<http://www.nmsa.org/AboutNMSA/Awards/TeamsthatMakeADifference/tabid/407/Default.aspx?PageContentID=82>
- April 30** **Target Early Childhood Reading Grants**
Reading is essential to a child's learning process. That's why Target awards grants to schools, libraries and nonprofit organizations to support programs such as after-school reading events and weekend book clubs. Together we're fostering a love of reading and encouraging children, preschool through third grade, to read together with their families.
<http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821>
- April 30** **Target Arts Grants**
Target offers grants to schools and nonprofits that bring arts and cultural experiences directly to K-12 students. These programs must have a curriculum component. <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031819>
- May 1** **McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation Academic Enrichment Grants** designed to develop in-class and extra-curricular programs that improve student learning. The Foundation considers proposals that foster understanding, deepen students' knowledge, and provide opportunities to expand awareness of the world around them. The Academic Enrichment Grants provide funding for programs that nurture the intellectual, artistic and creative abilities of children from low-income

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

households. The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation awards grants to individuals in amounts up to \$10,000 per year for a maximum of three years; provided the eligibility requirements continue to be met.

<http://www.mccartheydressman.org/academic.html>

May 1

American Honda Foundation Grants for Youth Education and Science Education

Help meet the needs of American society in the areas of youth and scientific education by awarding grants to nonprofits, while strategically assisting communities in deriving long-term benefits.

<http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

May 1

Christa McAuliffe Reach for the Stars Award

The purpose of the \$2,500 grant is to help a social studies educator make his or her dream of innovative social studies a reality. Grants will be given to assist classroom teachers in: 1) developing and implementing imaginative, innovative, and illustrative social studies teaching strategies; and 2) supporting student implementation of innovative social studies, citizenship projects, field experiences, and community connections. <http://www.socialstudies.org/awards/grants/mcauliffe>

Sweepstakes runs through May 3, 2010

9th annual Win a Wireless Lab Sweepstakes

Enter once per day until May 3, 2010 at <http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/wawl/>.

For complete details, see the official rules posted at

<http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/wawl/>.

May 15

2010 Aetna Foundation Grants Program We focus our grant-making on issues that improve health and the health care system in the following three areas: Obesity: Addressing the rising rate of obesity among U.S. adults and children Racial and Ethnic Health Care Equity: Promoting equity in health and health care for common chronic conditions and infant mortality Integrated Health Care: Advancing high-quality health care by improving care coordination and communications among health care professionals; creating informed and involved patients; and promoting cost-effective, affordable care.

<http://www.aetna.com/about-aetna-insurance/aetna-foundation/aetna-grants/grants-for-2010-and-beyond.html>

May 15

Earth Island Institute: Youth Award for Outstanding Activism in Environmental and Social Justice

<http://www.broweryouthawards.org/article.php?list=type&type=54>

The Earth Island Institute Brower Youth Award recognizes young people for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy. Maximum award: \$3,000; a trip to San Francisco for the awards ceremony, October 19, 2010; and a wilderness camping trip. Eligibility: youth activists ages 13-22.

May 26

2010 TOYOTA INTERNATIONAL TEACHER PROGRAM offers fully-funded, international, professional development opportunities for U.S. educators. Funded by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., the program aims to advance environmental stewardship and global connectedness in U.S. schools and communities through creative, interdisciplinary, and solution-based teaching methods.

<http://www.toyota4education.com/pmwiki.php?n=Main.WelcomeToTheToyotaInternationalTeacherProgramWiki?from=Main.HomePage>

May 27

2010 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge is designed to encourage the exploration of science and innovation among America's youth. Open to every middle school student in America.

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

<http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com/about/about.html>

- May 28** Samsung Techwin America invites students across America to write an essay on the topic of technology as an investment in education.
<http://www.samsungscholarship.com/>
- June 1** **The NEA Foundation provides Student Achievement grants** to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area(s). The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Proposals for work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement, or other challenging curricula are particularly encouraged.
<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/grant-application/student-achievement-grants/>
- June 1** **NEA Learning Leadership grants** support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of the following two purposes: Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes or action research; or Grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment. <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/learning-and-leadership/>
- June 1** **SAMSUNG TECHWIN AMERICA Active Learning Grant Program** offers 50 SAMCAM 860 document cameras to worthy applicants based on need.
<http://www.samsunggrants.com/>
- June 10** **The Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth** category National Endowment for the Arts offers funding for projects that help children and youth acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art. Funded projects apply national or state arts education standards.
<http://www.grantsalert.com/grants.cfm?id=4&gid=33438>
- June 30** **Apps for Healthy Kids** \$40,000 in prizes to create innovative, fun and engaging software tools and games that encourage children directly or through their parents to make more nutritious food choices and be more physically active. The Apps for Healthy Kids competition is a part of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! campaign to end childhood obesity within a generation. Apps for Healthy Kids challenges software developers, game designers, students, and other innovators to develop fun and engaging software tools and games that drive children, especially "tweens" (ages 9-12) – directly or through their parents – to eat better and be more physically active. <http://www.appsforhealthykids.com/>
- May, August, November** **Build-A-Bear Workshop Giving Programs**
<http://www.buildabear.com/aboutus/community/grants>
- June 1, October 15, February 1** **NEA Foundation Green Grants**
This year the program emphasizes "green" projects that involve students learning about and engaging in environmental preservation and protection.
<http://www.neafoundation.org/grants.htm>

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

- June 10** **National Endowment for the Arts: Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth**
<http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP11/LITA.html>
 The NEA Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth program funds projects that help children and youth acquire appreciation, knowledge, and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engagement of students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art, and ensure the application of national, state, or local arts education standards. Maximum award: \$150,000. Eligibility: school-based or community-based projects.
- August 1** **Toshiba America Foundation Classroom Innovators Grants**
 (TAF) is supporting innovative projects designed by math and science teachers to make their own classrooms more exciting and successful for students.
<http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/about/HowApply.jsp>
- August 1** **2011 ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award** recognizes creative and committed teachers and administrators under the age of 40 who are making a difference in the lives of children.
http://www.ascd.org/programs/Outstanding_Young_Educator_Award/OYEA_Information.aspx
- August 15** **Open Meadows Foundation Grants to Benefit Women and Girls**
 Grants up to \$2,000 to projects that: are designed and implemented by women and girls; reflect the diversity of the community served by the project in both its leadership and organization; promote building community power; promote gender, racial, social, economic and/or environmental justice; and have limited financial access or have encountered obstacles in their search for funding.
<http://www.openmeadows.org/>
- October 31** **CVS Foundation CVS Caremark Community Grants** targets public schools for children with disabilities that promote a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs.
<http://info.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants/public-schools>
- Email** **Toyota International Teacher Program**
<http://www.toyota4education.com/>
toyotateach@jje.org to be notified
- Variety** **Dollar General** has a variety of grants to assist schools.
<http://www.dgliteracy.com/grant-program/>
- Deadline: None, but applications should be received at least one or two months prior to proposed start date.** **Actuarial Foundation: Advancing Student Achievement Grants**
http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/for_teachers.shtml
 The Actuarial Foundation Advancing Student Achievement grant program brings together actuaries and educators in local classrooms with the belief that interaction with real-world mentors will boost student interest and achievement in math. The Actuarial Foundation can provide a local network of actuaries ready to participate, as well as suggestions on how to integrate math concepts from the workplace into the classroom. Schools applying for grants will be given wide latitude in designing programs that enhance learning and create a "love of math" in each student. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: All schools willing to undertake a math-mentoring program involving local actuaries as volunteers are eligible. However, in order for a program to be viable, there must be a sufficient population of volunteer actuaries within easy traveling distance to make a regular program possible. Deadline: None, but applications should be received at least one or two months prior to proposed start date.

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Ongoing	After School Advantage Program from GTECH http://www.gtech.com/about_gtech/after_school.asp
Ongoing	Coca-Cola Foundation Education Grants http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/
Ongoing	Educational Foundation of America Grants http://www.efaw.org/
Ongoing	The Coca-Cola Foundation Grants http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/application_guidelines.html
Ongoing	CHS Foundation Mini-grants The CHS Foundation grants up to \$1,000 to innovative academic and leadership programs that strengthen student learning and enhance professional development. Examples include: leadership training opportunities, mentorship programs, professional development experiences and student fundraising efforts. http://www.chsfoundation.org/scholarshipprog.html#minigrants
Ongoing	ING Foundation Educational Grants http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/index.htm
Ongoing	Kinder Morgan Foundation Education Grants http://www.kindermorgan.com/community/km_foundation.cfm
Ongoing	Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/
Ongoing	Motorola Community Grants http://www.symbol.com/category.php?category=736
Ongoing	Motorola Foundation http://www.motorola.com/giving
Ongoing	NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm
Ongoing	NEA Learning & Leadership Grants http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/
Ongoing	Pay It Forward Mini-Grants for Service-Oriented Projects for Youths http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org/get_involved.html
Ongoing	RGK Foundation Education Grants http://www.rgkfoundation.org/public/grants
Ongoing	Robert H. Michel Special Project Grants http://www.dirksencenter.org/print_grants_specialprojects.htm
Ongoing	State Farm Companies Foundation Education Grants http://www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/foundation_grants.asp
Ongoing	Teach@15 Award http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Ongoing **Toshiba America Foundation 7-12 Math and Science Grants**
<http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/about/HowApply.jsp>

For information about grants, funding, foundations and grant writing, check out the following sites:

An independent nonprofit information clearinghouse on grants available throughout the United States, **The Foundation Center** offers publications, including directories of foundation and corporate grantmakers, research advice, custom research, and database searching. The website includes online training in grantseeking, proposal writing, and funding research, as well as, an online librarian.
<http://foundationcenter.org/>

AT&T Aspire <http://www.att.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=7736>

Converge online: Grant Secrets – <http://www.convergemag.com/>

The 2009-10 **Dell Funding Calendar**, published by Tech and Learning, can be found at <http://www.techlearning.com/article/21102>. Check it out for grant opportunities, grant writing ideas and strategy tips.

The online version of **eSchool News** monthly magazine contains a grants section with regularly updated grant, scholarship, professional development, and other funding opportunities for both educators and students. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/funding>

Edu4U is a resource for people who want to enhance teaching and learning for all students with the power of technology. Find information, resources and fellow travelers to help achieve your educational goals. <http://en.community.dell.com/groups/edu4u/default.aspx>

Edutopia has a listing of corporate, nonprofit, and government grant-making institutions, periodicals with grant information, and more. For more information, visit <http://www.edutopia.org>.

Electronic Learning, from Instructor Magazine, focuses on the use of technology in the classroom. The EL website will soon be expanded to include grant information.
<http://www.teacher.scholastic.com/products/instructor.htm>

For an extensive list of grants, check the **Grants Directory from Technology and Learning**
<http://techlearning.com/resources/grants.jhtml>.

Fundsnet Online Services: http://www.fundsnet services.com/searchresult.php?sbcats_id=6

Computers & technology – http://www.fundsnet services.com/searchresult.php?sbcats_id=4

Grant writing and funding resources are available at
<http://www.libraryspot.com/features/grantsfeature.htm>.

The **grants.gov** site is a tremendous resource for educators. It is updated weekly and contains a comprehensive listing of federal grants for schools. <http://www.grants.gov>

Grantsandfunding.com offers a complete listing of all Thompson Publishing Group publications that focus on grant and funding issues. Thompson Publishing Group publication subscribers have access to a special section that provides resources such as grant deadlines, highlights of funding issues, and links to related websites. <http://www.grantsandfunding.com>

Grantwrangler.com: online listing service of grants and awards for teachers and students. New mygrantwrangler.com is a social-networking site for both grant seekers and grant givers to share insights and experiences – <http://www.grantwrangler.com/>.

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Helpforschools.com (sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Education and Mid-continent Comprehensive Center) – “grants knowledgebase”–

<http://www.helpforschools.com/grants/login.shtml?redirect=http://www.helpforschools.com/grants/>

In each issue of **The Education World Grants Newsletter**

<http://www.educationworld.com/maillist.shtml>, Don Peek from **The School Funding Center**

[http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/\(dscmdd45etdg1045xp0ljby0\)](http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/(dscmdd45etdg1045xp0ljby0)) recommends a Web resource, book, software program, or another useful tool of interest to the grants community. This resource is a Web page from **Teacher Tap**, part of **Eduscapes**. <http://www.eduscapes.com/tap/topic94.htm>

International Technology Education Association (ITEA) <http://www.iteaconnect.org>

ISTE: Educator Resources: Funding – <http://www.iste.org/>

Mazda <http://www.mazdafoundation.org/index.html>

MultiMedia Schools, a print magazine published five times a year, addresses multiple technologies used in K-12 schools today. Selected full-text content is now available online. Includes a NewsWatch section, which posts technology-related funding news and links. <http://www.infotoday.com/MMSchools>

National Science Foundation (NSF) <http://www.nsf.gov>

NEC Foundation of America <http://www.necfoundation.org>

Non-profit guides: “grant writing tools for non-profit organizations” <http://www.npguides.org/links.htm>

Northwest Education Technology Consortium (NETC): “Grants and funding”

<http://www.netc.org/grants/index.html>

Public Education Network posts a listing of Existing Grant Opportunities (updated each week) at

http://www.publiceducation.org/newsblast_grants.asp.

SchoolGrants is a collection of resources and tips to help K-12 educators apply for and obtain special grants for a variety of projects. The site offers various fundraising ideas, sample proposals, grant writing tips, and scholarship information. <http://www.schoolgrants.org>

Sign up for the free **GrantsAlert.com Weekly Recap** for current K-12 Funding and Grants Alerts. For more complete information go to: <http://www.grantsalert.com>.

The Grant Guru <http://www.techlearning.com/article/15512> Gary Carnow is starting a new grant writing series. First up, Building Our Grantseeker’s Toolkit.

The **Grants.gov** site allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all Federal grant-making agencies, and encompasses over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. It streamlines the process of awarding over \$350 billion annually to state and local governments, academia, not-for-profits, and other organizations.

<http://grants.gov>

Sun Microsystems Foundation Open Gateway Grants Program

http://www.sun.com/aboutsun/comm_invest/ogp/index.html

Technogrants.com – <http://www.technogrants.com/>

Top Grants You Might Not Know About <http://www.hotchalk.com/mydesk/index.php/editoria/116-grants-and-contests/346-hotchalk-grants-and-contests>

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

THE Journal: Funding: <http://www.thejournal.com/the/topics/funding/>

The School Funding Center is a subscription based database for federal, state, and foundation grants for schools. Included in the subscription is Dr. Deborah Porter's Successful School Grants, a step-by-step grant-writing manual by one of the foremost grant writers in the country.

[http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/\(xzvsqo2g4qqxuc55s0mcdmyy\)/index.aspx](http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/(xzvsqo2g4qqxuc55s0mcdmyy)/index.aspx)

Toyota USA Foundation

http://www.toyota.com/about/our_commitment/philanthropy/education/toyota_usa/

U.S. Department of Education Funding Opportunities <http://www.ed.gov/fund/landing.jhtml>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/>

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingList.asp>

VIDEOCONFERENCES / COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

RoundTrips <http://www.roundtrips.org>.

Contact RoundTrips at roundtrips@clayton.k12.mo.us, or (314) 773-6934.

New Links to New Learning from Cooperating School Districts

<http://www2.csd.org/newlinks/index.html>

Contact Rebecca Morrison at rmorrison@csd.org or (314) 692-1274, or read the New Links blog at <http://www.csdtechpd.wordpress.com>

The Fairfax Network <http://www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/>, an award-winning producer of distance learning programming creates programming for educators to use in the classroom, and for public television stations and cable systems. The lineup includes quality K-12 enrichment, parenting, and staff development programs. Many of the shows come with additional resource information, teacher guides, and classroom activities created to fit seamlessly into the curriculum. Fairfax Network programs are free to schools, school systems, cable companies, and public television programmers.

Collaborations Around the Planet (CAPspace) is a social networking tool for educational videoconferencing built into the new Read Around the Planet registration system.

<http://projects.twice.cc/index.php>

Global Nomads Group creates education programs and media about global issues for youth using interactive technologies in the classroom, such as live videoconferencing and multi-media videos.

<http://www.gng.org/home.html>

Resources for Online Field Trips

- **The Virtual Smithsonian:** Includes online tours of exhibits in the museums of natural history, American history, and art in Washington. http://2k.si.edu/2k/node_rotunda/indexe.htm
- **Jet Propulsion Lab at NASA:** Allows participants to choose a virtual character and take a trip through an animated museum, mission control, and a robotics lab. <http://virtualfieldtrip.jpl.nasa.gov/smmk/top/gates>
- **National Geographic Expeditions Online:** Features a database of lesson plans, online activities, and maps tied to the national geography standards. <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/>
- **Ball State University Electronic Field Trips:** Offers live and archived video tours of a variety of topics and destinations, including the Florida Everglades, gray whale migrations from Southern California to Mexico, and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Includes low-cost Web

Videoconferences / Collaborative Projects, cont'd.

- resources for each lesson. <http://www.bsu.edu/eft/home2/00front.htm>
- **Colonial Williamsburg:** Programs for grades 4-8 with live broadcasts on public-television stations and archived video presentations on the web highlighting people, places, and events throughout history. <http://www.history.org/trips/>

SMART Exchange Content Challenge

Do you have a great SMART Notebook™ lesson activity? Now you can share it on the SMART Exchange online community for a chance to win a variety of SMART products, including a SMART Interactive Classroom PE, valued at US\$7,700.

Submit your SMART Notebook lesson activities before May 31, 2010, to be eligible to win. Visit the contest page http://exchange.smarttech.com/contest.html?WT.ac=SECC_T&L%20_email_0310.

Remember to let your fellow teachers know about the SMART Exchange Content Challenge. The more lesson activities you and your colleagues submit, the better your school's chance of winning a prize from SMART.

SMART Exchange is an online destination where you can do the following:

- Discover over 30,000 high-quality, classroom ready digital resources
- Find lesson activities created and shared by teachers
- Search by curriculum, grade and subject
- Preview and download resources without registration

Start searching today – visit the SMART Exchange <http://exchange.smarttech.com/index.html>.

Now open: The Siemens STEM Institute for 6-12 educators

The Siemens STEM Institute is a unique immersion program that promotes hands-on, real-world integration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in the classroom.

The week will be filled with guest speakers at the forefront of STEM, field trips to leading institutions where Fellows will observe real-world applications of STEM subject matter, and opportunities for networking and collaborating with peers from across the nation. Guest speakers may include top STEM experts and personalities from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, American Society of Civil Engineers, CNN, the Science Channel, and many more!

Fifty educators will be selected as STEM Fellows to attend this all expenses-paid, week-long professional development experience, hosted at the world headquarters of Discovery Communications, located just outside of our nation's capitol in Washington D.C., August 1 - August 6, 2010.

Benefits include paid travel and transportation, lodging, meals, and program fees (i.e. field trips and cultural activities).

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to access the tools you need to invigorate student interest and power STEM student achievement! **The application deadline is April 16, 2010.** For additional information on the resources and opportunities available through the Siemens STEM Academy, please visit <http://www.siemensstemacademy.com/>.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Lindenwood University Hosts TV and Film Camp for High School Students

This summer, high school students from all over are invited to participate in a week long media camp at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri.

Students will get hands on experience in all phases of film production—both in front of and behind the camera. On the television side, students will learn what it takes to assemble a LIVE newscast, and how to write and edit a video news package.

Learning Opportunities, cont'd.

There are two sessions to choose from: June 14th – 18th or June 21st-25th.

For more information, **check out this camp flier** <http://www.gmlpstl.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Summer-Media-Camp-Poster1.jpg> and **news release** <http://www.gmlpstl.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Press-Release-for-Summer-Camp-2010.pdf>. To reserve a spot, contact Peter Carlos at 636-949-4513 or pcarlos@lindenwood.edu.

FROM THE MAILBAG

National Poetry Month <http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmlD/41> is held every April, when publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools and poets around the country band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. Thousands of businesses and non-profit organizations participate through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events. Check their site for links to activities and resources. **Kidlitosphere** <http://www.kidlitosphere.org/poetrymonth/> also provides links to a variety of sites and activities in honor of National Poetry Month.

National History Education Clearinghouse <http://teachinghistory.org/>

The U.S. Department of Education is responsible for this well-executed and extremely interesting website "designed to help K-12 history teachers access resources and materials to improve U.S. history education in the classroom." There are many different areas to explore on this website, a few of which are "History Content," "Teaching Materials," "Issues & Research" and the "Weekly Quiz." This week's quiz is called "Fly Away Jim Crow." The "Sources" for the quiz questions and answers, and "Related Content" are to the right side of the quiz. The "History Content" section has features such as "Ask a Historian Archive" and "Website Reviews" of sites about teaching U.S. history. The "Issues & Research" section presently has two "Research Briefs," "Learning From History and Social Studies Textbooks" about the obstacles of students' learning from textbooks, and "What Happens When Students Read Multiple Sources in History Class" regarding the challenges students face when encountering historical documents and primary sources.

Massachusetts Historical Society: Photographs of Native Americans

<http://www.masshist.org/photographs/nativeamericans/>

Photographic portraits of Native Americans from the central and western United States are prominent in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society because of four Bostonian collectors who were active from the 1860s to the early 1900s. The portraits are in several different forms that were popular at the time of their production. Cartes de Visite ("calling cards"), platinotypes, photogravures, and tintypes are all represented in the collection. The striking photograph on the homepage, "The Sunset of a Dying Race," was typical of the theme of early photographs of Native Americans. Visitors should click on the title underneath the photo to read about the manipulations the photographer, Joseph Dixon, engaged in to create the romantic theme of the vanishing Native American.

Visitors should check out the "Photographs of Adam Clark Vroman," a photographer who didn't romanticize his Native American photographic subjects. His subjects were "photographed simply, directly, and sympathetically." In addition to portraits, he also took beautiful photographs of the landscapes of the Southwestern United States.

Mail Art http://ubdigit.buffalo.edu/collections/lib/lib-pc/lib-pc001_MailArt.php

University at Buffalo Digital Collections (UBdigit) presents this collection of digitized mail art, "art sent through the post rather than displayed or sold through conventional commercial channels." Mail art is made using a variety of mediums including postcards, books, and images made by photocopier or rubber stamping, and postage stamps, and is often created by outsider artists. The works in the collection span the 1970s to the early 2000s, and range in variety from a small cardboard box filled with pieces of tissue paper, multi-colored cloth scraps and threads, cellophane, and dried flowers, sent by artist Ameila Etlinger; to Matteo Cagnola's booklet of rubber-stamp and photographic art, mailed from Italy in an envelope also decorated with stamping; to a rubber glove with a painting of a city skyline on one side and a tiger on the other, with Canadian postage stamps stapled on, and sent through the mail by artist Genevieve Garneau. [DS]

Art Through Time: A Global View <http://www.learner.org/courses/globalart/>

How do we understand art? What is the relationship between art and the society from which it comes? These are but a few of the questions explored by this fine thirteen-part series produced by the Annenberg Media group. The motivating principle behind the series is to explore "diverse cultural perspectives on shared human experiences."

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

Visitors will note that each program has a theme, and visitors can watch the entire program sequentially, or just bounce around as they see fit. Some of these themes include "Dreams and Visions," "Converging Cultures," and "Portraits." Alongside each video program, visitors will find select images that reflect the themes of each program, and it's fun to look at these images before and after a viewing.

The "Compare" area allows visitors the opportunity to look at two works of art side-by-side and consider questions like "How can art inspire technical innovation?" and "How can hybrid art define individual identity?"

learningscience.org <http://learningscience.org/index.htm> developed this website to offer free science resources. learningscience.org, is dedicated to sharing the emerging tools of science education: real-time data collection, simulations, inquiry based lessons, interactive web lessons, micro-worlds, and imaging. Categories include Science Inquiry, Life Science, Earth and Space, The History and Nature of Science, Tools to do Science and more. Read the student and teacher comment page, and add one of your own.

National Physical Education and Sport Week, and the entire month of May, is traditionally a time to focus attention on quality sport and physical education programs. *Move Every Body, Every Day, Every Way* is the theme of the 2010 National Physical Education and Sport Week, **May 1-7**. Each year, the National Association of Sport and Physical Education develops special integrated activities for **grades K-12** teachers and their students during this week. One of the highlights of the week's activities is a dance that the entire school can do at once. For more information and to access lesson plans, activities, logos and more, visit <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe/advocacy/events/mayweek/>.

The Federal Trade Commission has recently made **two free resources** of interest to the K-12 education community available:

- **Net Cetera** - a booklet and bookmark about social networking, cyberbullying, sexting, etc... Available at <http://www.onguardonline.gov/> Kids and parents have many ways of socializing and communicating online, but there are certain risks. A new booklet, *Net Cetera*, encourages parents, teachers, and librarians to reduce the risks by talking to kids about how they communicate - online and off - and helping them engage in conduct they can be proud of. The booklet covers what parents need to know, where to go for more information, and issues to raise with kids about living their lives online -- issues like social networking, sexting, cyberbullying, mobile phones, protecting the family computer, and parental controls. This resource was published in October 2009, and the FTC has given out over a million copies, including copies to school districts in Georgia, Texas, California, and Washington state and many libraries.
- **AdMongo** - a new website/game about teaching advertising literacy to kids. Available at <http://www.admongo.gov/>. Every day, kids are exposed to advertising - not just on TV and online, but on buses, buildings, and even inside their classrooms. Many ads target kids ages 8-12. Given what kids see and hear around them, it's important that they learn how to decode and understand ads. To help, the FTC created a campaign to teach kids about advertising. The core of the campaign is a fun (and "visually fabulous," according to the announcement!) website called Admongo.gov, which uses games to teach kids to apply critical thinking skills to answer a series of important questions when they see a product logo - on a package, on a commercial, in a program, as part of a game, or even on a tee-shirt:

Who is responsible for the ad? What is the ad actually saying? What does the ad want me to do? By applying the information they learn through the Admongo curriculum, kids learn to recognize ads, understand them, and make better informed decisions in the marketplace.

The FTC is working with the Young Adult Library Services Division of the ALA to alert their members to these resources, encouraging library media specialists to use them in their programs.

From PBS

Check out PBS Teachers Activity Packs. <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks/> An activity pack is a set of educational resources focused on a theme and packaged in a widget-format that you can embed in your own

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

class or social media web page. Each pack includes links to PBS websites and a set of activities by grade level.

- The *'Health Choices' Activity Pack* provides prek-12 resources to create an action plan about diet choices, the way to resolve conflicts and other health-related decisions. <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks/health/>
- Explore *FIZZY'S LUNCH LAB* - a vibrant, fun and kid-friendly Web-only series that highlights the importance of good nutrition, a balanced diet, and physical activity. Find video enhanced lesson plans for preschool, early elementary classrooms and more! <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/lunchlab/>

New Super WHY! App from PBS

Help your child gain the power to read with Super Why, Alpha Pig, Princess Presto, and Wonder Red. Kids will come to the rescue in FOUR unique games using special powers such as alphabet skills, rhyming, spelling, comprehension and vocabulary. Visit <http://www.pbskids.org/mobile> to learn more.

Media Literacy Resources

- **Exploring Copyright Law & Fair Use through Hip-Hop** Community Classroom (the educational program of PBS series *Independent Lens*) has developed four standards based lesson plans and film modules based on the acclaimed documentary, *Copyright Criminals*. This film examines the rise of "remix" culture in today's media environment, tracing the origins of music sampling in the early days of hip-hop to today's multibillion dollar industry. The film raises provocative questions about who can own a sound. All lesson plans and film modules are **available FREE** to educators and youth serving organizations. <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/copyright-criminals/classroom.html>
- **Free Podcasts** NAMLE Organizational Member **Cable in the Classroom** has an official podcast channel, <http://www.ciconline.org/podcasts> with free podcasts on youth, media, and digital learning available through iTunes. Cable in the Classroom offers other great resources on their website, such as online video <http://www.ciconline.org/video> and suggestions on using video effectively <http://www.ciconline.org/learningwithcable> for learning in the classroom. Check it out.

Earthquakes for Kids <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/> provides puzzles, animations, games, interesting facts and combine them with scientific explanations, earthquake history, and news to help explain to them all about earthquakes. Earthquake ABC's is a children's book of earthquake feelings and facts, to view online.

One Hen, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that grew out of the 2008 children's book on microfinance: *One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference*, and the educator movement it inspired. One Hen's mission is to help children become global citizens that succeed in school and beyond and marry that success to helping others. One Hen's family of enrichment books and web-based resources teaches elementary school children about world issues where they can make a difference. One Hen materials cultivate values of financial responsibility, personal initiative, global awareness and giving back. The website, <http://onehen.opportunity.org/> offers students a chance to learn through participating in interactive activities that simulate real loans to real micro-entrepreneurs from One Hen, Inc. field partner Opportunity International.

Teaching Images Digital Experiences <http://tides.sfasu.edu/index.html>

The Teaching, Images & Digital Experiences website (TIDES) from the Steen Library at Stephen F. Austin State University focuses on the "rich historical, cultural, and scientific resources held in Texas and Mexican libraries, museums, archives, historical societies, University Research collections. It provides standards based K-12 curriculum materials freely available to teachers, students, and researchers."

The resources found on the site include 17,000 primary source documents and 150 lesson plans. The materials found by clicking on "K-12 Teachers" are contained within two primary sections, including "Lesson Plans" and "Virtual Expeditions." The "Lesson Plans" are divided into different grade levels, and visitors will find lesson plans (complete with standards, procedures, and materials) on Julius Caesar, the Mayan people, cell structure, and how to create a visual essay. Additionally, visitors can use the "TIDES Database" link to search through all of the primary source materials on the site.

From the Mailbag, cont'd.**Put on Your Middle School Math Thinking Cap! Math by Design** <http://mathbydesign.thinkport.org/>

Become a virtual junior architect of a park and environmental center using geometry and measurement to build a skateboard ramp, picnic area pond, and more. This interactive is designed for students taking Algebra I and II.

TI, NASA team up on free math curriculum

At the Texas Computer Education Association's annual conference in Austin in early February, Texas Instruments announced that it has teamed up with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to develop free online math content for teaching Algebra I through AP Calculus.

<http://humanresearch.jsc.nasa.gov/education/educationprojects.asp>

The "Exploring Space Through Math" curriculum is aligned with standards from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Portions of the curriculum are available on NASA's website now, and more content will be posted as it is created. TI and NASA also are creating resources that use this material with the TI-Nspire handheld instructional system; these documents will be available for downloading from NASA's web site and the TI Teacher Exchange in time for the 2010-11 school year, the two parties say. The materials aim to use students' interest in space exploration as a "hook" to get them interested in math. Students will be able to design a space capsule, control the launch of a shuttle, and more—learning key math concepts along the way. The curriculum follows the "5E" instructional model, NASA said: engage, explore, explain, extend, and evaluate.

The Science of Gardening <http://www.exploratorium.edu/gardening/> or www.exploratorium.edu/gardening/index.html includes sections on natural gardening; the world of meat-eating plants; interesting facts about common fruits and veggies; what dirt really is, along with online videos about gardening in Antarctica, and growing the biggest/best pumpkins and orchids. Other sections talk about garden remedies, saving seeds and propagation. The video "Any Little Patch of Dirt," shows how a community turned an ugly, weed-filled median strip into a lush garden.

Discover the Magic of Interactive Books - Education Through Technology

Interactive books or "iBooks" have become a popular buzzword recently. What are Interactive Books? Often characterized as "Ebooks on steroids," iBooks are animated and captivating tools containing embedded video that bring concepts & subjects to life, and provide quizzes to enhance comprehension. iBooks can be used everywhere there is an internet connection: in the library, the computer lab, the classroom via Smartboard, or at home with the parents.

Readers in ELL/ESL or Remedial Reading programs respond to iBooks, and iBooks attract students during non-class times such as summer break, enrichment time and home read aloud times with parents. They also provide stimulating content for summer school and after-school programs, as struggling readers, special needs students, and reluctant readers enjoy their format.

iBooks are available in a variety of topics, including science, fiction, and social studies, and address high interest/low vocabulary and bilingual needs, all while following curriculum and standards-based guidelines using 21st Century technology.

iBooks are available by Individual Discs that allow students to "pop in and play" or through the school, library, or district server. They are also available through a 12 month, web-based subscription. The more affordable and flexible Web-server subscription allows an unlimited number of users per school and can be up and running within days of making the agreement. With the web-based subscription, students have access at home while teachers can access the same titles to display on their Smartboard in the classroom. Districts have the opportunity to select titles based on needs, and can reassess those needs each year. There is no maintenance for the end user. iBooks qualify as an allowable expense for many funding sources, including Title I, Special Education (including gifted), Title II-D, Library, Technology.

From the Mailbag, cont'd.,

The above information on Interactive Books was provided by Davidson Titles <http://www.davidsontitles.com/> or contact Joe Bookasta, Davidson Titles, Inc., 1-800-433-3903 joe.bookasta@davidsontitles.com. Check out their new user-friendly website with our new Collection Analysis Tool and the new ecatalog.

Engineer Your Life (EYL) <http://engineeryourlife.org/> has FREE resources to spark girls' interest in engineering.

What is EYL?

- **A national campaign** EYL breaks down stereotypes about engineering and encourages college-bound girls to consider it as a career option.
- **A multimedia website** EngineerYourLife.org features ten great reasons to become an engineer, streaming video of inspiring women engineers, descriptions of dream engineering jobs, and advice for parents, educators, and engineers on how to talk to girls about engineering.
- **Effective** An independent evaluation shows that 78.5% of girls, after exploring the EYL website, listed engineering as their number one career choice.

Use EYL in your classroom:

- Share <http://www.EngineerYourLife.org> with students, parents, teachers and counselors.
- Order FREE brochures/postcards by sending an email to feedback@engineeryourlife.org.
- Present EYL videos <http://engineeryourlife.org/cms/6171/6174.aspx> of inspiring women engineers to students and parents.
- Incorporate EYL into your career exploration programs and curricula.
 - Mary Schmitz, a geometry teacher in Missouri, gives her students the assignment of researching engineering careers on EYL's site and posting their favorite on their class wiki. Mary comments:

"I just want to let the girls know what is available to them and maybe open up more opportunities for them. I think your site is wonderful and I get really good responses from my students after they have read about the different fields of engineering."

Questions about EYL? Contact feedback@engineeryourlife.org with any questions or requests related to EYL. For additional classroom resources, check out the Engineering collection on Teachers' Domain. <http://www.teachersdomain.org/collection/k12/sci.engin/>

From Free Technology for Teachers

A review of free technology resources and how teachers can use them. Ideas for technology integration in education <http://www.freetech4teachers.com/>.

Learn Internet Safety With Garfield <http://www.infinitelearninglab.org/> The Virginia Department of Education has produced an engaging and useful site for teaching students web safety lessons. *Internet Safety With Professor Garfield* currently offers an animated lesson on cyberbullying and an animated lesson about online safety. Both lessons use the same model in which students watch a cartoon, take an informal quiz, then try to apply their new knowledge to a few different scenarios.

Applications for Education *Internet Safety With Professor Garfield* provides an engaging set of lessons that students should remember. Teachers will also find a teaching guide and printable certificates of completion for their students.

- *Phishing Detection Education* <http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2008/10/phishing-detection-education.html>
- *A Thin Line - Digital Safety Education for Teens* <http://www.athinline.org/>

That's Not Cool - Learn About Cyber Stalking <http://www.thatnotcool.com/> is a website designed to teach young adults that online and mobile phone behavior is real behavior with real consequences. That's Not Cool has three primary features; videos, discussion forum, and call out cards. The video section features video clips called Two Sided Stories. Two Sided Stories use puppets and stop motion to portray examples of cyber stalking. The discussion forum is called Talk It Out. In Talk It Out, students can comment on stories and exchange comments

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

about issues around cyber behavior. Call Out Cards are small posters featuring slogans and statements about cyber stalking behavior. Call Out Cards can be downloaded from That's Not Cool. In addition to the three main features, That's Not Cool provides students with resources and contacts if they think they are in an abusive relationship or are being cyber stalked.

Applications for Education In some schools, recognition of abusive relationship behavior is part of the health curriculum. Recognizing cyber stalking and abusive cyber habits should be a part of those lessons. That's Not Cool could be useful in helping to deliver lessons on recognizing abusive online habits.

- *Steering Clear of Cyber Tricks* <http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2010/01/steering-clear-of-cyber-tricks.html>
- *Guide for Talking With Kids About Being Online* <http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2009/11/guide-for-talking-with-kids-about-being.html>

Listings <http://listhings.com/> a web-based sticky note service provides user with an online space to write notes, store notes, and sort notes. Listhings also gives users the option to share their sticky noteboards with others via email invitation. Users can create more than one page of notes in the same account. Listhings users can choose to share one sticky noteboard while keeping another sticky noteboard private.

Applications for Education Listhings could be a good personal organization tool as well as a collaborative organization tool for students. A group of student working on a project could use Listhings to create a schedule of tasks. Similarly, students could use Listhings as a place to share ideas from a brainstorming session.

- *Organize and Collaborate with Stixy* <http://www.stixy.com/>
- *Collaborative Sticky Notes* <http://www.posti.ca/>
- *Sticky Screen - Your To-Do List Homepage* <http://www.stickyscreen.org/>

LEGO Education Lesson Plans

The LEGO Education activities list

<http://community.legoeducation.us/blogs/legosmart/archive/tags/Activities/default.aspx> has hundreds of ideas for using LEGOs to teach and demonstrate math and science concepts. Check out the LEGO Creativity Contest. <http://www.legoeducation.us/about/item.aspx?art=3465&bhcp=1&bhhash=1>

Applications for Education Geared toward elementary school and middle school topics, some of the activities you can find in the list include calculating perimeter, calculating bouancy, and demonstrating proper food serving sizes.

Animated Web Search Tutorials from Vaughn Memorial Library at Acadia University

<http://library.acadiu.ca/> are designed to teach lessons on web research strategies.

- In **Credible Sources Count** <http://library.acadiu.ca/tutorials/webevaluation/> students learn how to recognize the validity of information on the Internet. It's a good tutorial except for a strong emphasis on using domain names for determining validity.
- **Research It Right** <http://library.acadiu.ca/tutorials/research/> walks students through the process of forming a research question through the actual research steps.
- **Searching With Success** <http://library.acadiu.ca/tutorials/websearching/> shows students how search engines function. The tutorial gives clear examples and directions for altering search terms.
- **You Quote It, You Note It** <http://library.acadiu.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/> shows students what plagiarism is and how to avoid accidentally plagiarizing someone's work.

Applications for Education These animated tutorials are probably best suited to older elementary school students and middle school students. The tutorials provide a good base to build further lessons upon.

Jeopardy Labs <http://jeopardylabs.com/> is a free service to create your own online Jeopardy game. Jeopardy Labs provides a blank template on which to build your game. Post its unique url on your blog, wiki, or website and anyone can then play your game.

From the Mailbag, cont'd.**Applications for Education**

Jeopardy Labs provides a good way for teachers to create a review game that students can play independently or in the classroom. You could also have students create games that they share with each other.

- Jeopardy PowerPoint Game Template <http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/vocab/ppt-vocab.html>
- Parade of Games in PowerPoint <http://facstaff.uww.edu/jonesd/games/>

NEWEST eTHEMES

Australia: Facts These sites include information about Australian history, state symbols, economy, geography, and culture, as well as fun facts about the country. Learn about Australian words, view national dress, and more. Includes quizzes, worksheets, time lines, pictures, and videos. There are links to eThemes Resource on Continent: Australia and Australian Aborigines. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002550.shtml>

Australia: Flags and Symbols Learn about the official national symbols of Australia including the flag, coat of arms, floral, national anthem, animals, and more. Includes aboriginal, as well as state and territory flags. There are printouts, factsheets, pictures, and more. Included is an eThemes resource on Australia facts. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002557.shtml>

Australia: Government Learn about the government system, structure, and function of Australia. There is information on elected government officials and Australia's prime ministers from the past to the present. Includes images, games, quizzes, and lesson plans. There are links to eThemes Resources on Australia: flags and symbols. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002559.shtml>

Australia: History These sites are about the history and culture of Australia. Find out the discovery of Australia, Gold Rush, and key events in Australian history. Learn how different groups of people have influenced Australian culture and heritage. Includes quizzes, folklore, photographs, and videos. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on Australian Aborigines. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002558.shtml>

Battery Power and Electric Cars Learn about the history of electric cars and batteries, how they work, and new prototypes that are being developed. Experiment with an online battery simulator and view photos and videos of these automobiles. Also included are eThemes resources on Electricity: Circuits, Conductors, and Batteries and Automobiles: Owning & Operating Costs. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002553.shtml>

Engineering for Girls Learn more about the science and math skills it takes to enter into the engineering profession. Read about successful female engineers, mathematicians, and scientists. Information is included about college scholarships and summer camp opportunities for girls interested in engineering. Quizzes, games, and other online activities can also be found. Additional eThemes resources are included on non-traditional careers and careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002554.shtml>

Internet Projects These sites provide information on internet projects for the classroom. See different types of internet-based projects, how to implement the internet projects, and learn how to develop your own Internet projects. Includes exemplary internet projects used by teachers and links to many collaborative internet projects for various subject areas. There are also links to eThemes Resources on Global Collaborations, WebQuests, and Library Skills: Searching the Internet. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002547.shtml>

Music Appreciation for High School Students Learn more about the history of music, composers, performers, classical, and contemporary musical works. Increase your understanding of why music is important in a school environment. View photos, listen to musical examples, learn about music auditions, take quizzes, and use the tutorials to enhance your knowledge about musical topics. Also included is a link to an eThemes resource on 20th Century Popular Music. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002545.shtml>

Teaching Tips: Social Networking in Education These websites focus on Social Networking sites as an educational tool. Find out how the social networks are being used in education for educators as well as for students. There are blogs and articles created and participated by teachers and educators discussing different potential

Newest eTHEMES, cont'd.

approaches to integrate social networking tools in classrooms, as well as their experiences of using social networking tools in education. Includes educational applications, best practices, and implementation examples. There are links to eThemes Resources on Teaching Tips: Wikis in the Classroom, Teaching Tips: Using Online Journals and Blogs, and Internet Safety. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002548.shtml>

Wheelchair Basketball Learn more about the history, players, tips, and rules of the sport of wheelchair basketball in the United States and around the world. Learn more about other paralympic sports and competitions. Links include photos, videos, a lesson plan, wheelchair basketball drills, and an eThemes resource on Disability Awareness. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002546.shtml>

UPDATED eTHEMES

Animals: Barn Owls These sites have information about barn owls, owl pellets, and the children's book "There's an Owl in the Shower." Includes photographs, video, and audio files. There are links to eThemes Resources on spotted owls, food chains, and raptors. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000425.shtml>

Famous People: Kurt Warner These sites focus on Kurt Warner, the former NFL quarterback. Learn how he overcame adversity to lead his team to the Super Bowl. Includes his football statistics, information about his foundation, and news of his retirement. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on writing biographies. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000811.shtml>

Famous People: Levi Strauss Read about Levi Strauss, the man who made a fortune from selling blue jeans. Learn about the history of denim and how these pants were first sold to miners. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on the California Gold Rush. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001074.shtml>

Famous People: Milton Hershey Read about Milton Hershey, the famous entrepreneur who created a popular milk chocolate bar. Learn how he earned his first million making caramel before turning to chocolate. Find out how he built the town of Hershey, Pennsylvania, for his factory workers and how he used his fortunes to help others. Includes photographs and a video tour of the Hershey chocolate factory. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on chocolate. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001067.shtml>

Famous People: Napoleon Bonaparte These websites are about Napoleon Bonaparte, the famous military commander and French emperor. There are biographies, portraits, timelines, and historical information on important people and events. Includes a lesson plan, quizzes, games, and artwork images. There is an eThemes resource on the French Revolution. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002063.shtml>

Famous People: Ozark Mountain Region in Missouri These websites are about famous people from the Ozark Mountain Region in Missouri. Includes biographies of Langston Hughes, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Brad Pitt, George Washington Carver, and others. There are links to eTheme resources on the Ozark Mountains, Lake of the Ozarks, Scott Joplin, and George Washington Carver. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001400.shtml>

Famous People: Ruby Bridges These sites are about Ruby Bridges and her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Read about the Ruby Bridges Foundation. Includes classroom activities, biographies, interviews, and photographs, plus information about a movie and books based on her life. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on the Civil Rights Movement. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001070.shtml>

Literature: "Math Curse" by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith These sites have classroom activity ideas for the book "Math Curse." Read what other children have written about their own math courses and try to solve word problems. There are biographies for author Jon Scieszka and illustrator Lane Smith. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on Everyday Uses of Math. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001207.shtml>

Literature: "Matilda" by Roald Dahl These sites include children's book reviews and drawings, online quizzes, discussion questions, and suggested activities for the book "Matilda." There is a link to eThemes Resource on Author Study: Roald Dahl. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000610.shtml>

Updated eTHEMES, cont'd.

Literature: "Misty of Chincoteague" by Marguerite Henry These websites are about the book "Misty of Chincoteague" and author Marguerite Henry. There is also information about Chincoteague wild ponies. One website has an audio excerpt from the book. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001471.shtml>

Literature: "Old Yeller" by Fred Gipson These sites are about the book "Old Yeller" and the author Fred Gipson. Included are sites with study questions, vocabulary, tests, quizzes, graphic organizers, as well as information on rabies, life in the 1860's, and cattle drives. There are links to eThemes Resources on farm animals, dogs, confederate soldiers, and the geography of the southern region of the United States. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001506.shtml>