Becoming Tech Savvy: Tools and Tricks of the Trade



Issues Conference 2015 Presented by Stacy Begin, CTA Staff- Murrieta

- Apps
- Social Media
- Communication Tools
- Tech Tools
- Sharing
- Ideas
- Resources

Access Resources at www.vitaled.org

LISTACY Begin website



Pumping life blood through education topics.

Let's discuss progress, trends, activocacy, resources and technology.

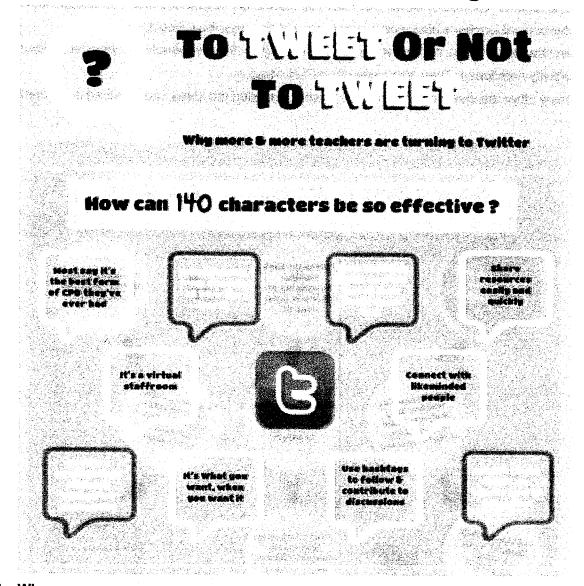
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10 Simple Ways To Build Your Personal Learning Network

- 1. Follow #hashtag chats (like #edchat) on Twitter and actually participate!
- 2. Join LinkedIn Groups and reply to questions, comment on posts, connect with others.
- 3. Follow and message people who follow and message you. No matter what social network it is.
- 4. Check out people who re-pin you on Pinterest. Talk to them. Follow their boards.
- 5. Do more than 'like' groups and organizations on Facebook. Participate in the comments.
- 6. Find a blog you like. See who they link to or follow on social media. Follow those bloggers and repeat.
- 7. Use an RSS reader (Digg, Bloglovin, Reeder) to stay up to date with bloggers you follow.
- 8. Talk to people via email. Contact bloggers and other people by email instead of social network messaging. It's a lot more personal.
- 9. Try out relatively new tools like Scoop.it, Diigo, Learnist, and other social bookmarking sites popular with teachers.
- 10. Get your colleagues down the hall to join you online and offline! wedudemic

Why and How Teachers Are Using Twitter

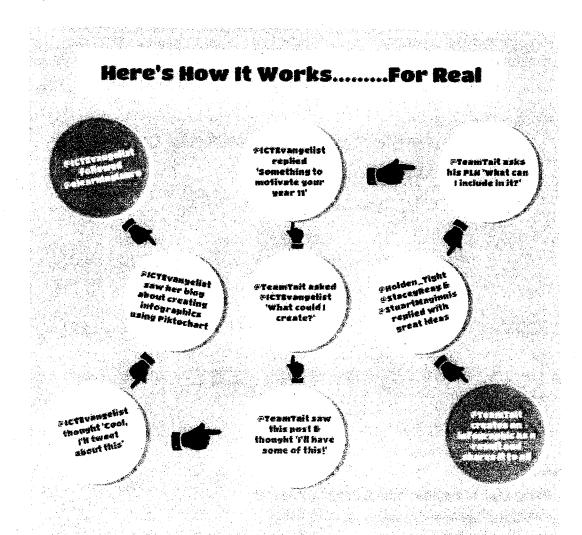


The Why

- Many say it is the best form of CPD they've had
- Collaborations from experts around the world
- · View teachers' blogs on what makes their classrooms tick
- Share resources easily and quickly
- It is a virtual staff room
- Connect with likeminded people
- Create a professional learning network community
- It can be what you want, when you want it
- Use hashtags to follow and contribute to discussions
- · Get the latest news and what's new in education

The How

- One teacher followed another (we'll call this person the 'original teacher'), and checked out the original teacher's blog, and tweeted about it because they liked it.
- Another teacher saw that tweet and asked the original teacher about how they could do an activity mentioned. They also asked their PLN about it.
- Many other teachers replied, and that teacher complied the ideas and made an infographic!



TEACHERS USE TWITTER



created by Freamfait using Fiktochart com



On Twitter, educators use hashtags to categorize tweets that include resources or news relevant to particular subject areas or issues in education. Hashtags are also used to engage in "chats" about education around the globe. Further help on hashtags is included below along with hashtags commonly used by educators

General Educational Hashtags

#duedchat = Down Under educators chat for Australian and New Zealand teachers

#auedchat = Australian educators chat

#educhat and #edchat = General educators chat commonly used by

North American educators

#ukedchat = United Kingdom educators chat

#edtech = Technology and education

#cpchat = Connected principals chat

#publiced = Public education

#nswdet #nswdec = NSW Department of Education and

Training/Communities

#edreform = Education reform

#ceolearn = Catholic Education Office

#ozteachers = general Australian teacher hashtag

#pln - Personal learning network

#vicpln = Victorian PLN

#k12 = relevant across K-12 curriculum

#ntchat = New teacher chat

#edleaders = Educational leaders

#teaching #education

<u>#teachers</u>

#edu

Learning Types & Tools Hashtags

#mlearing = Mobile learning

#elearning

#pbl = Project based learning

#edapp = Apps for education

#slidetolearn = Mobile learning

#mobilelearning

#gbl = Game based learning

#ipaded = iPads in education

#IWB = Interactive whiteboards

#web20 = Web 2.0

Social Media & Digital Citizenship

#digitalcitizenship

at #cybersa

#smchat

#digitalfootprint #cybersafety

Mathematics Hashtags

#mathchat

#mathgeek

#math

Primary (Elementary) School Hashtags

#elemchat = Elementary (Primary) school educators chat

#kinderchat

#1stchat

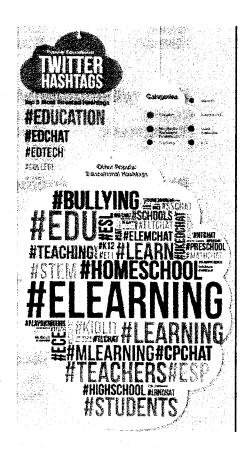
#2ndchat

#3rdchat

#4thchat

#5thchat

#6thchat



English Hashtags

#engchat #ozengchat

#literature

#languagearts

#wordnerd

#books

#literacy #mediastudies

Science Hashtags

#scichat

#science

#scied #biology

#physicsed #chemistry

History/Geography/Economics (HSIE) Hashtags

#sschat

#history

#historyteacher

#geography

Physical Development, Health & Physical Education Hashtags

#pegeeks

#physed

#health

Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) Hashtags

#mused #ceocapa #musedchat

#arted

#artsed

#musiced

Technical & Applied Studies (TAS) Hashtags

#DandT

#agriculture

#agchat

#ageduchat

#textiles

Language Hashtags

#langchat

#flteach

#languages

Special Education Hashtags

#sped

#spedchat

English as a Second Language (ESL) Hashtags

#eltchat

#esl

#tefl

3 Quick Tips for Building Digital Citizenship

<u>Digital Citizenship</u> is one of the hot educational buzz terms this year. But what is Digital Citizenship really? In short, it covers topics such as how to conduct yourself online civilly, refrain from inappropriate behavior (like <u>cyberbullying</u>), engage in meaningful discourse, and build a positive <u>digital footprint</u> for yourself and your institution. Just like we teach students how to behave in the schoolyard, we must do the same in cyberspace.

Schools have a tendency to shy away from actively teaching digital citizenship due to time constraints in the curriculum, concerns about student-teacher interaction online, as well as anxiety over students having ready access to <u>social media</u> (like Facebook and Twitter). However, there are some ways that you can build Digital Citizenship into daily interactions as well as components of dynamic lesson plans in a safe and constructive way!



Always Model Appropriate Behavior Students always watch adults – whether we know it or not. They watch how we treat one another and engage with the world. Teenagers are often inundated with conflicting messages: their parents will check their own phone at the dinner table yet scold them for the same behavior, a teacher will be on their iPad during an assembly, and yet students are reprimanded for

being on their devices in class, and adults chastise them for being rude online yet will launch into angry diatribes on a political forum. Edutopia highlighted this issue in their article, <u>The Digital Lives of Teens: Turning 'Do as I say' into 'Do as I do'</u>.

So it is our job as educators to model appropriate online behavior for them. For example, if you have a Twitter account or a blog (even if it's not for professional topics), you can use it to be constructive and engaging online. Don't just tell students to be civil or constructive online, show them how to do just that. Your actions can help to demonstrate why refraining from harmful comments makes it a better experience. Let your online behavior reveal to them how powerful online communities can be for positive, communal engagement.



Openly Discuss Online Etiquette It can be easy to shy

away from the topic if it is brought up. However, remember that students engage online every day, often without effective adult supervision. In her article From Smoke Signals to Tweets, Shawn McCusker points out that throughout history, those who have been able to successfully navigate new means of communication have become the innovative leaders of their time. Social Media, believe it or not, is the telegraph of today. You can try to discuss with them the importance of safety, civility, and digital footprints. This is a great topic for home rooms or advisory periods. If you have students that flock to your room during break, I'm sure that online behavior comes up in discussion.

It is easy to find examples from students' real lives to foster these conversations. For example, I had a group of young ladies that would often eat lunch in my classroom. One day, they began discussing the fact that they would keep track of their ex's on Facebook, and that watching them with a new girlfriend was often very hurtful and painful, but they could not stop looking. I suggested that they unfriend their ex's so that they would be unable to view their pages. After initially balking at the idea,

one girl decided to do just that. A few weeks later she told me that her experience on Facebook had become so much more positive now that she was no longer inundated with updates about her ex and his new girlfriend. Having positive, yet frank, conversations about how students engage online can be key to tapping into their experience.

Another way to promote these conversations is to openly talk about celebrities and other high profile figures that have gotten themselves into trouble using social media. In her article, "What do ClimateGate, Tider Woods, and Michael Phelps have in Common?" Beth Holland highlights the role that social media played in the very public scandals of these prominent and respected celebrities. The news media is rife with examples: Anthony Weiner, Amanda Bynes, and Charlie Sheen are constantly in the news for their missteps online. These are great ways to get students talking about how social media blunders can lead to some serious consequences.

Still, it's easy to get caught up in the negative and these conversations become scare tactics. At the same time, there are a number of positive examples out there that you can discuss. For example, teenager <u>Jeremiah Anthony</u> started a twitter feed <u>West High Brais</u>. Currently at over 5,000 followers, the teen and his friends regularly post compliments and praise their fellow students, teachers, and members of their community. I know that I love to ask students about their positive social media experiences and encourage them to keep up these types of activities!



Incorporate Social Media into Your Lessons Another

great way to bring digital citizenship into your classroom is to incorporate social media into your lesson plans. This can provide a great avenue to model behavior, discuss online actions, and provide a

safe environment for students to learn and explore. There are many ways to bring digital tools into traditional curricula and established frameworks.

For example, you can establish a blog for students to post work, comment on topics, and engage in online discussions. <u>Edublogs</u> and <u>KidBloc</u> allow you to set the parameters for your classroom – blogs can be open to the public, open to your school network, or just available for your class. You control the privacy settings and thus the environment. This is a perfect opportunity for you to model online engagement as well as provide them a safe environment in which to play. It is also a great way to start those discussions about online behavior early!

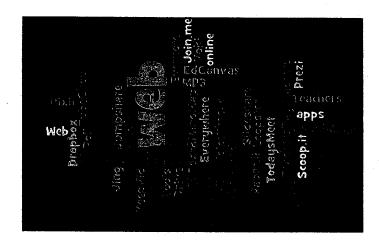
And don't fret if you're uncomfortable with social media yourself. There are a lot of ways that teachers have engaged students in tweeting and comments without the use of any technology. My good friend and former colleague, <u>Karen Arrington</u>, does a great lesson with her students using only pen and paper. You can read about this project in her article, "<u>Paper Blogging with Students</u>." This is a great way to prep students for online engagement without having to set up a blog or online community!

Hopefully, as the school year progresses and the more you establish an open dialogue about Digital Citizenship, model behavior, and enable open discussion, the more students will understand the expectations we have of them. At the same time, they will learn the power that comes with with positive Digital Citizenship – engagement, learning, and a good Digital Footprint that follows them through their academic and professional careers!

The 30 Best Web 2.0 Tools

Source: http://edudemic.com/2012/10/best-web-tools-2012/

Looking for the best cloud computing software for your school? What about a way to remotely store homework and other assignments? It's time to figure out which web 2.0 tool is right for you!



Edudemic's Recommendations

If you're looking to try out some of these tools, here are the top 5 tools we recommend you try out (if you haven't already).

Slideshare - Get the credit and audience you deserve for your presentations! They may be embedded in a website just like this one or even on a fancier site like the NYTimes, etc.

Scoop.it - A stellar social bookmarking service that is being used by a ton of teachers right now. We try our best to keep the Edudemic Scoop.it feed updated!

PlanBoard - It's an online lesson planner made for teachers. Create, share, and manage lesson plans with simple and easy to use lesson plan templates.

Evernote - Featured in <u>Edudemic Magazine</u> numerous times, we love all things Evernote. It's insanely popular in education and useful for teachers, students, parents, and just about anyone who wants to remember what they've done.

Dropbox - I use Dropbox every day. I had to up to the 100GB size and feel like I'll never fill it up. Great for backing up everything, accessing files remotely (even from your smartphone and tablet) and sharing things. I've seen it used for handing in homework on a regular basis. Also, you can get an extra 3GB free if you have a .edu address!

The Best Web 2.0 Tools

- 1. Google Drive
- 2. Dropbox
- 3. CloudMagic
- 4. Jumpshare
- 5. Weebly
- 6. Issuu
- 7. ePubBud
- 8. Infogr.am
- 9. Text2MindMap
- 10.EdCanvas
- 11.KeepVid
- 12.TubeChop
- 13.GoAnimate
- 14.TodaysMeet
- 15.Slideshare
- 16.Voki
- 17.Prezi
- 18.Record MP3
- 19.Delicious
- 20.Jing
- 21.Pixlr
- 22.Loopster
- 23.Evernote
- 24.Scoop.it
- 25.Paper.li
- 26.LiveBinders
- 27.Join.me
- 28.Zamzar
- 29.Poll Everywhere
- 30.VoiceThread
- 31.PlanBoard
- 32. Teachers PayTeachers (TPT)
- 33.Gnowledge

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About Doodle

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About the Company





Doodle radically simplifies the process of scheduling events, whether they're board or team meetings, dinners with friends, reunions, weekend trips, or anything else.

This smart assistant saves time for millions of people worldwide, and in the end, it brings people together.

Doodle is free and doesn't require registration by either the initiator or the participants of a meeting pull.

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