HARRISON TECH NEWS

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Web 2.0 Tools
- Infinite Thinking Machine
- Teach Yourself How to be Happier
- Did you know?
- Podcast for 1:1 Classroom Management
- Angel Instructor Training Links

To make your job easier, have me come to your classroom to teach the technology part of the lesson. You would teach the curriculum

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The purpose of this newsletter is to share information that can be used in your classroom. Currently, I meet weekly with the eLearning Coaches to share ideas and learn about tools that other teachers are using successfully in the classroom. I will be sharing what they have learned as the good, bad, and the ugly.

I will be having a bi-weekly training session on different tools and tips that can be implemented with the netbooks. The training will take place in the Media Center and remember to bring your netbooks. I was going to have a weekly session, but the time constraint was too great.

I am available to co-teach, train, work with students, and help with your lesson plans using technology in the classroom.

Did you know that www.youtube.com is available for teachers to use on their desktop computers? Videos can also be found at www.schooltube.com and www.teachertube.com.

If you find a video that you would like to use in the classroom, and don't want to worry about the streaming issues where it pauses during playing, I recommend that you save the video to your computer.

To save the video, you have several different options.

1. KeepVid—website that allows the user to download streaming videos to a computer.
2. RealPlayer— software will need to be installed on the computer before you can use it. It allows the user to download a video to watch it later.
3. DVDVideoSoft— Free Studio is a single software that allows you to convert video and audio files between different formats. You can upload and download videos to your computer.

These are just a few that are available at no cost.

WHAT ARE YOUR AIMS FOR THE CLASSROOM?

Are the netbooks making your life crazy? Does technology have you in the fast lane and you can't stop?

The netbooks have been in your classrooms for 12 weeks. How is it incorporated in your classroom? Technologies enhance our ability to create ideas, make discoveries, try new software, think outside the box, collaborate, and make learning fun. Remember that technology is a tool and teaching is not about the tool. Your curriculum drives the technology.

When designing the lesson, use backward design or project-based learning.

"Using technology successfully in the classroom is a mindset not a skill set."

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Tips before you start teaching

Have clear expectations

Plan well

Don't add technology to the same old lesson

Think about what works for you

Incorporate the four C's

Communication—prepare students to be effective communications

Collaboration—use online tools to discuss ideas, share research, peer edit and collaborate

Creativity—promote writing, artwork, videos, and combinations of them

Community—create a community of learners to deepen knowledge through interaction.

ANGEL LEARNING

The Harrison Group will contain information that I have sent out in emails or given to teachers during a training session. Please check it for school information .

Do you use the LOR? LOR means Learning Object Repository. LOR enables storage, tagging, searching and management of learning objects. The purpose of the LOR is to store content that is reusable. The ability to reuse learning objects across courses, sections, and departments reduced the investment of effort and time. Using the LOR for content is a good choice when you are teaching several sections of the same courses. If you make changes in the LOR, those changes will automatically be made within any course that are linked to the content item.

Instructions on how to import to your LOR are posted in the Harrison group under the Content Tab.

If a student has dropped your class but is still showing up in Angel, you can manually remove the student. Select the course >Manage tab > Roster. Select the name of the student who needs to be removed. You will then be asked a question about deleting the enrollment information from the course >select Delete. The student name will be removed from the roster.

If you need to add a user, you will use the Manage >Roster > Add a User. Search for the student's name > select > save.