

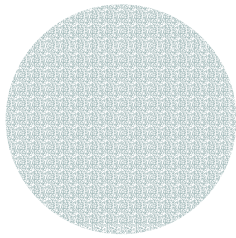


September 2, 2004
Volume 1, Issue 1

CyberConnection

Items of Interest

- Summer Professional Development Update
- CETE Hours
- Connected University
- New Members to the Steering Committee
- Student Competencies



Coming Soon!

- A Newsletter for Teachers- when it arrives please forward it to your teachers!
- LoTI software for the Handhelds

Reminder!

The next Steering committee Meeting is this week-Thursday the 8th of September at 1:30 p.m.



Welcome Back - Year I Continued

Greetings to all of our TARGET Members! We hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer.

We are excited about starting back in the second year of the grant, which is actually the end of the first year as the first year of the grant is 24 months!

There have been some changes in our Steering Committee members and we want to welcome them all. Nancy Ney Charter School will be represented by Gwen Rehling, their new principal. We will be saying hello to two new members from

Waelder ISD. Ele Moreno, the Waelder Target representative, and Annetta Buenger, the interim superintendent for Waelder.

Sheryl Moehrig, the TARGET grant secretary, has taken a new job at the Ed Center, and Tish Villarreal will be taking over her position. Tish has jumped right in and I know most of you have already heard from her.

So we have a new year, new people, and a new look to the newsletter. We look forward to revisiting with everyone!

CETE Update – Palm Handheld Incentives

Last year we established our “CETE”– “Continuing Education Technology Experiences” hours for the grant. The majority of the staff development opportunities offered this summer offered CETE hours to the participants. In addition to the summer professional development classes, the ongoing Connected University courses qualify for CETE time. After 40 hours of CETE time the teachers will receive a Palm Handheld.

Several teachers have completed their 40 hours. We will be asking them to complete a form (sent with this

newsletter), and send it on to Melissa or Paula.

We have heard from a few people who are missing only a few hours for their Palm. They can earn their hours by actually giving staff development classes to their campus and/or district. An agenda must be prepared as well as a sign in sheet with the attendees’ signatures. Then this information can be passed on with all of their other documentation. Please see the attached form for more specific information.



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are needed to see this picture.

*Participants are hard at
work at the [SEDL Active
Learning with Technology](#)*

SEDL Presentations-Summer 2004

The first SEDL (Southwest Educational Development Laboratory) presentation was [Active Learning in the Classroom](#). Teachers gathered to learn with the SEDL representatives, Jackie and Heather. Participants worked in small groups at learning centers, using a variety of technical tools. They discussed putting constructivist learning theories into practice as well as working in small groups to design an electronic presentation. There was an emphasis on learning technology

skills in collaborative groups and using project-based strategies. The three day workshop helped teachers in building a vision that supported student centered approaches in the classroom, as well as developing lessons and establishing classroom goals.

The second SEDL presentation was [Questioning Strategies](#). Jill Slack helped teachers understand how to extend the students' learning experiences by designing questions that reach higher levels of Blooms.

LoTi – for Teachers and Administrators

Dr. Chris Moersch was back in New Braunfels for two different trainings this summer.

On June 6th and 7th he met with teachers to aid them in creating learning environments that challenge students to think. He went over the framework of the LoTi levels and correlated the LoTi levels with the levels of Blooms Taxonomy.

Teachers participated in evaluating some online projects and video lessons to practice their knowledge of the LoTi levels.

In addition participants generated a performance task for their grade level or content area, and reviewed differentiation of instruction activities using multiple intelligences.

On June 21st Dr Moersch presented his eWalk software model for Palm Handhelds that will be used by administrators conducting walkthroughs looking for technology integration and active student centered learning.

*"The best time to
plant a tree was 20
years ago. The
second best time is
now."
Chinese Proverb*

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are needed to see this picture.

*Teachers are "actively"
participating in the LoTi
session.*

Summer Staff Development Participation

The staff development sessions were well attended. The LoTi session for teachers had 64 participants with Active Learning at 23 and Questioning Strategies with 44. We were pleased to see teachers from the collaborative members attend.

The Christian Academy had 5 people attend the LoTi session, while Waelder had a teacher come to all 4 days of SEDL training, and Nixon Smiley and Nancy Ney both had representation at the Active Learning days.



Connected University

As of 9/2/04 we have 40 people who have activated their Connected University accounts.

During the Steering Committee you will receive a list of who has activated their accounts. You will need to check and see if anyone on the list has left the district. You can then find someone else on your campus that would like to have the CU account!

The New Braunfels participants were emailed with a reminder this summer. We will give the Tech Specialists the names of those who asked for a subscription so the Tech Specialist can personally go to the people on their campus and see if they are going to use the opportunity to learn!

Website Update

We have been in contact with Lisa Howard, the NBISD webmaster, as to the updates needed on the website.

Soon the contact information will be updated, as well as word documents for tests – not just pdf files. In addition we will be posting the practice tests.

It is possible to have a brain and not have a mind. A brain is ingerited; a mind is developed.

Attributed to Reuven Feuerstein
From the Ruby Payne Learning Structures

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*More "Active Learning
with Technology"*

Teachers Working on Student Competencies

Student Competencies

Throughout the summer teachers from NBISD have been diligently engaged in the formation of Student Competencies. The teachers from grade levels K-12 began with the IPM charts developed by the work group last spring. From there evolved the Teacher Guides, Vocabulary Charts and the Master Target List. This is a work in progress and we will keep you informed.

Cyber Connection II Steering Committee Information

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