



Leading the Way

Erie 1 BOCES • 355 Harlem Road • West Seneca, NY 14224 • (716) 821-7313

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EETT Leadership Kickoff

Are you a Pathfinder, a technology-savvy digital-communicator who not only uses blogs, wikis, and podcasting regularly, but who recognizes that technology is critically and increasingly important in education? Or perhaps you are a Newbie, a newcomer to cyberspace, Web 2.0, and social networking, who is interested in learning what the "buzz" is all about? The participants who attended the EETT Leadership Kickoff were asking themselves these questions as they ranked themselves on a continuum of technology leadership levels at the start of the full-day workshop held at the Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus.

Erie 1 BOCES was chosen to receive one of 28 competitive grant awards to fund a technology education project centered on Leadership and System Change. Since the beginning of the year, districts and non-public schools have been busy choosing representatives to serve on Technology Leadership Teams. These teams will participate in various activities relating to 21st Century Skills and technology leadership for the next year and a half, including attending a series of workshops facilitated by renowned 21st Century educator Sheryl-Nussbaum Beach and Erie 1 BOCES coordinators Jenny Conklin and Shannon Logan.

The inaugural Leadership Kickoff workshop, held on July 14, 2008, was arranged to introduce participants to the goals and specifications of the EETT grant project. Over 85 administrators and



Participants from St. Mary's Elementary School, St. Mary's High School, and Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart discuss 21st Century Learning.

teacher leaders were in attendance, as well as representatives from Erie 1 BOCES and the New York State Department of Education.

Ms. Nussbaum-Beach began the workshop by explaining the concept of "Web 2.0" and highlighting the various Web 2.0 tools that will be used by participants over the coming years, including blogs, wikis, social networking, and social bookmarking. She introduced Technology Leadership Teams to the Erie 1 BOCES group wiki and blog, and asked participants to post a response to an introductory blog entry.

After Shannon Logan provided a brief explanation of the EETT Grant project goals, scope, and sequence, Sheryl proceeded to challenge the audience to consider the ways in which the world has



Where Are You

on a continuum of skills for a Web 2.0 – using 21st Century Technology Leader?

0. Know Nothing
1. Newbie
2. Explorer
3. Pathfinder
4. Empowered User
5. Know Everything

The EETT Grant Explained

The Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) Grant is a 2-year competitive grant funded through Title II Part D of NCLB. Erie 1 BOCES is one of 28 consortia in New York State awarded grant monies to fund theme-based projects focused on the promotion technology integration into curriculum and instruction. The theme chosen by Erie 1 BOCES is centered on leadership & systemic change.

Nineteen public school districts and twenty-one non-public schools have chosen Technology Leadership Teams (TLTs) of approximately 2–5 administrators and teacher leaders. From this July until December 2009, each TLT will attend a series of workshops and participate in online and face-to-face



learning communities, the goal of which is to develop leaders in 21st Century technology integration who will then be able to turnkey learned strategies and skills in their districts/schools. The project is being led by nationally-respected consultant Sheryl Nussbaum-Beach

and two BOCES coordinators, Jenny Conklin and Shannon Logan.

In addition to participating in face-to-face and online communities, TLTs will identify a focus relating to 21st Century Learning and relevant to their individual district or school, and develop model lessons, units, or resources aligned with the goals of EETT: student achievement, student and teacher technology literacy, and classroom integration. TLTs will present their individual projects at two Learning Showcases; the initial showcase, to be held in December 2008, will highlight learned skills and strategies. In December 2009, TLTs will present their projects at a cumulative Learning Showcase.

For more information about Erie 1 BOCES' EETT Grant Project, please visit our wiki at <http://nys-eett.wikispaces.com>.

“[W]hatever the technologies of the future turn out to be, creative, intelligent use of them, in service of real, important societal goals such as communication, education, and greater understanding, will still remain the thing that counts. And in those realms good teachers — whatever the technology — should be able to help and add value.”

Becta, “Emerging Technologies for Learning” v2, p 46

Leadership Kickoff, Cont.

changed over the past decade and how those changes have impacted education. She highlighted the fact that knowledge and skill sets that students must possess to be successful in the 21st Century are different from those traditionally taught. Participants viewed several engaging videos, and spent time discussing change and its implications.

Participants experienced first-hand the power of video-conferencing software when guest expert Karen Richardson presented via Skype on issues relating to the 21st Century Administrator. Richardson graciously posted her presentation notes and resources on the group wiki for participants to reference and revisit at a later time.

Jenny Conklin followed with an in-depth explanation of 21st Century Skills, and Sheryl Nussbaum-Beach transitioned the presentation into a group activity. Technology Leadership Team members were asked to explore the Route 21 site for specific and interesting information, and to share their findings with a small group. Route 21 was created by The Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and can be viewed at <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/route21>.

After lunch, participants delved into the critical and relevant topic of digital citizenship and internet safety. Ms. Nussbaum-Beach provided numerous resources for independent review, including articles, classroom integration suggestions, and grade-specific activities.

The last block of time was dedicated to an introduction of digital professional networking. Participants signed on to a Ning site and learned to navigate the space, change user profiles, and create and respond to forum threads. As part of Erie 1 BOCES' EETT grant project, Technology Leadership Team members will continue to post comments, share resources, and communicate with other leaders to ensure positive and successful collaboration.

Regardless of where they fell on the continuum of technology leadership levels, participants gained from the workshop a greater understanding of the EETT project, the tools they will be using, and the issues relating to the 21st Century technology leader.





Web 2.0 Tool Spotlight: Wikis The Wiki Revolution

Are wikis becoming the next 'big thing' to hit the internet? They seem to be popping up everywhere and have no discretion when it comes to content. Currently, there are over 100 wiki applications on the web, with bigger and better versions popping up weekly. Even Google tools has developed their own version of wiki, Google Sites, a wiki space that boasts an interface similar to Microsoft Office's Word application.

Wikis have gained much of their notoriety because they fulfill a dual purpose. Not only does it serve as a webpage to promote and disseminate information, but it is also a working document giving multiple users access. The ease at which anyone can start up and edit their own wiki space is amazing, creating an application in need of little support and direction from the developers.

With all of this new innovation, one can't help but get excited! But it can also seem too overwhelming? With so many types of wiki applications and different wiki sample sites, it is difficult to get started as a new 'wiki revolutionist'. Which wiki application is right for me? What type of information should I include? How and who will organize and edit it? These are only a few questions that came to mind when one begins planning a wiki site. Based on

experience and research, here are a few pointers to pass on:

1. **Make a plan** – develop a general outline and brainstorm different pages you want to include
2. **Don't over work it** – it is important to remember that a wiki space is a 'living document' that will be transformed over time. Do not get caught up in trying to make it perfect, it is unrealistic and does not follow the ideals of the wiki.
3. **Find a wiki 'champion'** – when developing a wiki as a collaborative tool to enhance production and efficiency in the workplace, it is important to assign a wiki champion. This person will be responsible for the overall vision of the project and will be able to maintain the wiki's integrity and original intent.

Good Luck!

Free Wiki Hosting

- **Wikispaces**
www.wikispaces.com
- **pb Wiki**
<http://pbwiki.com>
- **Google Sites**
<http://sites.google.com>

Reflections on the Kickoff Workshop

The following are excerpts from anonymous evaluations completed by workshop participants.

As a result of my participation in this workshop, I learned...

- Hands on applications of Web 2.0
- A lot of interesting technology that I hope to use in some capacity
- More about wikis & blogs; what my generation of teachers are facing in the classroom regarding technology; more about moving to community learning
- We'll never catch up to the kids – but we can and should do much better
- To be open to the possibilities of using technology of students for learning
- That I have a lot to learn, but look forward to it!

As a result of what I learned, I am going to...

- Explore the sites and resources provided
- Continue to use web 2.0 tools and try to develop for use with my staff
- Use web 2.0 tools (first in my personal life & than in my professional life)
- Relay information to fellow teachers
- Discuss with my supervisor ways to address a school improvement movement
- Implement more challenging, technology-related assignments & activities
- Work with others to collaborate electronically to insure student success in the 21st century

Suggested Reading and Resources

The following are suggestions from Sheryl Nussbaum-Beach

BOOKS

Cabot, Juan Erique. *As the Future Catches You.* New York: Crown Business, 2001.

Florida, Richard. *The Rise of the Creative Class.* New York: Basic Books, 2004.

Jenkins, Henry. *Convergence Culture.* New York: New York University Press, 2006.

Pink, Daniel H. *A Whole New Mind.* New York: The Berkley Publishing Group, 2006.

Tapscott, Don and Anthony D. Williams. *Wikinomics.* New York: Penguin Group, 2006.

ARTICLES and REPORTS

Wallis, Claudia and Sonja Steptoe. "How to Bring Our Schools Out of the 20th Century." *Time.* 10 Dec 2006.

Daly, James. "Future School: Reshaping Learning from the Ground Up." *Edutopia.* Feb 2007.

"Executive Summary: Tough Choices or Tough Times." The New Commissions on the Skills of the American Workforce. The National Center on Education and the Economy. 2007.

21ST CENTURY LEARNING SITES

Partnership for 21st Century Skills
<http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>

The Metiri Group's enGauge 21st Century Skills
<http://www.metiri.com/features.html>



UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The Instructional Resources Team



Presents a workshop to enhance education through technology integration.

Please visit <http://nys-eett.wikispaces.com> for more workshop information.

WHAT: "Wikis for Technology Leaders"

In order to move towards an educational model that embraces technology and 21st Century skills integration, it is vital that leadership members become experts in the various tools and strategies. Wikis are quickly becoming one of the most effective Web 2.0 tools leading the change towards this new environment for learning. The workshop will help participants identify the purpose and usefulness of wikis to a professional learning community, evaluate various models of wikis to determine quality and ease of use, and discover ways to integrate wikis into educational settings. By the end of the workshop, each participant will have joined, created and assessed a peer's wiki site, as well as learned about useful strategies for implementing training into their own professional development plans at their districts and schools.

PRESENTERS: Jenny Conklin and Shannon Logan, EETT Coordinators

WHERE: Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus, 355 Harlem Road, West Seneca, NY 14224

WHEN: Wednesday, August 6th, 2008

TIME: Registration: 11:30 AM

ROOM: A2

WORKSHOP: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

or

Friday, August 15th, 2008

TIME: Registration: 8:00 AM

ROOM: A2

WORKSHOP: 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

TARGET AUDIENCE: EETT Participants, Administrators & Technology Leaders, Teachers Leaders

COST: \$75.00 per participant (free for EETT Participants)

CODE: 535.009.02

Open to E1B Title IIA Common Shared Services

WORKSHOP LEVEL: Awareness __x__ Knowledge/Skill Building __x__ Application/Adaptation __x__

Follow your school district's procedure to register for workshops. For further information, please contact Jenny Conklin and Shannon Logan at (716) 821-7313. For registration information, cancellation, please contact Rosemary Valenti at (716)821-7221 or FAX (716)821-7498

Please complete the registration portion and return it **no later than August 1st, 2008.**

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations should be made **at least 48 business hours prior to the start of the workshop** to allow us to fill the class from our waiting list. Failure to do so will result in your district being charged for the class. All no-shows will be billed for the full amount of the workshop. **NO CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT:** You will hear from us if the workshop is filled to capacity and we are placing you on a waiting list OR the workshop is canceled or needs to be rescheduled.

Registration Form

"Wikis for Technology Leaders"

Wednesday, August 6th, 2008 from 12:00 – 3pm

Friday, August 15th, 2008 from 8:30 – 11:30am

Please complete this registration portion and return it to Rosemary Valenti – 355 Harlem Rd. W. Seneca, NY 14224 – Fax – 821-7498

NAME: _____ **POSITION/GRADE LEVEL:** _____

SCHOOL/ DISTRICT: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS** _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

S.D. ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____