

NSBA EXTRA IN THE MIDDLE

NSBA This week's National School Boards' Association technology site visit is entitled "Designing the Future." Some 45 visitors from around the country are spending Monday morning at the High School, looking at subscription databases in the library and the use of computers in math, science and language classes. In the afternoon, the visit continues at Heathcote, where visitors will be shown how technology is integrated into the elementary curriculum.

Tuesday's full day at the Middle School begins with an overview of District strategies supporting communication, including eBoard, Web Publishing, and FileMaker. Among the presenters at this session will be our librarians, who will discuss the library's support of class projects through its web site. Ken will demonstrate several technologies for video and audio streaming, and Doug will discuss how databases can be part of web sites.

Tuesday also includes a presentation on staff development with STI Director Susan Taylor and Ken, in his role as the STI's assistant director (and chief technology maven). In addition, Doug will be participating in the afternoon's session on assessing school technology use.

Visitors will tour Middle School facilities—including the library, classrooms and labs—in which the use of computers is intensive. Formal presentations and a student projects fair will highlight curriculum applications. Page 2 includes more on the Middle School's part of the day.

Tri-States Our preparation for next Fall's Tri-States visit includes strategies which capture both the breadth and depth of our school's research-based work in educational computing. To date, the faculty, the cabinet, and most departments have heard the same message: We know this work is an important part of your teaching. We need your help.

We want to thank those of you who have already completed our data collection forms. If you need a form to describe activities which your students have completed this year, as well as for activities you are planning for later in the year, please see Doug or Ken.

172.16.12.20 That's our Intranet's new IP address. Our recently-updated site provides interesting and useful information about our educational computing program, including available resources, professional development opportunities, our daily calendar, and Web links.

Video Conferencing Maiden Voyage



CHOICE Social Studies teacher Jeanne-Marie Castiello and her students have the honor of being the first class to use the library's new video-conferencing center. On April 1 and 8, Jeanne-Marie's class was able to speak with Michael Majok Kuch, a Sudanese refugee, now a student at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia.

Michael told CHOICE students about events in Sudan today, the background to the Civil War, and about his own harrowing experience as one of the "Lost Boys of Sudan." Caitlin Rosner and Vidushi Sahai, the students representing Sudan in the CHOICE World Conference, were able to read to Michael a resolution they drafted for the Conference; and students were able to ask Michael what they might say to actual delegates when they visited the United Nations missions on April 7.

While CHOICE took the maiden voyage, the Debate Club actually christened the Video Conferencing Center. Alex Campbell and Trish Serafin have been planning—via video conference—a video conference debate with Eastchester Middle School.

This first video conference is the culmination of many months of planning by District and Middle School administration, computer staff and, of course, our librarians. Sharon and Liz, who made the connection with the UN-affiliated NGO that allowed our students to meet Michael through a regional video conferencing consortium, are excited to be able to offer this kind of opportunity to students and teachers across the curriculum.

eTech Mentors: Making Connections

Scarsdale Middle School teachers taking STI #3084 having been working all year along two parallel paths. They have met once a month, working as a group to learn more about technical issues and thinking about technology integration. The activity described



Mentor Activity Create a Tutorial

- Set up a scanner and prepare to scan a photo.
- Snap a digital photo of the scanner set-up or of your colleague working with the scanner.
- Scan a photo from one of the available magazines or publications.
- Take a screenshot of the scanner software interface.
- Download your photo using iPhoto.
- Modify one of your images using Photoshop Elements. (Save your image as a JPEG.)
- Drop your images into Pages or Keynote 2. Add appropriate text describing the steps in each part of the process.
- Export your Pages or Kenote 2 document as a .pdf.
- e-mail your .pdf to Ken or Doug.
- Burn your .pdf on a CD-ROM.
- Link your .pdf to your eBoard.
- Prepare to display your .pdf on the SmartBoard.

below required course participants, working together, to use a variety of hardware and software to create and share a document. Depending on exactly what is counted, we think this project required at least half a dozen software applications to complete!

Recently the class has begun to think about how they might take a leadership role with technology integration in the school through mentoring relationships. Members of the class, many of whom are already resources to their colleagues, have begun work on an intriguing collection of projects.

Members of the class are working with colleagues in their department or on their team. Represented among the projects are various software applications (including Photoshop, PowerCADD, and FileMaker Pro), several new technologies (including SmartBoard and Streaming Video), and areas of curriculum emphasis from Math to Language Arts.

Professional PD development

You can find information about, and register for, the following STI technology courses at the STI's web site. Early Bird Technology Workshops (EBTW) at Scarsdale Middle School meet in the Cooper Computer Lab at 7:15 AM.

4/26 EBTW	<i>iLife '05: Your Ever-Changing Digital Life.</i> Updates to your favorite iApps.
5/17 EBTW	<i>(You Need) Inspiration.</i> Really! This software continues to support the work we do and the way we do it.
4/29- 4/30	<i>Using Dreamweaver to Create High Interest, Interactive Web Sites.</i> Teachers will learn to create web sites to share information via the Internet or Intranet.
5/6- 5/7	<i>Do Your Hear What I Hear? Making Digital Music.</i> Teachers will use their computers for teaching theory, creating performance tracks, and composing.
5/13- 5/14	<i>The Next Jump: Digital Artistry</i> The goal of this course is to further participants' confidence in creating interesting images for use with other software.
5/20- 5/21	<i>Camcorder Optional</i> Strategies for creating student video projects, even without a camcorder.
6/10- 6/11	<i>Using Adobe Acrobat</i> Become comfortable designing, creating, and sharing electronic documents and forms.
7/18- 7/22	<i>Video Production Boot Camp</i> Deepen knowledge of creative and technical aspects of video production. Uses Adobe Premiere
8/1- 8/5	<i>FileMaker Pro Boot Camp</i> Learn this powerful application and consider curriculum applications to individual subject areas.
8/15- 8/19	<i>iWeek</i> Understand the basics and develop curriculum-based activities drawing on the Digital Hub.

Atomic Learning

Virtual help with most software, including OS X! (atomiclearning.com)
USER: scarsdalems
PASSWORD: openbook

NSBA Site Visit: Middle School

:Tour

<i>Fountain Computer Center</i>		
Microsoft Excel	Math 7	Steve Walsh
<i>Eighth Grade Technology Classroom</i>		
iMovie	Technology 8	Andy Verboys
<i>Music Department MIDI Lab</i>		
Garage Band	General Music 7	Celia Cuk
<i>Related Arts Lab</i>		
Adobe Photoshop	Art 8	Linda Fisher

:Technology Showcase: Butler

<i>Presentation Software: The Public Speaking Perspective (SmartBoard)</i>		
Keynote/PowerPoint	Public Speaking 8	Alex Campbell
<i>Investment Seven</i>		
FileMaker Pro/Excel	Math 7	Joanne Harris
<i>CAD Designs</i>		
PowerCADD	Technology 6	Jeffrey Tuttle
<i>Mesopotamian Newspapers</i>		
Pages	Social Studies 6	Meghan Lahey
<i>Impressionism Research</i>		
Inspiration	French/Art	Carole Mirville
<i>Health Information Brochures</i>		
Microsoft Word	Health 8	Michelle Gould
<i>Constitutional Amendment Presentations</i>		
Keynote 2	Social Studies 7	Marci Rothman
<i>Instant Messaging (Spanish Style)</i>		
iChat	Spanish 8	Melanie Millard
<i>WebNotes: Human Rights Research</i>		
FileMaker Pro	Social Studies 8	Emma Wixted
<i>History Cards</i>		
FileMaker Pro	Social Studies 8	Nancy Collins
<i>Designing and Engraving Key Chains</i>		
Adobe Illustrator	Technology 8	Steve Rambone

:Technology Showcase: Cooper

<i>WW II CBI</i>		
Final Cut Pro/Photoshop	Social Studies 8	Joe Cesarano
<i>News Shows</i>		
iMovie	Technology 8	Andy Verboys
<i>Music Composition</i>		
GarageBand	General Music	Celia Cuk
<i>Roller Coaster Simulations (SmartBoard)</i>		
Internet Activity	Science 8	Christine Gilliland
<i>eyePoetry</i>		
iPhoto	English 7	Clyde Tressler
<i>Reader Profiles/Reviews</i>		
FileMaker Pro	English 6	Denise DelBalzo
<i>Art History Presentations</i>		
PowerPoint	Art 6	Denise Monda
<i>Shakespeare Presentations</i>		
Keynote 2	English 8	David Wixted
<i>CD Jewel Case Design</i>		
Adobe Photoshop	Art 8	Linda Fisher
<i>United Nations Presentations</i>		
Keynote 2	CHOICE 7/8	Jeanne-Marie Castiello
<i>Jurassic Park DVD</i>		
iMovie	Science 7	Rachele Colantuono