

Emerge One-to-One Laptop Learning Project Newsletter

March
2009



Transforming Learning, Inspiring Discovery

Spring Community of Practice and Professional Learning May 5 – 6, 2009 in Calgary **Online registration is now open**

Visit <http://quest.event.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?i=7764af67-a7b8-49fa-b535-d4ebbd9e0a52>

The Spring CoP registration website has a draft agenda and detailed description of the sessions. A list of area hotels is also listed on the site.

The research team will be discussing the results and recommendations of the Year One research. The report is posted on the Emerge One-to-One website, <http://education.alberta.ca/admin/technology/emerge-one-to-one.aspx>, and printed copies will be available at the spring event.

Note: Registration will be open from March 6 through April 27. Please ensure that your team is registered as we will not be accepting late registrations or registrations at the door.



Internet Passport Field Test

If you field tested the Internet Passport resource in January or February, please send in the field test survey to Karen Shipka at Karen.Shipka@gov.ab.ca or fax it to 780-415-1091 by March 15, 2009.

News from the Research Team

The research team is currently preparing for the spring data collection. Everyone who has submitted a consent form for Emerge will be asked to complete the spring surveys. Students will complete the *Style of Learning Inventory* and the *Student Engagement Survey*. Teachers, principals and project leads will complete *MTIPS*. All surveys will open on April 15.

Spring site visits will occur in April and May. Project leads will be contacted in mid-March with regard to scheduling the one to one-and-a-half-day site visit.



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Interesting Articles and Lesson Ideas

Digital Learning Environments

<http://www.guide2digitalllearning.com/>

Tools and Technologies for Effective Classrooms (brought to you by Tech&Learning - Sponsored by HP, Intel)

Click the titles to visit the website

- [A Challenging, Quick, and Simple Project](#)

Create Fandex style books in every subject. Using a teacher created list of cross-curricular related ideas, students collaborate to create unique presentation books.

- [Cyber Bullying: Responsibilities and Solutions](#)

Physical and verbal bullying among students are problems well known to teachers and school administrators. This article examines some of the literature on the topic of cyber bullying and provides information on its prevalence, the definition of cyber bullying, communication technologies, legal considerations and suggestions for dealing with the problem.

- [Turbo-Charged Wikis: Technology Embraces Cooperative Learning](#)

When teachers first embraced wikis in the classroom, they met less-than-ideal outcomes. What was missing was a sound pedagogy for learning. By infusing structured cooperative learning strategies, student-generated wikis become a much more productive activity.

- [Connecting Kids to the Arts](#)

Art education is often left behind in the drive to increase the amount of time students spend on academics. As a result, special programs fill in the gap in many schools and districts. The Wallace Foundation sponsored a three-day gathering to discuss appreciation for the arts. This report summarizes the ideas shared at the gathering.

- [Tips for Better Digital Storytelling](#)

Digital storytelling has become an important strategy for educators to use to help students improve writing and thinking skills. Here are tips that will take the process one step farther so that teachers can help students make their stories the best that they can be.

- [Information Literacy](#)

Students get it about technology. The challenge for schools is in developing a new generation of knowledgeable digital citizens who can operate in the unregulated online world.

- [Hands-on Science for Global Learning](#)

This federally-sponsored program brings together students, teachers, scientists and community members to collaborate on inquiry-based investigations of the environment.

- [Tools to Meet Environmental Challenges](#)

Global warming, pollution, shrinking animal and plant habitats, devastating earthquakes, tsunamis and cyclones: the headlines and broadcasts warn of what appears to be a wholesale unraveling of the earth.

- [How to Build Better ePortfolios](#)

Teachers across the country motivate kids through traditional subjects, such as math and reading, by creatively adapting ePortfolios in their classrooms. A few examples are provided.

Webinar Professional Learning Sessions

Student Engagement – Cheryl Lemke (Metiri Group)

Session 2: March 24, 2009 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Session 3: April 15, 2009 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Authentic Learning – Dr. Sharon Friesen (Galileo Educational Network)

Session 4: February 24, 2009 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Assessment for Learning Series – Dr. Anne Davies

April 16, 2009 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Building Self-Directed Behaviour in All Students – Ed Coughlin (Metiri Group)

March 26, 2009 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Universal Design for Learning with Kathy Howery

New Time April 7, 2009 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

[Click here to register](#)

Recorded Webinars:

Webinar sessions have been recorded and are available at the sites listed below.

Assessment for Learning:

Please go to <http://www.annedavies.com/webconference.html>, and type in the username and password.

Username: connections

Password: training

Universal Design for Learning:

Session 1 can be accessed at: <https://illuminate.srv.ualberta.ca/education/>

Click on the *Recordings* Tab, locate the recording called *KathyHowerymeeting*.

Password: Emerge

You have found the perfect Web 2.0 tool for your students to use for a lesson. It slices, it dices, it's a perfect fit, it's not blocked, and it's free! All that is required is that your students go to the site and register to use the service by providing a few pieces of information about themselves and an e-mail address. What could be easier?

Web 2.0 tools can be extremely useful for teachers and students. In addition to meeting a teaching and learning need, they are very often low-cost - if not free - and do not need to be installed. However, these tools carry with them a number of less-than-obvious privacy risks that should be considered before you start using them in your classroom.

If a Web 2.0 tool that you are interested in using requires that students sign up to use it and provide information, it is necessary to consider privacy requirements before proceeding. There are several documents that set out information use, protection, and disclosure requirements for schools and jurisdictions in Alberta, including:

- The *School Act*;
- The *Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act*;
- The *Alberta Student Record Regulation*; and
- Any district policies that relate to the disclosure of student information.

In addition, if the information will be provided to a company that stores that information on computers outside of Canada, foreign legislation relating to privacy protection and information disclosure, such as the *USA PATRIOT Act* must be considered.

Given the complexity surrounding privacy requirements, it is a good idea to talk to your school administrator about your plans before going ahead. Depending upon your district's policies, your school administrator may recommend contacting your district's privacy coordinator to assess the situation and provide advice about how to proceed.

Information that your Privacy Coordinator will need in order to evaluate the situation includes:

- The name of the service you want to use and the URL for the site;
- A brief description of the user information (name, e-mail address, etc.) that is needed by that site in order to use it;
- A link to or copy of the End User License Agreement for the service; and
- A link to or copy of the privacy policy of the company providing the service, if available.

Because such an assessment may take some time, and privacy coordinators can be very busy, ensure that you have a "Plan B" in mind for your lesson. Keep in mind that a little bit of hassle up front prevents a lot of hassle later on.

For more information

- *Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act*, visit <http://foip.alberta.ca>
- *School Act*, go to <http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/Documents/acts/S03.CFM>
- *Student Record Regulation*, see http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Regs/2006_225.cfm