

## Emerge Newsletter – November 2007

### Mark your calendar!

#### **Emerge Community of Practice Event Featuring Chris Toy**

April 21, 2008 in Calgary at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Chris Toy, who presented at the Summer Institute this past August, will present again on “Leading Change”. Chris has been closely involved with Maine’s successful one-to-one laptop program.

#### **Microsoft Partnership Session**

April 22, 2008 in Calgary at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

#### **Galileo Professional Learning Opportunities**

April 22, 2008 in Calgary at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

### Update from Metiri

#### **Research Evaluation**

The evaluation team from Metiri Group and the University of Calgary would like to thank all jurisdictions for facilitating the collection and return of the ethics forms. For those who have not yet completed this process, please do so as soon as possible. Now that most of the forms are in, the baseline data collection will begin.

- Site reviewers from the University of Calgary and Metiri will be conducting site visits in jurisdictions from November 2007 to January 2008.
- The online engagement surveys and the self-direction survey for students are open. Please follow the directions sent out by Jennifer Lock with the University of Calgary and schedule your classes to take all surveys before the end of the year.
- The online surveys for teachers, school administrators and project points-of-contact will open on December 3, 2007. Please watch for an e-mail from Jennifer Lock with directions for taking those surveys in December 2007.

#### **Evaluation Webinar**

Evaluation Webinar #3 is scheduled for December 14, at 8:30 am Mountain Time. The webinar will focus on student assessment instruments jurisdictions might use to assess their progress in the Emerge program. Instruments focused on academic content as well as critical thinking and collaboration will be highlighted. To access the webinar:

Web: <http://metiri.acrobat.com/dec/>

Audio: Call 1-888-296-6500. Access Code: 322454#

### Professional Learning Update from Galileo

Digital Storytelling for Teachers

Digital Storytelling is an exceptionally powerful way of bringing together the magic of story and the wizardry of digital technologies. The results are compelling for both creator and viewer. Jeff Stockton from the Galileo Educational Network created a four session webinar series to support Emerge community of practice teachers in implementing digital storytelling.

The four session course provided tools, resources and practical hands-on experience for teachers. Between the four sessions, participants were supported with their work through the IO environment.

The four webinar sessions were organized into four content areas:

- What is digital storytelling? Beginning the work of creating a digital story.
- How to work with digital photo editing programs to create source materials for a digital story.
- How to work with video editing software programs.
- Celebrating the digital stories created by participants and strategies for implementing digital storytelling into the classroom.

The first webinar series ran through the month of November 2007, with sessions offered for both Mac and PC users. The Digital Storytelling Webinar series will be offered again in early 2008.

### **Leading for Today's Learners – Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals**

Technology is a critical factor in creating 21st century learning environments for 21st century learners. The International Society for Technology Education, National Educational Technology Standards for Administrators contends that educational leaders need to ensure that curricular design, instructional strategies and learning environments integrate appropriate technologies to maximize learning and teaching.

Galileo Educational Network, along with Alberta Education, is pleased to sponsor two learning opportunities to help administrators meet the challenge of Leading for Today's Learners. Please visit [http://www.galileo.org/events/ict\\_leading.pdf](http://www.galileo.org/events/ict_leading.pdf) for more information on these sessions.

### **Project Leads**

Project Leads have continued to meet online with Brenda Gladstone from Galileo Educational Network to learn from each other by sharing:

- Current progress with one-to-one implementation in meeting each jurisdiction's charter goals;
- What is working well; and
- What is not working.

Learning how things can be different in the future requires us to be open to a wide variety of approaches and system perspectives, and to share what we are learning as we implement new ways of teaching and learning. We are using a variety of online forums for this work including:

- IO group discussions;
- Wikis at [www.1to1alberta.com](http://www.1to1alberta.com); and
- Webinars and teleconferences.

The next Webinar will be Thursday, January 10 at 2 pm.

## Highlighted Resources

### **Tools4Teachers Update**

The following resources have recently been posted to the [Tools4Teachers](http://www.tools4teachers.ca) site:

- Social Studies 7 PDFs of Student Module Booklets, Assignment Booklets, and the Teacher's Guide
- Biology 20: Modules 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, and 3.2
- Chemistry 20: Modules 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, and 3.1
- Physics 30: Modules 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, and 3.2

Note that the Biology 20, Chemistry 20, and Physics 20 field-test modules will continue to be posted on [Tools4Teachers](http://www.tools4teachers.ca) and made available to online partners as they are completed. Check the [Tools4Teachers](http://www.tools4teachers.ca) site regularly to access the resources posted recently.

The Tools4Teachers website can be accessed at <http://www.tools4teachers.ca>. Login and password access to Tools4Teachers have been distributed province-wide to schools in September. This access information has been e-mailed to school administrators for their distribution to teachers as requested. To receive a password, contact your school administrator. For more information, contact Linda Chase at [Linda.Chase@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Linda.Chase@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at (780) 674-8752.

### **Mathematics and Digital Technologies**

Digital technologies can be used effectively in the mathematics classroom to develop literacies that engage the imagination and the intellect in richly textured ways through modeling, simulation and programming.

The creation and use of mathematical models help students develop new concepts or relationships and make connections between symbols and concepts. Through modeling, students can express how they understand a mathematical concept or relationship. The National Teachers of Mathematics Illuminations website provides teachers and students with 96 online activities. The website is available at <http://illuminations.nctm.org>.

### **Professional Learning Membership Opportunity – Anytime Anywhere Learning Foundation**

Emergence participants are invited to join the Anytime Anywhere Learning Foundation (AALF). AALF

is a not-for-profit membership association that advocates for learning opportunities inherent in school laptop initiatives. Through AALF, members can access research, resources and a professional network to help them create strong, sustainable, learning-driven, one-to-one technology environments.

Membership is free. AALF's goal is to help schools and districts connect to allow them to benefit from each other's knowledge and experience. Currently AALF has 2,000 members as part of its global community, representing about 1000 schools. Members help determine the type of information and services it provides. AALF currently has a group that monitors new reports or research that comes out of one-to-one pilot projects.

Please visit <http://www.aalf.org/Default.aspx> for additional information on AALF, membership and all other activities.

## Accessing the Emerge Tool Kit

In order to meet the immediate need to deploy student laptops, Alberta Education has established a download environment with the Learning Resources Centre (LRC) to access to the contents of the toolkit.

Technical Leads will receive an e-mail from the LRC with a web-link to a secure download site. At the site you will be asked the following:

- Jurisdiction Name
- Contact Name
- Number of Student licenses in Emerge
- Number of Teacher laptops in Emerge

If you have a Microsoft Select or School Agreement and you have access to the media, you may use it to install the software rather than downloading from the site. Please note that not all titles are available in the Select/School agreement media kits.

### **\*\*Important\*\***

In order for us to track the project laptops, all jurisdictions must register the number of teacher and student laptops as indicated within your jurisdiction's conditional grant at the LRC to participate in the partnership.

### **Tool Kit Titles from Microsoft:**

- Windows Upgrade
- Core Client Access License
- Microsoft Desktop Suite Teacher/Student including Microsoft Office 2007 Professional or Microsoft Office 2004 Professional – Mac Learning Essentials
- Microsoft Student 2008 with Encarta Premium
- Microsoft Math
- Microsoft Streets and Trips