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PAECT
EVENTS
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PETE&C

- Board Meeting:
February 12, 4:30 p.m., Suite 3339
- Regional Director's Meet & Greet:
February 13, 6:00 p.m., Suite 3339
- President's Reception:
February 13, 9:00 p.m., Suite 3339
- Banquet & Annual Meeting:
February 14, Empire A, B & C
 - Room opens at 6:00 p.m.
 - Business meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

paect
PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

WWW.PAECT.ORG

PAECT IS A
DYNAMIC PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OFFERING LEADERSHIP AND
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES TO PROFESSIONALS THROUGHOUT THE
COMMONWEALTH BY NURTURING THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, INFORMATION,
RESOURCES, AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENTS IN CURRENT TECHNOLOGY ISSUES.



PAECT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

PETE&C 2012 is officially open, and the Board of the Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communication and Technology would like to extend a big welcome to you! Please take time during the conference to visit some of the PAECT sponsored events: the Social Networking Lounge, the PAECT Banquet and the PAECT President's Reception. If you would like to learn more about PAECT, stop by the PAECT Booth across from registration. Advocacy is a goal of this organization, and we cannot do it alone. Visit the ETAN Booth to learn how you can be involved in a local, state, or national campaign.

I would like to issue a warm welcome to the new Board of Directors of PAECT. The new term cannot begin without thanking the previous presidents and their executive boards. This group of dedicated volunteers has forged the vision of this organization and aligned it to our mission. They have taken us into non-profit status, increased our membership, created partnerships, and built sponsorship opportunities with our vendors. They have established a relationship with the International Society for Technology in Education that will continue for many years to come as we host their international conference every four years in Philadelphia.

On a personal note, Dr. Shirley Campbell, our immediate past president, worked tirelessly to design the ISTE 2011 program and several PETE & C programs, established a board of directors and committee members who consistently provide new ideas and energy to keep the momentum of this organization moving forward and will continue to provide her expertise with this organization as the immediate past president. Thank you, Shirley!

During the next two years the board will implement the strategic plan they have adopted and continue to be the "voice of educational technology in PA." The website lists our Six Strategic Plan Goals. Please check the site for opportunities to become involved in this premier organization and its strategic plan.

I look forward to serving as your president for the next two years, to implement the strategic plan and to reinforce our role in Pennsylvania as the voice of educational technology.

Mary Beth Houghbrook
PAECT President

UPDATES FROM AROUND THE PAECT REGIONS

SE PAECT UPDATE

Kristen Hokanson, SE Regional Director

The Southeast Region hosted a "Tech the Halls" Holiday Get together at Appalachian Brewing Company's Collegeville location on December 11th. Teachers shared some of the new tech tools kids on the "nice list" were getting this year as well as a few other great instructional ideas and strategies. It was no surprise that the iPad and mobile devices were on the top of the list this year. Thanks to Jennifer Brinson for helping take notes. A list of all ideas shared can be found here: <http://snipurl.com/setechhalls>. Also, on January 28-29, 2012, the Southeast region sponsored breakfast at EduCon Philly <http://educonphilly.org/>

This organization exists to serve YOU, the K-20 educators and other professionals throughout the Commonwealth. PAECT strives to nurture the exchange of ideas, information, resources and new developments in the field of educational communications and technology. PAECT will continue growing with help from you as well. Do you want to see more happening in YOUR area? Why not volunteer to host an event?

It has been a pleasure to serve on this board as regional director during a time of great growth and change. I look forward to continuing to support the organization as it continues to speak as the voice of EdTech in Pennsylvania.

NEWSLETTER STAFF CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Publisher / PAECT
Editor / Scott Snyder
Layout & Design / Peter Kelsey
Managing Editor / Brandon Lutz
Associate Editor / Lori Sheldon
Content Advisor / Kathy Brautigam
Content Advisor / Chris Champion
Content Advisor / Dianne Krause
Content Advisor / Joanne Romano

Those interested in joining our volunteer staff, please contact Scott Snyder at ssnyder963@gmail.com or Lori Sheldon at lorips@mac.com

Contributors to the February Issue:
Lori Sheldon, Chris Champion,
Ann Noonan, Christy Savakinas,
MaryBeth Henglebrook,
Kristin Hokanson, Vince Hume,
Mark Perlman, Kevin Conner

SW PAECT / UPDATE

Kevin Conner, SW PAECT member.

School and Public Librarian Partnership Summit/Unconference

On November 29, 2011, Library Media Specialists from ALU's 42 districts, along with public librarians from Allegheny County Library Association and the Carnegie Library system joined instructional coaches for the first-ever Unconference. A backchannel was set up to share and disseminate new information and ideas for attendees—both physical and virtual. Attendees responded positively to both the information presented and the Unconference format. The planning committee is already preparing for another successful 2012 Summit/Unconference. For more information, visit <http://splsummit.pbworks.com>

TRETC (Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference)

The November 2011 TRETC conference theme was Using Technology to Transform Learning. Based on the concepts from the [National Educational Technology Plan](#), day one began with a plenary discussion between Diana Rhoten and Andy Russell, two innovators in playful learning. A networking reception followed with Diana and Andy mingling with interested educators.

Day Two's program included 24 hour-long sessions, attended by nearly 300 K-12 teachers, administrators, students, and Ed Tech vendors. A keynote panel consisting of a local student, an innovative arts educator—Alice Wilder, creator of Blue's Clues—and Karen Cator, current director of the Office of Educational Technology for the US Department of Education, discussed how creativity and creative uses of technology enriches the learning experience. TRETC continues to be a vital source for sharing best practices for regional educators unable to attend the PETE&C statewide conference.

TEDxYouth@Pittsburgh

Students have few opportunities to share their thoughts about the current state of the world, the future they envision, or the passions they want to pursue. TEDx Youth Day—which coincides with Universal Children's Day—gives local students a global opportunity to share, to empower and to inspire others. On November 20, a dozen youth covered topics ranging from urban beekeeping, to creativity in the arts and making a positive contribution to society. Facilitated by a student Master of Ceremonies, each youth presenter had between five to fifteen minutes to communicate to both an audience gathered at North Allegheny Senior High, as well as, a global community through video recordings posted to TEDx's YouTube channel. Many thanks to the students from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh for the video recording of this event. For more information, see <http://www.alu3.net/level3.aspx?id=8990>

PAECT REGION UPDATES

NW PAECT / UPDATE

Ann M. Noonan, Ph.D., - Regional Director

2012 is shaping up to be a great year for technology-using educators in NW PA! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at PETE&C. Up next in the region, on March 8th the meeting topic is Virtual Field Trips - Beyond the Classroom Walls. The meeting begins with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. at IU #5.

New this year, NPAECT is partnering with the local chapter of NTMA (National Tooling and Machining Association) to host Tech Fair 2012 on April 24 at the Pogue Center on the campus of Edinboro University. Look for a STEM focus. Teachers and students are invited to share their tech projects at this year's event.

The Extra Mile Award dinner is scheduled for May 15th at Nick's Place in Edinboro. This annual dinner recognizes those individuals who go the "extra mile" in support of teaching and learning.

Details for all events will be posted, as they become available, on the region's Web site at <http://npaect.org/>. Hope to see you!

SC PAECT / UPDATE

Chris Champion - Outgoing Regional Director

February in Southcentral PA means only one thing - PETE&C. Each year the Southcentral region is excited to host educators and technologists from around the state at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. This year will mark the end of my fourth year as Regional Director and the end of my term. A new Regional Director will be inducted at PETE&C, and I'm excited to continue to work with PAECT in other ways in the future. As you see from the election, we have some great leadership in store for our region for the next four years.

After new members signed up at Edcamp Harrisburg and some regional get-together events, I can only see this region growing faster and faster. I'd like to thank all of the natural leaders that have shown themselves at meetings and events. I'd also like to thank the other regional directors of PAECT for giving me great ideas and for collaborating on multi-region events like previous Summer's Geocaching events. This organization wouldn't exist without the members - we are truly a volunteer organization. Thanks so much!

NE REGION UPDATE

Christy Savakini, NE Regional Director

East Stroudsburg Area School District will host the Spring Into Technology conference on March 24, 2012 at the South High School. Spring Into Technology provides quality sessions and hands-on workshops focused on technology integration and differentiated instruction in the classroom. Attendees will leave with proven ideas and strategies they can implement into their classrooms immediately. We are very excited to have eInstruction, IntegrONE, Study Island and NE PAECT as sponsors for this year's event. Sessions of your choice, lunch, door prizes and conference giveaways are all provided for the low cost of \$40. Registration is now open for this event.

Visit <http://www.esasdnet/SIT> for more information.

NC REGION / UPDATE

The Northcentral region is looking for a few good members to form an advisory committee. The advisory committee will assist in the planning and running of regional events throughout the year. If you've been interested in getting involved in PAECT in the Northcentral region, this is your chance! Contact Shirley Campbell at shir@mac.com if you want to come on board.

The board of PAECT would like to thank Sean McDonough as he closes his official six year stint on the board as Vice-President, President, and Past-President. Under Sean's watch, PAECT secured its tax-exempt status and initiated a complete revision of its by-laws. He has also been a member of the PETE&C board and an important part of crafting the Strategic Plan, which is currently underway.



The board also recognizes Shirley Campbell, who is finishing her tenure as president and moving into her role as Past-President. As President, Shirley has been important in the crafting of the ISTE 2012 program and the PETE&C programs in 2011 & 2012. Her guidance as the Strategic Plan comes together has also been invaluable as have her contributions to the PETE&C board.



PROFESSIONAL PARTNER UPDATES

CoSN E-mail Update

CoSN (the Consortium of School Networks) beta tested Part I of the Certified Education Technology Leader (CETL) certification exam in early December. This new exam is based on the Framework of Essential Skills of the K-12 CTO, which is described as the knowledge education technology leaders need to successfully bring 21st century learning to our nation's schools. The Framework has been developed by professionals working in the field of education technology. Part I of this two-part exam is a two-hour multiple choice test. The beta tests were conducted at 11 different sites throughout the country. The results are now being analyzed before they are distributed to the test takers. Those who pass Part I of the exam will be sent to Part II, which is an essay-based exam that test takers take on their own computers through an Internet-based testing system. Those who pass both parts of the exam will be the first-ever CETL-certified education technology leaders.

The first official CETL exam is being administered during CoSN's 2012 Annual Conference, March 4, in Washington, DC. If you have questions about the CETL program, including how to apply to sit for the exam, please visit www.cosn.org/certification.

Interested in staying up to date on current happenings and legislation in Washington, D.C.? Then follow Hilary Goldmann's blog over on the ISTE Community Ning where she provides periodic updates to what is hot in politics in D.C. <http://bit.ly/IsKNVj>



Message from : Mark Perlman
www.EdTechActionNetwork.org

NOW is the time to join us—take action to support educational technology!

Why Does Advocacy Matter?

Because federal policymakers in Washington, D.C., face a tight budget, and unless they hear from constituents, they'll cut funds from key programs – including those that keep classrooms competitive through education technology. Without a vocal constituency advocating for funding in their home districts, elected officials can all too easily ignore the needs of America's 21st century learners.

What is the Education Technology Action Network (ETAN)?

ETAN is an online tool and policy resource that's both powerful and easy to use. Started in 2003 by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), ETAN provides a forum for educators and others to engage in the political process and project a unified voice in support of a common cause—improving teaching and learning through the effective use of technology. ETAN's mission is to influence public policy-makers at the federal, state, and local levels and to increase public investment in the competitiveness of America's classrooms and students.

The Issues—EETT and E-Rate

This year, ETAN members and supporters are mobilizing to protect federal funding for two critical programs: EETT and E-Rate. The Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) program is absolutely vital for teacher training, hardware and software acquisition, and infrastructure development. For fully one quarter of all U.S. states, federal EETT monies are the sole source of funding to support technology in schools. For many other states, EETT provides most of their Ed Tech funding.

ETAN is also focused on the E-Rate, a vital program that must be preserved as Congress overhauls current telecommunications law. Since 1998, E-Rate funds have ensured that nearly all students

and teachers – regardless of their socioeconomic circumstances – can access online resources.

Why Join ETAN?

- **Because** your voice makes all the difference.
- **Because** you'll learn how to raise awareness about vital issues with political decision-makers, media, and your community.
- **Because** you'll hear right away about important federal legislative actions and deadlines and receive tips for effective grassroots advocacy on the local, state, and federal levels.

Join ETAN – experience the value of many voices coming together for a common cause!

What You Can Do:

- **Stay informed** – Visit www.EdTechActionNetwork.org to join ETAN and learn about important Ed Tech issues
- **Take action** – Send letters to your Members of Congress: <http://bit.ly/uvD837>
- **Tell-a-friend** – Spread the word to your friends and family about how they can make a difference too!
- **Read regularly** – Hilary Goldman's Blog (ISTE advocacy): <http://bit.ly/IsKNVj>

Coming to PETE&C?

Stop by the ETAN booth at PETE&C and join if you haven't already done so, tell us what you have/are doing, tell us what you want us to do (mperlman@mac.com)!

NOW is the time, as the ebb and flow of politicking in Harrisburg is in full swing. Let them know that you understand that educational funding is a great and powerful tool for an elected official to use as a bargaining chip, but this is supposed to be about the education of our children, not about being re-elected. Ask them to think before they vote.

Call and email TODAY. Ask friends and family to do the same! It only takes one minute.



PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

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WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, YOU CAN JOIN BY GOING TO

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PAECT ELECTION BIOS / MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Ann Noonan,
Vice-President
(President-Elect)

Ann is currently Director of Elementary Curriculum, Technology, and Title I Programs with Crawford Central School District in the Northwest region. During her ten years as a classroom teacher, she cultivated an interest in learning about the impact of computer use on the teaching and learning process. Both her thesis and dissertation focused on topics related to educational technology. Ann's work has been in the field of educational technology at both the district level and regional level.

Moving forward, Ann's goals are to put the Strategic Plan - currently under revision - into operation and to solidify PAECT's goal to be "the voice of educational technology in Pennsylvania."



Ron Bennett
Treasurer

Ron was technology director for thirteen years at Wattsburg Area School District before his retirement and has served on the PAECT Board of Directors for twelve years, the last nine as Treasurer.

Ron will continue his work to help PAECT stabilize its financial base by developing partners and sponsors who are willing to commit funds on a yearly basis in exchange for services that we can provide. He hopes to move the organization towards communicating with its membership on at least a monthly basis and will work with regional directors to provide services in all six of our regions.



Linda LaCoe
Recording Secretary

Linda has been involved in educational technology for over 24 years, as a teacher, technology coach, technology director, and technology team member. Her extensive training, Master of Arts in Educational Policy and Leadership/ Instructional Design & Technology, a Pennsylvania Instructional Technology Specialist (K-12) certification, a certificate in Educational Technology Integration, and certification in Library Science (K-12), has enabled her to engage in a wide range of activities in the educational technology arena, which include providing workshops to teachers and individuals and reviewing grants and technology plans for the PA Department of Education.

Linda has served on the PAECT board for nine years as the recording secretary. She feels that PAECT needs to focus on membership benefits, communication and growth because these will give the membership more connections for networking and learning.



PAECT IS A NON-PROFIT THAT DEPENDS ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A SMALL PORTION OF YOUR TIME AT PETE & C TO ONE OF THE MANY PROJECTS BEING SUPPORTED BY PAECT. YOU CAN FIND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES BY VISITING WWW.PAECT.ORG.



OUR NEW FACEBOOK & TWITTER ICON DESIGN

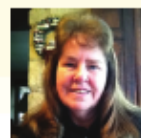
PAECT ELECTION BIOS / MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Michael Baker
Corresponding Secretary

Mike has taught educational technology since 1995 and worked in online learning since 1999. Having served PAECT as both webmaster and Corresponding Secretary, Mike is responsible for recent website upgrades as well as the launch of our newsletter. He resides in the Southwest region where he is currently the Online Learning Coordinator for South Side Area School District.

Moving forward, he will work on building a community that connects individuals and ideas. Through work on both the regional and state level, Mike hopes to establish opportunities for membership to grow.



Connie Sitterley
NW Regional Director

Now retired, Connie was most recently Director of Instructional Technology for PENNCREST School District where she was employed for 36 years. While involved with and leading in the technology area, she helped implement Google Apps for Education.

Connie sees membership and member involvement as vital to the organization and to students. She will encourage members to be active throughout the year - including participation in regional events and workshop - to strengthen the Association as a whole. Additional areas of focus include keeping members informed about trends, affordable learning opportunities, legislative issues and advocacy, as well as, reaching out to the various education communities through social media and more conventional methods - greatly needed services!



Christine Yarzabek
SC Regional Director

Christine, a first grade teacher in Derry Township School District, is passionate about integrating technology into early childhood classrooms. She was the chairperson of EdCamp Harrisburg - a gathering of teachers who present and share new ideas and strategies on using tech in the classroom.

Christine really wants to get more local members involved in PAECT to spread the word and have a chance to meet other tech leaders in the area. Additionally, she intends to hold social hours where members can all get to know each other better and learn from one another. Finally, holding online chats with members all across Pennsylvania to talk about all things education would help the organization reach out and spread the word about PAECT! Find her on Twitter @CYarzy



Brandon Lutz
SE Regional Director

Brandon has been in the education profession for over eleven years. After many years spent teaching technology in a K to 8 environment for the School District of Philadelphia, Brandon put his experience to work as an Instructional Technology Coach for seventeen high schools throughout Philadelphia. In addition to his work, Brandon spends his time searching for the latest and greatest web tools to include in his popular 60 in 60 presentation.

Brandon is excited to lead the Southeast Region of PAECT and feels that the organization needs to continue to cultivate and recruit new leaders in Pennsylvania in order to continue the tradition of networking, inspiring and leading teachers and administrators through the 21st century. He also sees a crucial need for PAECT to provide professional development opportunities to better enhance their understanding of educational technology and the role that it plays in classrooms across the nation.

