PAECT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It is hard to believe that autumn has come and gone. The holidays are right around the corner, and the PETE & C Conference is less than three months away. Our regional directors have been very active by providing opportunities for fellowship, networking, and personal learning at various sites throughout PA. Our board members have been busy planning for the conference, reading and evaluating session proposals to provide high quality speakers, topical sessions and engaging interactions for all participants at the PETE & C 2013 which will be held February 10-13 in Hershey, PA. Our members have been active on Twitter, Facebook, and the former CFF List serve as they continue to share their expertise on educational technology best practices.

Across the state school districts have been introduced to the educator effectiveness models. These tools will reform the way school professionals are evaluated as well as determine some of the components of professional development and training for continued growth and improvement of all educators, including teachers, principals, and administrators.

I would like to ask our members as they attend different learning opportunities around this great state to share via the social network of your choice what you have learned, ideas for additional topics, and lastly to volunteer your time and your expertise.

Have a wonderful, safe and happy holiday season.

Mary Beth Hengelbrok
PAECT President
NE PAECT UPDATE

Christy Savakinas, NE Region Director

The northeast region is planning two Apps & Appetizer events in November. The first event will be held in the Scranton area on November 7, and the second event will be held in the Lehigh Valley area on November 14. Both events will take place from 4:30-6:30 and provide an opportunity for members to share apps with each other. Details are still being finalized. Please check the website for updates.

SEPAECT UPDATE

Brandon Lutz, SE Region Director

SEPAECT is proud to co-sponsor the free “Hack Your Education” Event with Steve Hargadon on November 9th and 10th at Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia. The Friday evening conversation focuses on building a personal learning plan to encourage attendees to take control of their learning goals. During the Saturday session, participants will engage in a hands-on workshop designed around using web2.0 tools and social media for personal, educational and professional growth. Check out this link for more details http://www.smore.com/1y70 and mark your calendar to join us!

In December, SEPAECT members will enjoy a holiday favorite, Tech the Halls, with some super snacks, socialization and sharing of sites! Stay tuned for more exciting events in the New Year.......
A TALE OF ONE TO ONE
Michael Baker, Contributor

We need an educational system that adjusts to every child. Our kids need access to 21st century tools. We must break from the teaching methods that have been in place since the 19th century. This high rhetoric has been echoing in the ears of educational leaders for decades. Agreeing is the easy part. In this three part series, I will share both the successes and failures behind South Side Area School’s approaches to answering the rhetoric with actions. In this first installment, I will discuss the planning and launch of our one-to-one initiative.

The background of how South Side made One-to-One happen will be a great fireside chat in Hershey, but for the sake of words, we made it happen. Five hundred iPads for K-5 and 700 laptops for 6-12. Since I work mostly in the K-5 building, I will share how we approached our launch.

We wanted to make sure we had a personal support network, so we decided to create voluntary Tech Integrator (TI) positions. Staff do not get paid. They had to complete a lengthy application form and were not assured the TI designation. We had more than double the applicants we needed to fill these roles. We started bringing the TIs together before any equipment or training was offered within the district. We rented a van and drove across the state to see presentations from those already using iPads to educate in the classroom.

We brought official Apple training to Hookstown during the summer. Every staff member that showed up got to take their iPad home with them for the rest of the summer. Most staff attended.

The TIs met throughout the summer to come up with baseline apps and rollout ideas. We decided to start the year with One-to-One only in the TI classrooms with the promise that we would rollout equipment to every student by October 1. The TIs meet weekly to discuss theses questions: What is working? What isn’t working? What can we change? We have seen wireless issues and dirty screens. We have developed app request forms and procedures while giving staff freedom to customize student iPads. Our tech staff are perfecting cart syncing and unforeseen tech issues. We are doing this in a friendly manner that has been absolutely positive and polite.

I have been doing 40 minute lessons each week with every K-5 class. My students have a simple role. If you figure out something cool, share it with everyone. They understand that we are all learning together with the same goal: to utilize their iPads to improve learning. We are getting there. We aren’t perfect. We have fought frustration, but we are moving forward.
How do I reserve a hotel room for PETE&C?
Room reservations are currently being handled through this website: http://resweb.passkey.com/go/PETEC2013. You can reserve one room at a time on a first come, first served basis. This applies to both Lodge rooms, other Hershey property rooms, and other hotels in the immediate area. Make your reservation before there are no more rooms available!

How and when can I register for PETE&C?
Registration for PETE&C can be handled by visiting https://www.peteandc.org/registration_form.cfm. As of this writing, the registration system had not yet launched, but it will soon be active. Once on this page, look for a link to the registration system. Attendees can also check out details of the “Buy 2, Get 1” Registration Promotion before registering. Most payment methods are accepted at the end of the registration process. Don’t forget to include a banquet ticket for Tuesday night!

How can I join PAECT for its annual banquet during PETE&C?
Make sure you purchase a Tuesday night dinner ticket when you are going through the registration process. Then, in late December or January, watch for an email from PAECT. At that time, we’ll ask you to either reply or link to a form indicating you want to come to our banquet on Tuesday night of PETE. That’s all you will have to do to be with us.

When will I find out if I am invited to present at PETE&C 2013?
By the time this newsletter is published, you should have received an email from Shirley Campbell via this email address peteandcselects@gmail.com indicating whether your proposal was accepted or not. If you had not previously whitelisted this email address, then check your spam folder for a message. If you were selected, whitelist this address so you receive all communications about your chance to present at PETE. Failure to respond to these emails in a timely fashion could result in the loss of a presentation slot.

Mark Perlman, PAECT ETAN/Legislative Coordinator

If you value public education in Pennsylvania, you need to stay informed and should be letting your elected officials know where you stand on ALL issues.

The Keystone State Education Coalition is a great resource for finding out what the State Legislature is working on concerning Education in Pennsylvania. You might not always agree (I certainly hope not), but the resource for timely information is outstanding:

http://keystonestateeducationcoalition.blogspot.com
Stay informed, connected, and vocal.
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, YOU CAN JOIN BY GOING TO
HTTP://PAECT.ORG

PROFESSIONAL PARTNER / UPDATES

ISTE Advocacy
Keep Up to Date on DC

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

ISTE Community Ning
Get connected to your ISTE Member Network
PAECT MENTORS – WHAT DO THEY DO?

So, what does Virginia do as PAECT Mentors? Our goal is to grow and sustain membership by engaging all of you in professional learning opportunities related to teaching and learning with technology. We focus on the four key words in the PAECT mission: advocate, develop, connect and lead.

ADVOCATE

We are advocates for using technology for 21st century teaching and learning – and advocates for PAECT. The PAECT Facebook page is up and running this year, and now we are ready for it to take off. We currently have 108 of you who have “liked” PAECT on Facebook. Using Facebook works well since you simply see what we are posting right in your News feed. Don’t worry, We don’t see what YOU are posting, unless you post it to the PAECT page! Check it out at http://www.facebook.com/PAECT. If we see something great in the world of K-12 technology, we’ll post it to Facebook and use the Twitter hashtag #paect.

DEVELOP

Last year, we offered a series of public webinars on topics such as OneNote, Digital Textbooks, and Redefining Instruction with Technology. This year, we are going to offer a series of Members Only webinars. In addition to facilitating conversations, we want to continue to build leaders across the state. So, as much as we like to talk, we are going to ask you to do some of that this year. Watch for an email blast with a survey asking you to tell us what you are looking for in regard to webinar topics. And, if you have a topic that you’d like to share, we’ll teach you the ropes and moderate a webinar with YOU as the presenter.

CONNECT

In addition to our webinar series, we’re also planning to moderate some upcoming virtual panel discussions. If you would like to hear how other districts are addressing – fill in the blank – let us know. We’ll do our best to pull together a panel of PA experts. We are also looking for talented PAECT members to feature on the PAECT website. Do you know someone who deserves some recognition? Let us know.

LEAD

We simply cannot help ourselves. We continue to add our 2 cents to the CFF Coach Listserv, which is now sponsored by PAECT. (Thank you very much!) And, until you all begin to post to the Facebook page, we’re the ones who keep things rolling there as well. We both have our own consulting practices and participate in professional learning networks to stay on top of the latest and greatest. That works out well for PAECT since we love to share.

If we have not yet met in person, watch for us at PETE&C. And please do say hello! You can always reach us at:

· Virginia Glatzer vglatzer@infostweb.com

Have a fabulous year!

SURVEY SAYS, DING!

What are your PD interests? Mobile Technology? Learning Management Systems? Cloud Computing? If you have not told us, then we don’t know! Take a few moments out of your busy day and let us know what YOU want. Click HERE to participate in the survey.
Lori Sheldon, staff writer

Fifth grade teacher Jan Abernathy embraces the integration of Web 2.0 technologies into her curriculum. Her class website contains examples of student projects, student videos and podcasts, various tools for her students, resources for parents and teachers, and links to all of her previous classes. Jan teaches in Greenville, PA, was a Keystone Technology Integrator, is a Discovery Star Educator, and has presented at PETE&C. Her site can be viewed at http://www.jabernethy.com/.

*** FEEDBACK & SUGGESTIONS ***

Newsletter Feedback
The newsletter team is always trying to improve the newsletter for you, our members and readers. Please take a few minutes to take a short survey available at http://tinyurl.com/9ofw36s or by clicking HERE.

Story Suggestions
Do you have an idea for an article? Have a blog or wiki you think we should feature? Know a teacher or administrator we should feature? Share those ideas HERE or go to http://tinyurl.com/8gasdwa! Answer the question that best matches your suggestion, and the newsletter team will consider your suggestion for a future publication.
Why YOU Belong...

Your Learning Community...

is vibrant and supportive. You are connected by your passion for working with students and your quest to learn and share innovative uses for technology in education. Your colleagues—Teachers, Administrators, Professors, High School & College Students, Parents, Education Consultants—all interested in educational technology & professional networking participate in keeping the vision for transformative learning!

PAECT Happenings...

To catch up, click here.

Have an idea for an event?...

Contact your Regional Director:

Northwest Region:
Connie Sitterley, csitterley@mac.com

Southwest Region:
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Southeast Region:
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Thanks for your continued membership!
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.

PAECT WEB TOOLS:

Check out these web tools and start using them!

Class Dojo http://www.classdojo.com/  >  >  >  >  >  >  >  >

What is it?
An online behavior management software for the classroom
Where to use it?
Teachers can keep track of student behaviors in the classroom using an app that communicates with the web site. Students and parents have access to reports on student behavior.

NearPod http://www.nearpod.com/  >  >  >  >  >  >  >  >  >

What is it?
An all-in-one solution for synchronized use of the ipads in the classroom
Where to use it?
Teachers can share their iPad screen with their students showing diagrams, videos and other student’s work. They can also have students take quizzes, work out problems, draw and collect the work they did directly off the iPad.

WeVideo http://www.wevideo.com/  >  >  >  >  >  >  >  >  >

What is it?
A collaborative online video editor in the cloud
Where to use it?
Teachers and students can create class videos with this awesome video editor. Multiple users can be connected to a video, where they can add clips and edit it together.