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.

Summer is almost over, and a new school year is about to begin. This has been a very busy time for PAECT and its board members. Partnering with NYSCATE, PAECT hosted a reception in San Diego @ ISTE 2012 for friends of both organizations. We welcomed over 400 guests who networked and shared activities they are involved with in their state organizations. It was an enjoyable evening for all participants.

This year the conference provided attendees with dozens of concurrent sessions in each time slot, poster sessions, playgrounds, and lounges. Hundreds of vendors showcased the newest products and services. Please check out ISTE Video on YouTube to catch some highlights and sessions you missed if you were unable to attend.

As we begin the new school year, check our website frequently for regional activities and events. Don’t forget to submit your PETE & C 2013 presentation proposal by midnight October 1, 2012.

Mary Beth Hengelbrook
PAECT President
SE PAECT UPDATE

Brandon Lutz, SE PAECT Regional Director

Summer is normally a time for rest and relaxation, but in SEPAECT the events just keep coming, and our members are thrilled! We have networked, shared, and met new friends through a variety of great events. Here’s a brief recap:

• In May, SEPAECT joined forces with Montgomery County Community College faculty for Tech and Tacos. SMART trainers James Griffin and Michelle Cutting wowed us with their expertise and gave out some fabulous prizes. In addition, members shared some of their favorite tools from around the web.
• EdCampPhilly was a well attended May event, and breakfast was sponsored by SEPAECT.
• For June, SEPAECT met online and got a special preview of Brandon Lutz’s 60 in 60 presentation.
• In July, members were hosted by Mary Kate Najarian and her husband Chris for a family oriented backyard BBQ. It was a beautiful day for members, spouses, and kids to get together and bond over the grill.
• August saw SEPAECT host a happy hour get together at Nodding Head Brewery in Philadelphia. The well-attended event offered members a chance to get to know new people, network before the school year, and share the tools that they learned over the summer.

In November, SEPAECT looks forward to hosting a Bring Your Administrator to Dinner Event. Our members are hoping to bridge the gap between educators and their bosses to create a more technological work environment for everyone!

If you haven’t already joined us for an event, please consider doing so. We need everyone to share their ideas to make our organization great!

SC PAECT UPDATE

The date for edcamp Harrisburg is Saturday, October 20th. SCPAECT is a cosponsor of the event. Visit http://edcampharrisburg.org/ to learn more. For additional regional activities and events, click through to http://www.paect.org/south-central-region or the Facebook page as well as watch for announcements in future eBlasts.
NPAECT has had a quiet summer, but we are planning for a quick start to the new school year. The leadership has met twice to plan and set dates for the upcoming year.

The 2012 Leadership Team for NPAECT is:
- Ann Clark, Corry Area School District, President
- Dr. Ann Noonan, Crawford Central School District, Past President
- Connie Sitterley, Retired PENNCREST School District, Pres. Elect / Regional Director
- Ron Bennett, Retired Wattsburg School District, Secretary / Treasurer
- Nick Paolini, IU5, Member-at-Large
- Howard Richards, Millcreek Township School District, Member-at-Large
- Nicole Hill, Dubois School District, Member-at-Large

Our full leadership team met at the Bayfront Sheraton in Erie, PA, in June prior to the PAECT Board meeting. Some of the team stayed for the Regional Directors’ meeting and then attended a Lake Erie dinner cruise on the Victorian Princess. We appreciate being invited to attend those events and to become better acquainted with PAECT leadership.

The 3CsETC (Connect, Communicate, Collaborate Ed Tech Conference) Octoberfest will be held on October 20 at General McLane Middle School in Edinboro. This event will provide at least 20 break-out choices as well as collaborative time. We are finalizing the plans for the event and more information will be posted on the 3Cs Web site (http://3csetc.org) and emailed to our members.

Our formal dinner meetings will continue in November with a popular theme of Tech Tool Tinsel Temptations - Holiday Gift Suggestions and will be held at IU5 in Edinboro. These dinner meetings provide a great way to meet and talk with others about new ideas for the classroom as well as time to make connections.

Additionally, we are planning several more informal get-togethers in various areas of the region. These will be held at local eateries, libraries, schools and other venues to bring the support for technology closer to our members.

Members of the NPAECT leadership team will be scheduling face-to-face meetings with Technology Directors and Curriculum Coordinators in their individual districts. These brief meetings will be an opportunity to share what PAECT/NPAECT has to offer. We hope that the personalized conversations will help as we reach out to current and potential members.

NPAECT celebrates its 20th year as an organization this year. During those years, we have supported and encouraged the expanding use of technology tools in education. We will continue our very successful Tech Fair and Student Showcase and plan for newer, more innovative ways to reach out and encourage the educators and students in our region.

If you are in NW PA and want to know how you can get involved with PAECT/NPAECT, check out our website: http://npaect.org.
SW PAECT Regional Event Gives Attendees A Taste of Technology

On Wednesday, May 23, 2012, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY (PAECT) SouthWestern Chapter held its first Regional Event. This “Taste of Technology” TECH and TELL was held at St. Louise de Marillac School in (Upper St. Clair) Pittsburgh, PA, from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

Zee Ann Poerio, Technology Teacher for K-8 at St. Louise de Marillac, was the host and event chair. Ken Klase, principal of St. Louise de Marillac School, welcomed everyone; and Dr. Shirley Campbell, Past President of PAECT, thanked everyone for attending.

Following a light technology themed dinner with APPetizers, BYTE sized sandwiches, computer potato CHIPS to munch, and COOKIES, the attendees were invited to visit a student showcase which featured technology from Carnegie Mellon University’s CREATE Lab. An exhibit featuring a Robotic Ancient Coin made by the STL Student Technology Team using the ARTS & BOTS (formerly Robot Diaries) - Hummingbird Kit was displayed for human-robot interaction. Also, 8th grade student Tom W. invited attendees to attempt challenges he programmed for the FINCH, another robotic device. A GigaPan was on display along with a large print for attendees to post comments. Jillian G. and Francesca G., eighth grade students, also volunteered at the event. They demonstrated how Turning Technologies response devices or “clickers” can be used in the classroom, and they assisted in registering teachers with EDMODO accounts to prepare for the workshop.

Dan Plesco of Direct Tech Solutions explained the benefits of using a Meraki Wireless Access Point. The access point was installed that day and attendees were able to see how quickly schools could benefit from the technology. SWPAECT members presented the attendees with a “taste of technology” that they could put to use in the upcoming school year. Attendees learned how to power their classes with EDMODO (Zee Ann Poerio, K-8 Technology Teacher), engage their students with the new SMART Notebook 11 (Brandie Boback, Certified SMART Trainer), and use Twitter for the Classroom and PD (Silvina Orsatti, IT Specialist). The session ended with a TECH & TELL where attendees shared their favorite web tools.

Thanks to the following organizations for donating these fantastic door prizes:

- **Smart SolutionTechnologies**, LP (http://smarterguys.com/): Smart Board Interactive Whiteboard SB680 Smart Board or Smart Response Training
- **Meraki** (http://www.meraki.com/): Meraki Wireless Access Point
- **SWPAECT** (http://www.paect.org/): Barnes & Noble Gift Card and book
- **Turning Technologies** (http://www.turningtechnologies.com/): Turning Technologies Response System Trial

Special thanks to Dom Salvucci who joined us via SKYPE to share his experiences with Edmodo, Jana Baxter of SW PAECT, St. Louise de Marillac School administration and staff, and Theresa Enyeart, Toni Luvara, and Jean Rowles for their help on the day of the event. This event was FREE for PAECT Members and $5.00 for Non-Members. Attendees received PA ACT 48 credit and left with “cookies” (to eat) and great ideas to share with their colleagues and use immediately in their classrooms.

Photos from this event can be viewed here:
http://animoto.com/play/K6yQjVmu16CgRYNeulqfrA

(Created with ANIMOTO http://animoto.com/ another great web tool!)
The North Central Region has been able to get the ball rolling on creating a local board. At the moment we have volunteers but no official officers. All the volunteers were asked to participate because of their work in CFF or their recognition as Keystones. Some of the officers were CFF coaches, and a few were outstanding CFF participants whom excelled in their local districts and have been recognized as outstanding contributors in their districts; these individuals were Karen Sullivan and Allison Burrell. NC Region is also proud to have some the region’s standout CFF coaches in Karey Killian, Phil Burrell, and Ian McCooq all of whom have presented in various venues around the area and state. Lastly, NC Region was able to get Keystones Keith Creamer and Dwight Woodley to join our ranks as both have been recognized as outstanding tech integrators at district, regional, and state levels. In addition, the board volunteers are planning their first meeting in September where we will be making these volunteers officers. At the first meeting, the new board hopes to get its members appointed to their offices, approve descriptions of the offices, and brainstorm ideas for its first event. We are in our infancy and are in the process of catching up to the other Regions. If there is anyone who would like to be a member of the NC Region board, there is always room for more volunteers. Please visit our website (below) and send an email telling stating your interest! Thanks!

http://www.paect.org/north-central-region

PAECT is proud to partner with Tech & Learning Magazine to bring this event to our members.

Tech Forum New York: Insight and Innovation for Technology Leaders

Friday October 19, 2012
Westchester Mariott
670 White Plains Rd.
Tarrytown, NY 10591

What is Tech Forum?
Brought to you by the team behind Tech & Learning magazine and the TechLearning.com web site, Tech Forum represents “Tech & Learning in action.” Now in its eighth season, this high-powered, one-day event provides K-12 decision makers with thought-provoking content on the hottest topics of the day in education technology. An engaging and intimate setting, expert presentations, and plenty of networking opportunities ensure that participants leave with practical tools and key contacts for continued rich communities of practice.

The Top 10 Reasons to Attend Tech Forum New York
1. A thought-provoking opening keynote by a widely-acclaimed speaker.
2. Practical breakout sessions and mini-workshops on topics of importance to K-12 leaders.
3. Roundtable discussions on hot-button issues identified by you when you register.
4. Engaging and well-respected speakers.
5. An amazing array of content packed into a single day, without the need to travel a long distance or take extended time away from work.
6. Good food, a lovely and intimate setting -- the chance to be pampered while you work.
7. The opportunity to hear from and meet with select industry providers who are available to answer questions and provide demos.
8. Great end-of-day prizes.
9. Priceless networking opportunities with some of the most tapped-in folks in the world of education technology.
10. A once-a-year chance to participate in the event that previous attendees have described as “extremely productive” with “superb breadth and depth” and “one of the best conferences ever!”
CoSN / Update

CONSORTIUM FOR SCHOOL NETWORKING (COSN) – PAECT CTL-SIG UPDATE

CTL-SIG UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP
The PAECT Chief Technology Leader Special Interest Group (CTL-SIG) is under new leadership. Vince Humes, past CTL-SIG Chair, was elected to the CoSN national board. As a result, the PA chapter of CoSN is now being co-chaired by Jim Gallagher of Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 5 and Ed McKaveney of the Hampton Township School District. We look forward to working with everyone on a variety of technology projects, goals and events that are of interest to our members.

Jim Gallagher can be contacted by email at jim.gallagher@iu5.org. Ed McKaveney can be contacted by email at mckaveneye@ht-sd.org.

WITHROW AWARD NOMINATIONS
Nominations for the PAECT Chief Technology Leader Special Interest Group (CTL-SIG) Withrow award are now being accepted. This award is an annual award given to a CTO for their outstanding work in technology. Named for Frank Withrow, a pioneer of education technology who served for many years as a member of the CoSN Board, the chosen PA CTO of the year will subsequently be nominated for the National CoSN Withrow award. The 2012 PA winner will be announced at the TRETC conference in Pittsburgh on November 13-14, 2012, and will receive special recognition at the 2013 PAECT Awards Dinner held during PETE&C in February. The deadline for nominations is October 26, 2012.

Please complete a nomination form and return to PA CTL-SIG Co-Chairs Ed McKaveney and Jim Gallagher. You may access and make a copy of the nomination form by clicking here.

For more information on CoSN Awards go to http://www.cosn.org/Awards/tabid/4220/Default.aspx

CONFERENCE UPDATE
The CoSN Annual Conference will be held March 11-13, 2013, in San Diego, CA.

This year’s theme is Audacious Leadership, emphasizing how technology is having a transformative impact on society and many industry sectors, but change is happening more slowly in education. The time is now for bold and daring leaders to define a new vision, build 21st century learning environments and use technology as a transformative tool.

CETL CERTIFICATION UPDATE
Congratulations to Pennsylvania’s recipients of the Consortium of School Networking’s (COSN) national Certified Education Technology Leader (CETL) designation. As of July 2012, these four individuals are among the first 46 education technology professionals in the nation to have obtained this credential.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Borosh</td>
<td>Director of Technology</td>
<td>East Stroudsburg Area School District</td>
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<td>Joe Miller</td>
<td>Director of Technology</td>
<td>A.W. Beattie Career Center</td>
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<td>Ed McKaveney</td>
<td>Technology Director</td>
<td>Hampton Township School District</td>
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<td>Brett Sanders</td>
<td>Coordinator of Technology &amp; Media Services</td>
<td>West Shore School District</td>
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For more information, please see CoSN’s CETL Program website at http://www.cosn.org/Certification/tabid/9022/Default.aspx

Ask PETE

When is PETE&C in 2013?
February 10-13, 2013, in Hershey, PA.

Is it too late to submit a presentation proposal?
No, you can submit a proposal to present clear up until October 1, 2012. For all accepted proposals, the person listed as the first presenter will be automatically registered for the conference.

Please click here to submit a proposal.

What about pre-conference proposals?
At this point in time, there are no plans to accept proposals for pre-conference sessions. Most pre-conference sessions for 2013 have been canceled due to low attendance.

How can I volunteer or help out?
Right now, you can assist by volunteering to review presentation proposals. We’ll need your help during October after the proposal deadline, but are looking for reviewers right now! Use this link to submit your name to help review proposals.
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/lsKNVj

ISTE Community Ning
Get connected to your ISTE Member Network
So, what do Jim and 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 K12 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:
- Jim Gates Jgates513@gmail.com
- Virginia Glatzer vglatzer@infostweb.com

Have a fabulous year!
ENGAGING STUDENTS ONLINE
By Tara Park

Welcome to the 21st century! In case you haven’t heard, classrooms look a lot different now. Sure, most students are still being taught in traditional brick and mortar school buildings, but a growing number of students are being taught in less traditional models. Whether a full-fledged cyber school model or one of the many varieties of blended learning, teachers need to keep one thing in mind: students still need to be engaged, every day.

One tip for planning to engage students online is to start early. In the beginning of the year, generate an interest inventory for each of your students. Determine their learning style, utilize diagnostic information to assess their strengths and weaknesses, and be sure to differentiate. Be careful not to fall into the trap of mistaking online learning for independent learning. Ask yourself the question “Why am I here?” Am I here to teach the students or to assess them? If your answer is the former, than you have a lot of work ahead of you. Online teaching is not meant to be easier than face to face teaching. If done correctly, it can be an amazing, rewarding experience and the best option for many students. To find more information on how to engage student’s online, visit iNACOL’s Standards for Quality Online Teaching, http://www.inacol.org/research/nationalstandards/iNACOL_TeachingStandardsv2.pdf

PAECT / WHAT'S HAPPENING

TWITTER CHATS

What are Twitter chats?
They are pre-arranged “discussions” that occur on Twitter. Each chat has its own hashtag, which is the # symbol, and an agreed upon identifying tag. Many times the chat will have facilitators pose questions or discussion topics to the group. Participants respond and include the hashtag in those responses. Participants or viewers can follow the hashtags in a variety of ways. Perhaps the easiest ways to follow a Twitter chat are to use the search feature on twitter.com or use twitter.com/search and enter the hashtag.

Why are they used?
Twitter chats provide opportunities for educators and other to keep current, collaborate with others, share ideas and experiences, and solve problems.

How are they located?
While a google search will lead you to some educational chats, a pretty comprehensive list can be found here: http://www.cybraryman.com/chats.html.

With increased demands on our time and decreasing budgets cutting into many professional development opportunities, Twitter chats are an inexpensive, convenient tool for making and keeping valuable connections.

Christine Yarzabeck, PAECT’s SouthCentral Regional Director, ran #1stchat, a Twitter chat for first grade teachers globally. Here is what she had to share:

#1stchat is an amazing group of teachers. I learned so much, and I always had teachers to answer a question for me, give me feedback, etc. Just by adding the #1stchat hashtag to any tweet (and at any time of the week), I knew I would get a response. I had the chance to meet some #1stchat friends last winter at a conference in Ohio, and it was a truly memorable experience. I don’t consider them just friends on twitter but friends that I can now call/text when we want to talk!

Now as I move on to 4th grade, I have been welcomed to become a co-moderator of the #4thchat team! I am very excited but will always be there for the #1stchat team.

I recommend joining or following an educational chat to all educators. It is a great way to make connections and get the answers you need. Most chats have a website or wiki where they archive their discussions each week. They are a great resource for any teacher!
PAECT/NYCATRE RECEPTION AT ISTE 2012

Another GREAT gathering of networking, prizes, and fun at the PAECT/NYCATRE Reception was held in San Diego. The reception was attended by 400+ conference participants. The reception was hosted by Past Presidents, James Bolton and Sean McDonough, and the NYSCATE Executive Director, Amy Perry. The reception was held Monday evening at the Marriott Marquis and Marina in San Diego Ballroom B. The main food presentation was California Grilled Pizza and was a great hit. PAECT’s current President, Mary Beth Henglbrock, provided a welcome from PAECT and ISTE President (and Past President of PAECT), Holly Jobe, provided a welcome from ISTE. Other notables in attendance were PAECT’s Teacher and Leader of the Year, Aly Tapp and Jarrin Sperry; ISTE Board Member, Ben Smith; PAST PAECT President and Past ISTE President, Kyle Peck; Former Deputy Secretary of Technology for Pennsylvania, Michael Golden; Past President Shirley Campbell; as well as officers from numerous ISTE affiliates.

At the registration table, volunteers collected signatures for an ETAN petition. Once again prizes, prizes, and more prizes were handed out.

We wish to thank our sponsors for their support for this wonderful networking event: CDW-G and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Many thanks to Liz White and Johnny “B” from CDW-G, who have been with us as sponsors for 7 years. Also, many thanks to Adam Hall from HMH for their first year as an event sponsor.

Once again, the PAECT/NYCATRE Reception was the talk of the conference and the envy of the affiliates.

OUR RECEPTION SPONSORS

CDW-G

PEOPLE WHO GET IT™

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
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!

Remind 101 https://www.remind101.com/ > > > > > > > > > > > >
What is it?
A web tool that allows teachers and administrators to share pertinent information with teachers, parents, and students via SMS text and e-mail.
Where to use it?
Teachers can use Remind 101 to share important information such as homework and class trips with students and parents. Administrators can share important information such as school closing and special events with staff, students and parents.

Smore http://www.smore.com/ > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
What is it?
A web tool that allows you to create flyers for all kinds of information such as newsletters, events and more.
Where to use it?
Teachers can use this to share information about the classroom and events that will be going on in the classroom and share it easily. Administrators can use this for school events and happenings around school to share with everyone. Smore also works nicely with social networks like Twitter and Facebook, which makes it easy to share.

Schoology https://www.schoology.com/ > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
What is it?
Schoology is a learning management system that makes it easy to manage lessons, engage students, share content, and connect with other educators.
Where to use it?
Teachers can use Schoology to share their lessons, links, handouts and more. Students can use the discussion forum, hand in papers and collaborate. Teachers can annotate over those documents and grade assignments with ease.