



Technotes



The Three Village Technology Newsletter

Fall 2009



District Hosts November ASSET Meeting Highlighting the Technology Programs at WMHS

The Three Village Central School District strives to provide students and teachers with the latest technological resources and identify ways to integrate technology into all curriculum areas and across grade levels. Continuing

with this mission, this year the District introduced a new course at Ward Melville High School. The program, which is called **Mechatronics**, is offered through Suffolk County Community College and allows students to learn the necessary skills to secure an entry-level position as a CNC machinist.

Teachers John Williams and Steve Rogers described all of the exciting and innovative courses offered at Ward Melville in the area of Technology. In addition to Mechatronics, courses such as AutoCAD, Architectural Drafting, Engineering, Automotive Technology, Wood Technology, Computer Repair, CICSO Networking and Know Your Car are all offered to students at the high school. Jim Fargione followed with a description of the Computer and Career Essentials course that is taken by all students before graduating from school.

The District hosted the Association of Suffolk Supervisors of Educational Technology's (ASSET) regular meeting in mid-November, presenting its instructional technology programs. In attendance were representatives from local school districts, including Bay Shore, Brentwood, Comsewogue, Cold Spring Harbor, Elwood, West Hampton Beach and William Floyd as well as several technology vendors.

"This forum provides a great opportunity for professionals to share information about the field of technology," stated Ms. Welch-Pollera. "We were happy to host the meeting in our new Board Room and showcase the District's instructional technology program."



Keeping Your Computer Protected and Virus Free

Updating your operating system software (Windows) and your anti-virus software regularly is the most important and necessary task in keeping your computer trouble free!



New viruses pop up every day, therefore, regularly running Windows updates is a simple and routine task. The link for updates is <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>. Installing recommended service packs are also an important routine.

Your antivirus software should be running continuously in order to protect your computer when you are surfing online or when reading e-mail. This software should also be updated at least once per week in order for it to be effective in warding off attacks. The district was recently infected by the Conficker virus due to a lapse in Windows updates. Here's more on this relentless worm from Wikipedia.

"**Conficker**, also known as **Downup**, **Downadup** and **Kido**, is a [computer worm](#) targeting the [Microsoft Windows operating system](#) that was first detected in November 2008.^[1] It uses flaws in Windows software to co-opt machines and link them into a virtual computer that can be commanded remotely by its authors. Conficker has more than seven million computers now under its control—government, business and home computers in more than 200 countries, according to the New York Times.^[2] The worm uses a combination of advanced malware techniques which has made it now believed to be the largest computer worm infection since the 2003 [SQL Slammer](#).^[3]"

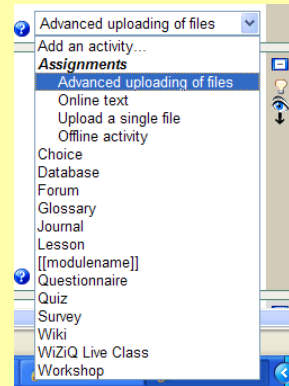


Instructional Technology Staff: **Kerrin Welch-Pollera, Jim Fargione**

Student File Share on Moodle



Teachers are discovering an additional benefit of using the Moodle Online course system. Students are now able to put their files on the MOODLE board to work on later or to submit to teachers for grading. Discs, CDs, or jump drives are no longer needed to bring work back and forth from home to school. This also avoids the problem students often have e-mailing their work to themselves only to find their e-mail provider is blocked or the document size prevents it from going through. Teachers can select the "Advanced Uploading of Files" on your add an activity tab and select the number of files the student can save in the Moodle board. These saved files are private so that only the student and the teacher can see the saved files. The additional benefit is that no viruses are moving from the jump drive to the district network. See Jim Fargione for more details about setting up a Moodle board with the file share option.



New! Digital Media Library (DML)

Digital Media Library (DML) - Formerly Discovery Education United Streaming.

<http://www.esboces.org/sls> the digital Media Library link is on the left hand panel in red.

To Log on: Your username is the first letter of your first name and your entire last name and the password is **TEK**. **On the upper left select, "search" This will take you into the Snap Smart Search.**

The DML will provide you with all of the video/media results you were used to using Discovery Education United Streaming, but will also include new media partners such as Learn 360, Power Media Plus, BIO-media, Tomms video and many more. If you select a United Streaming/Discovery link and are prompted for a registration, go ahead and fill it out. This will only happen once. When you login again you will be able to access the stream automatically.



Like **Discovery Education** the **DML** provides video clips and images for educators. Also included are teacher guides for several of the videos. In the teacher center sections educators can find correlation with NYS standards, a today-in-history calendar to look month by month to see important dates in the five core curriculum areas including biographies and commemorations. Composition cues and writing prompts are provided for the images gallery. Quiz center has been expanded with over 200 quizzes for **United Streaming** videos and more to come each month. See the Information Specialist in the Library in your building for more information on the Digital Media Library.

Sites to See - Websites for Educators

Google Image Swirl

<http://image-swirl.googlelabs.com/>



This new part of Google is an awesome way to search for images on Google where they automatically organize and compile multiple images for you!

Colonial Williamsburg podcasts

<http://www.history.org/media/podcasts.cfm>

Engage students about this period of history by learning about medical practices, fife and drum corp, farm animals, fashion, and other topics. Transcripts of the podcasts are also provided to help student read along.

New Internet Literacies

<http://weblogged.wikispaces.com/>

[New+Internet+Literacies](#)

WEB 2.0 Guru Will Richardson, who was the keynote speaker at the **2009 Long Island Technology Summit** "Creativity and Innovation" has put together a wonderful look at the world of WEB 2.0. including many WEB 2.0 Links.

Teacher Technology Training Videos

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

Russell Stannard, a lecturer at the University of Westminster (UK) has created a ton of training videos for many of the common educational technology tools; he covers Moodle, Twitter, Audacity, Wordpress, Jing, podcasting, and many more useful tools.

For more information about these and other teacher resources on the web visit the Instructional Technology blog at: www.3vtech2.blogspot.com