



Technotes



The Three Village Technology Newsletter

Spring 2009

The department of Instructional Technology held a district wide technology night on March 10, 2009 at RC Murphy JH School. The annual event features teachers and students from each school and highlights technology applications and tools in education. A special presentation was given by Jim Fargione and Eric Gustafson on the use of eClickers, or personal response systems to the BOE before the district's Technology Plan and budget was presented.



Arrowhead—Teacher Brigit DiPrimo and her 4th grade students presented student created webquests. Janice Connolly and Chris Maffia displayed an alphabet quilt that was made by kindergarten students using computer generated art work. (see p. 2 for details.)

Minnesauke—Teacher Jennifer Frole and MST MariaElena Mazza along with first grade students demonstrated how they conducted science experiments and utilized eClickers, electronic response devices that are used to answer questions and gather data.

Nassakeag— Kindergarten students from Joan Sperry's class demonstrated how they use the interactive Smartboard in their classroom with assistance from Barbara Kmiotek. Melissa Panasci's 4th grade students were also there presenting nonfiction books they created and published

using Publisher as well as a webquest in which students used internet sources to research simple machines.

Setauket— Information Specialist, Betsy Knox and MST Eric Gustafson displayed the results of a comprehensive unit by 5th grade students on Westward Expansion. Students created newsletters, journals, maps, timelines, graphs & tables. Microsoft Word, Excel, and Publisher were each used in developing their projects. The final projects were also published on the internet using FrontPage.

WS Mount—Students in Michael Schlank's 6th grade class, along with MST Andy Weik shared their online picture books which included original writing and accompanying illustrations. The original pieces were the culminating product of a unit on fictional writing and shared editing which integrated technology, art, and English language skills.

PJ Gelinis—Gary Vorwald was on hand with Seismic Eruption, an interactive program that plots historic earthquake locations, their depths, and magnitudes on various maps. Students also demonstrated Weatherbug Achieve, which records and analyzes weather data generated from weather stations located at Gelinis and Murphy.

RC Murphy—Claudia Rippe and her students demonstrated how they use interactive SmartBoard lessons to bring their global language classes to life.

WMHS – Social studies teacher Alison Kane showed how she uses a new document camera and projector to show all kinds of interesting images on a large screen in the classroom. Chairperson Jeff Harris reviewed his new social studies blog filled with United States history topics,

<http://www.wardmelvillehs.blogspot.com>

2009 ASSET Teacher Recognition Awards



Howard Gandt, Technology Teacher WMHS

This year, Ward Melville technology teacher, Howard Gandt, was the recipient of the **ASSET** (Association of Suffolk Supervisors for Educational Technologies) **Teacher Recognition Award**. Howard has taught technology for over 37 years and has been part of many technological advances made in the school and curriculum, including spearheading the districts' first AutoCAD computer lab in the early 1990's. During his time here, he has taught everything from physics to engineering to 3D drafting, often times teaching up to 8 different courses in one year.

We wish Howard well as he retires this June. His expert knowledge and deep caring and understanding for students will be greatly missed by the Three Village school community.

Eastern Suffolk BOCES Annual Celebration of Technology at Stony Brook University

Bridgit DiPrimo's fourth grade class participated in the May 29th celebration and displayed their multimedia recycling projects created using MovieMaker and PowerPoint. Students researched aspects of ecology and recycling, imported pictures and recorded their voices to MP3 files that were also imported into their projects. Congratulations on a job well done!



Alphabet Quilts Drawn in KidPix

Through a grant from the Three Village Community Trust, Arrowhead kindergarteners helped by their teachers (Janice Connolly, Sue Condon, Lauren Herrmann, Michele Peters, and Meryl Nani), their 6th grade buddies and MST department created a letter square on **Kidpix**. They used this software to draw the letter, insert color backgrounds, and add graphics. They were then printed onto paper-backed fabric and then sewn into a beautiful quilt for each class. The quilts will be donated to hospitals, and pediatric clinics.

Digital Photo Scavenger Hunt



est!

Fourth graders at Setauket Elementary School went to Fire Island on June 4th. One of the projects was to complete a digital photo scavenger hunt. Each chaperone was asked to bring along a digital camera and the students were instructed to take photos of such things as a sand dune, pollution, predators and prey. When they returned to school students were introduced to digital photo story telling using the program **Photo Story**. Each student was able to take the photos and create a movie of their day at the Sunken Forest!

Word Pictures in Senior English

Jessica Ecke's senior English classes at Ward Melville HS created animated text projects using PowerPoint. Each student selected a poem and using the software were able to create "word pictures" in the form of a sequence of moving still images. Using custom animation, motion paths, and sound these slideshow presentations provides a visual interpretation of the verse.

Sites to See - Websites for Educators



OpenOffice.org 3 is the leading open-source office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, and graphics. The features are parallel to those available from MS Office and it is FREE.



PDF Escape is a free site that will allow typing onto a PDF file. If you need to modify a PDF file or fill out an online application/form in PDF, check out this site and easily type on the PDF form directly.



Teachers' Domain is an online library of more than 1,000 free media resources from the best in public television.



Vocaroo - The premier voice recording service.

Vocaroo.com is an easy-to-use, online voice recording utility; no log-in or password is needed, and you can

download the file (in WAV format), email it, or embed it. Students and teachers can link directly from Moodle to the podcast.



All About Explorers

was developed by a group of teachers as a means of teaching students about the Internet. Although the Internet can be a tremendous resource, students often do not have the skills to discern useful information from worthless data. This site provides a series of lessons for elementary age students on gathering information about a topic from the internet.

For more information about these and other teacher resources on the web visit the Instructional Technology blog at:

www.3vtech2.blogspot.com