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a monthly newsletter of the Minnesota Educational Media Organization

President's Message

Random Thoughts

This year, our organization has been focusing on four goals that support our mission. These four goals are in the areas of web page development, evaluation of the mid-winter conference, increasing member participation, and developing future MEMO leaders. In an effort to address increasing member participation and develop future leaders, I would like to ask each member to reflect on their MEMO involvement. If you are involved in the organization, thank you for your involvement. If you are not as involved as you could be, please consider becoming more involved. I would be happy to visit with any member who would be considering becoming more involved. Feel free to drop me an email at gary.ganje@isd742.org. We can discuss the many opportunities for involvement in MEMO. Your inquiry will be viewed as information gathering rather than a long-term commitment.

Leslie Yoder is already busy working on developing our goals for next year. If you have any ideas or thoughts about where your organization should be heading, I am sure that Leslie would like to hear from you. Leslie can be contacted at leslie.yoder@spps.org.

There are a couple of items that you might want to keep on your radar. First, the state allocated some funding for school technology to be used this year and next year. Districts have some discretion as to where the dollars can be spent. So, you may want to inquire as to how the funding is being spent in your district. Second, MDE has recently sent out information that needs to be completed to evaluate

the readiness of each school and district for upcoming online or computer based testing for the science and MTELL assessments. This inventory covers training, computer specs, bandwidth, and lab scheduling.

Thank you to all of the MEMO members that have been attending and plan on attending upcoming conferences to promote and inform other educators about MEMO. On behalf of the organization, I want to thank Mary Garlie and her team of volunteers for their hard work in this area. Thank you to all of the MEMO members that have been attending and plan on attending upcoming conferences to promote and inform other educators about MEMO. On behalf of the organization, I want to thank Mary Garlie and her team of volunteers for their hard work in this area.

Inside this Issue

MEMO Calendar	2
Reflections of a Past-President	2
23 Things on a Stick	3
MEMO Tech-SID meeting	3
Mid-Winter Conference Sessions & Registration Form	4

Reflections of a Past-President

Dr. Gina Light

In our school district we are preparing to present a formal evaluation of our media program. The district has gone through many changes since 2000-2001 when the last evaluation was done. At that time there were two K-4 elementary schools, a 5-6 school, a junior high, and a high school with 4 library media specialists and only two of those are still with us. As of fall this year we have five K-5 elementary schools, a middle school for 6-7, a junior high, and a high school. And our district is continuing to grow although at a slower rate than previously projected with eight certified library media specialists. In 2001-2002 we wrote two separate scope and sequences – one for media and one for technology. Now we use the Information and Technology Literacy scope and sequences to guide us. In 2002-2003 we began to grade students within our elementary programs. This has become increasing more difficult as we only see students one 50-minute time once during a ten-day cycle. With all these changes it has been a challenge to evaluate our previous program and to update our current one. However, evaluating the library media program is necessary for all of us.

Our evaluation process includes two end products. One is a booklet which goes over the goals from the last evaluation and how we have done, explains the action plans we have worked on in the past few years, gives data, the Information and Technology Literacy standards, our strengths and limitations, and various data regarding our collection ages and sizes. We hope this booklet goes to each board member, each administrator, and our director of curriculum. The second product is a power point to be presented to the Curriculum Advisory Committee. It is a brief summary of our booklet with some recommendations for the future of our programs.

Not only from this evaluation we hope to have recommendations to drive our instruction, but also to justify funding for books and technology. One of our schools has an average collection date of less than 1980 and one school has less than five copies per student (it might be less than that if you

do not include reference and non-print materials). At the newest elementary we all were so excited that technology is present in every room including the library media center which houses two computer labs with projectors, a reading room for younger students, and a computer and projector in the learning area. However, there are not very many books per student. It is difficult to sell that we need both technology and books.

Another goal of our evaluation is to evaluate what we do as library media specialists. We are hoping to put together a survey to see if we are meeting the needs of the teachers and staff, parents, and students. We have always been good about sharing what goes on in our centers, but evaluating our programs helps us focus. This survey will again drive our instruction and give us data to use to prove the effectiveness of our programs.

As I am reflecting on this evaluation I am glad that we are doing it. I want the school board to know how active we are, how driven we are, and how committed we are to being good library media specialist with a good, sound media program.

MEMO Calendar

January 17, TECH SID Meeting, video conference sites*

January 27, MEMO Board Meeting, Alexandria Holiday Inn

January 27 & 28, 2008, MEMO Mid-Winter Conference, Alexandria Holiday Inn

* See page 3 for details

23 Things On a Stick Program To Launch in January

Have you ever thought, “Gosh, I wish I had time to learn more about Flickr, wikis, or (enter your Web 2.0 tool here)? Well then, the new *23 Things on a Stick: A Library Learning 2.0 Program* is your chance to take the time to focus on your personal and professional development around these tools. The multicounty, multi-type library systems (multitypes) have “corralled” 23 Things in a blog for this statewide initiative (yes, there are more *things* out there). This is your chance to learn these things in a semi-structured, supportive learning community. It’s fun to explore these tools and figure out ways to use them in your school, with your personal Web sites, or in other ways. And if your colleagues are also learning at the same time, the possibilities for brainstorming new application ideas is multiplied. There will be twelve weeks of online fun activities and prizes will be awarded for successful completion.

This program will be the focus of breakout sessions on January 28th at the MEMO Midwinter Conference in Alexandria, MN. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the program and set up their blogs. It is not necessary to attend Midwinter to participate in *23 Things On a Stick*. All details for participation and completion will be available online after January 20th at www.23thingsonastick.blogspot.com.

The 23 Things are online activities that encourage participants to experiment and learn about new and emerging technologies that are reshaping the context of information on the Internet today. The activities are hands-on with experiential exercises, short readings and discovery work. Each Thing can take as little as one hour or as much time as you’d like to give it. The Minnesota Voluntary Certification Program has approved this program for 12 contact hours to meet public service and technology competencies. Continuing Education Units will be available to all participants as well. Early endorsements of this program include but are not limited to, MEMO, MINITEX, MLA and State Library Services. Others are expected to add their support and will be mentioned on the *23 Things on a Stick* blog.

Participants who wish to receive the completion incentive must register their blogs (Thing 1) by February 15 and complete all 23 Things (and blog about each one) by April 16, 2008 (National Library Week). Receipt of the completion incentive enters participants in a statewide drawing for additional prizes.

According to Ann Walker Smalley, Metronet Director, “*23 Things on a Stick* offers ideas to ‘jump start’ your learning. We hope you will share your ideas on how these Web 2.0 tools can be used in your libraries and media centers. We have used many Web 2.0 tools to design this program, including Blogger, Flickr, YouTube, PBWiki and Bloglines, which we learned as we went. You can learn them too!” Participants are encouraged to work together with others in their libraries or regions and to share their insights and discoveries either through the participant blogs or in person.

This program is the Minnesota twist on the *23 Things: Library Learning 2.0* program, developed by Helene Blowers at the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenberg County. Library organizations across the country have used the 23 Things concept to encourage staff to learn and use these Web 2.0 tools. The directors and staff of the seven Minnesota Multicounty Multitype Library Systems are the core of the *23 Things On a Stick* team, with additional coaches available across the state. This group has worked together to develop *23 Things On a Stick* and to customize it for Minnesota library staff. This group will track participants’ progress as shown in the individual blogs and provide helpful hints and encouraging words.

The multitype library systems respond to the needs of Minnesota librarians by providing library support services, including continuing education. The multitype systems believe that knowledgeable library staffs are better able to meet the needs of their library users. The multitypes connect library staff in all types of libraries to professional and staff development opportunities and look forward to broad participation in this exciting learning program. **Contact:** Ann Walker-Smalley, Metronet Director, ann@metronet.lib.mn.us, or 651-646-0475.

The next MEMO Tech-SID meeting will be held on Thursday January 17th beginning at 9am. This meeting will be a joint meeting with the regional telecommunications coordinators and will be conducted using videoconferencing/ITV. Proposed sites include: St. Cloud (cmERDC), Braham High School, Hutchinson (LCTN), Marshall, (SW/WC Service Coop), Mankato(SCSC/SOCRATES), Rochester (RTCC), MDE, TIES, Moorhead (Probstfield Center), Bemidji (Regional Inter-District Center), Duluth (ARCC), and Mt. Iron (NESC). Topics will include updates from MDE, information onInternet2, a demonstration of Learn 360 and much more. Pick a location close to you and bring a fried or two along. Specific site and registration information will be posted on the MEMO (and Tech SID) listservs. If you are not on the listserv or need additional information contact Marc Johnson at mjohnson@stfrancis.k12.mn.us

Breakout Sessions

MEMO Midwinter Conference - January 27-28, 2008



Portable Applications: Take It All With You

Marc Johnson - ISD #15 - St. Francis
Technology Coordinator

Dozens of useful cross-platform applications are available that run directly from a flash drive. Students and staff can transfer work from school to home or anywhere with no compatibility issues. Learn how to easily set up a drive, examine the pros and cons of portable applications and discuss how this may or may not be appropriate technology in a classroom environment.

23 Things On a Stick

Minnesota Multitype Library Systems

Wondering what Web 2.0 is all about or how it affects you and your library? Heard about wikis, nings, photo sharing via Flickr, social networking, iGoogle, and other "new things?" Now is your chance to learn about Web tools that are useful in all types of libraries! 23 Things On a Stick is a Library Learning 2.0 program that is Web-based and self-paced, but provides a structure of activities so you can try out the tools. All library staff, Boards, and Friends are welcome to participate. This session will explain how the 12-week program works, introduce the 23 Things On a Stick, and give you a head start on this exciting learning opportunity. **Bring a wireless laptop if you want to set up your blog.** 23 Things On a Stick is sponsored by the seven Minnesota multitype library systems.

School 2.0: Technology and the New School Skyline

Wendy Wolfe - Totino-Grace High School, Fridley
Educational Technologist and Social Studies

Web 2.0, School 2.0, how is technology changing education? Why should we care? What are we doing about it? This session explores how new technologies (including, but not limited to: wikis, online cartoon and podcast creators, and graphic organizer tools) and some different applications for some familiar tools (e.g. Word, PowerPoint) can engage and excite students, further their critical thinking, and information/technology literacy skills. Join us for an exciting session and leave with many ideas, resources and free tools you can use and share with your colleagues

Using the new Research Project Calculator

Jane Prestebak - Robbinsdale Area Schools,
Program Director for Media and Instructional Technology

Learn about connections between the MEMO Information and Technology Literacy standards and the Research Project Calculator. Explore the new features of the RPC Plus released in November 2007. Learn about several new note-taking tools mentioned in the RPC.

Schools and Libraries for the Net Generation

Doug Johnson - Mankato Area Public Schools

Director of Media and Technology

Schools and libraries will be more effective if educators acknowledge the unique attributes and preferences of the Net Generation and adapt educational environments to suit students instead of trying to change their basic natures. This session looks at the unique attributes of today's students and proposes a Net Gen learning environment.

Deluxe Digital Photography

Randy Klauk - Hopkins Public Schools

Media Specialist

This session will help demystify technical terms used in digital photography as well as provide general photography tips. Not sure when to use "flash fill"? Confused about what a mega pixel is? Don't know the difference between optical and digital zoom? If so, this is the session for you.

Collection Development and the Web

Gay Galles - Moorhead Area Public Schools

Program Manager for Library Media Services

If the cost of professional journals for reviews and selection is prohibitive, let's look to Internet sources. What journals are available on the ELM databases? How can I manage a consideration list online or electronically? Where are the "Best Books" lists located? What companies offer an online collection analysis? Should I ease up on buying print materials for some topics and concentrate on online sources to cover a topic? Bring your wireless laptop to make this an "active" session.

Kids and Stargazing

Mike Lynch – Broadcast meteorologist at WCCO Radio

Mike Lynch has been teaching stargazing for 36 years! He's here today to talk to attendees about ways they can incorporate astronomy into their schools. He'll share information about his *Starwatch* books, give tips on creating excitement for stargazing (even in the daylight!), and will share his adventures in book publishing. Enjoy this special session with Minnesota's favorite weather guy – and take a piece of the night sky back to your home town!

Session I Monday, 8:45 AM	23 Things on a Stick	Stargazing with Kids	Schools and Libraries for the Net Generation
Session II Monday, 10:45 AM	23 Things on a Stick Multitype Library Systems	Deluxe Digital Photography Randy Klauk	School 2.0: Technology and the New School Skyline
Session III Monday, 12:45 PM	Collection Development and the Web	Using the new Research Project Calculator and Note-taking Tools	Portable Applications: Take It All With You

REGISTRATION

2008 MEMO Midwinter Conference:

Creating a New Literacy Landscape, continued
Holiday Inn, Alexandria - January 27 & 28, 2008



Name Badge Information

Name _____
School and District _____
Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Complete Conference: Sunday - Monday (includes all events scheduled for the conference)

Members: _____ MEMO _____ MLA...(Student 64.00).....80.00 ___ \$ _____
Nonmembers...(Student 112.00).....140.00 ___ \$ _____

Partial Conference: Sunday Only (includes all events scheduled for that day - see schedule)

Members _____ MEMO _____ MLA ...(Student 28.00).....35.00 ___ \$ _____
Nonmembers...(Student 56.00).....70.00 ___ \$ _____

Partial Conference: Monday Only (includes all events scheduled for that day - see schedule)

Members _____ MEMO _____ MLA ...(Student 45.00).....55.00 ___ \$ _____
Nonmembers...(Student 60.00).....85.00 ___ \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Send this registration and check payable to MEMO OR fax your reservation to:

Deanna Sylte

POB 130555

Roseville, MN 55113-0005

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 23, 2008

Ph: 651 771-8672

Fax: 651-771-8672

admin@memoweb.org

Room reservations can be made by contacting:

Holiday Inn, Alexandria Hotel Registration: \$65.95 + tax

Call: (320) 763-6577 (Ask for MEMO Block Rate)

Hotel block will only be guaranteed until Jan. 15.



Minnesota Educational Media Organization

Committee use only: date received _____ amount _____ check _____

SCHEDULE

**2008 MEMO Midwinter Conference:
Creating a New Literacy Landscape, continued
Holiday Inn, Alexandria - January 27 & 28, 2008**



Sunday, Jan 27

1:00 - 4:00 PM	Board Meeting
3:00 - 6:00 PM	Vendor Setup
4:00 PM	Registration opens
5:00 - 6:00 PM	Author Mike Lynch
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Vendor Time
(Appetizers available in vendor area)	
9:00 PM	Stargazing with Mike Lynch

Monday, Jan 28

7:30 AM	Registration opens
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:15 AM	Welcome and Announcements
8:45 - 9:45 AM	Session I
9:45 - 10:45 AM	Vendor Time
10:45 - 11:45 AM	Session II
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Session III

Complete schedule with session information will be updated on an ongoing basis at www.MEMOweb.org

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Submissions to the newsletter may be sent to Mary Alice Anderson, MEMOrandom Editor. Send to Maryalicea@mac.com
Submissions in MS word processing are particularly welcome.

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MEMO

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