

MEMO's M/T News

NEWS for School Media & Technology Professionals

December 2007

A publication of MEMO's Information Technology Special Interest Division

"Bits" of Information

Gary Ganje, MEMO President

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There has been quite a bit of work being done in the area of instructional technology down at the Minnesota Department of Education. Teachers, technology directors, media specialists, superintendents, MDE staff, and lawmakers have been working as a legislative taskforce to come up with some recommendations in the area of technology support. This support is focused on filling the gaps within schools in areas of technology. This could include staff development/peer coaching, equipment, infrastructure, data sharing, assessment, and protection of systems. This group is close to completing their work. More information should be coming out of the department sometime in January.

There was a great meeting of the MEMO Technology SID on November 9th. Information was presented on the progress of the Board of Teaching taskforce, cooperative purchasing, video transmission issues, data retention, MDE updates, the legislative platform, the legislative taskforce, and possible changes in the MEMO/MEMO Tech SID web pages. The next meeting will be held December 10th at the TIES conference and the following meeting will be held over ITV on January 17th. Details will be made available through the various MEMO lists.

If you have never attended a meeting of the Technology SID, please consider attending one of the upcoming meetings. Regardless of your area of involvement in instructional technology, there is usually information that applies to your day-to-day work.



Internet2 Community

In an effort to create one central website for Internet2 community members, James Werle and Jennifer Oxenford, colleagues from the Internet2 community, have created a very easy to use website called MUSE. Please join us on the MUSE site by creating an account and sharing some resources. The creation of the MUSE site is a first step towards a statewide Internet2 site.

<http://k20.internet2.edu>

Inside this edition...

Success with MS <i>One Note</i>	Page 2
MEMO Calendar	Page 2
Blogging about books	Page 3
Research Project Calculator	Page 4
Mid-Winter Conference Information	Page 5

M/T News is a MEMO publication.

Articles may be submitted in most common word processing formats, or as text or PDF files. Please submit to Marc Johnson, editor, for publication in November or March.

marcjohanson@mcjweb.com

Success With Microsoft *One Note* In 1 to 1 Initiative

Katie Johnson, Academy of Holy Angels
kjohnson@ahastars.org

Academy of Holy Angels High School in Richfield is in the process of becoming a laptop school, with this year's freshman class currently using laptops on a daily basis. One of the applications introduced to the students this year is Microsoft's *One Note*. It is used by students to organize, take notes and share learning sessions within class. This application has become the students' planner, three ring binder and electronic discussion board, all in one.

Many teachers have remarked on the organizational benefit of this application. As students take notes in class, they are automatically saved in the folder for that class. When it comes time to study for tests, notes are readily accessible and the search feature can take students directly to the section they want to review.

Students were guided through the process of creating folders (or binder sections) for each class they take. In addition to class notes, any ongoing research, handouts, or projects in process can all be filed in the appropriate class section. *One Note* has a screen clip feature that allows web images, graphs or any other snapshots to be included in a text document.

The shared session feature in this application allows students (using our wireless network) to have a live classroom session. This activity often draws out the student that may be reluctant to speak up in class. The classroom teacher moderates the entries for a lively, interactive dialogue.

Students are urged to back up all documents from their laptops to the student server on a

weekly basis. One weakness is that not all students remember to do this, and if their hard drive crashes, they aren't able to retrieve all of the valuable notes they've recorded. Reminders and training continue, to hopefully remedy this aspect.

As a school we are actively using other applications and electronic resources with our laptops, but felt *One Note* is worthy of singling out for example purposes.



MEMO Midwinter Conference January 28-29, 2008 Holiday Inn, Alexandria

See pages 5-7 for more information

MEMO – MEMO-IT Calendar

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| December 10 | MEMO Tech SID Meeting
TIES Conference – MPLS
12:10 pm – 1:20 pm |
| January 17 | MEMO Tech SID Meeting
ITV Sites around the state
Watch the listserv for info. |
| January 27-28 | MEMO Mid-Winter
Conference, Holiday Inn,
Alexandria |

Professional Development Tip

*Jane Rolnick, Hill-Murray School,
Maplewood*
jrolnick@hill-murray.org

At Hill-Murray we devote one of our Staff Meetings to Technology in the form of a "Bring and Brag" meeting. Anyone can do a short presentation 15 min. to 1/2 hour to share something that they are doing in their classrooms that could apply across the curriculum.

Sometimes these are tips on fun things you can do with existing applications. Or it could be a whole 1/2 hour on ways to use an interactive white board; photo editing; using a scanner to resize photos; looking at cool new websites for students or teachers; web home pages design; document camera or some other new equipment to the building; digital cameras, etc.

The staff really enjoy these. Several are offered and the staff can move from one to another or sign up for the 1/2 hour format if we are using that.

Blogs at Mahnomen High School Library

Holly Ristau, Mahnomen High School
hristau@mahnomen.k12.mn.us

For years, the students looking for something to read at Mahnomen High School would have to depend on my recommendations. As much as I enjoy sharing my favorite books, I have been looking for a way for students to do some book reviews in a format that allows people to access them quickly and easily. I found the perfect vehicle when I set up a blog for the students who enjoy reading to make recommendations. It's called Recreational

Reader Reviews and can be found at this site:

<http://mahnomen-triple-r.blogspot.com>

Students write reviews of books that they are reading and get extra credit for doing so, but it is also used by peers to help with book selection.

I am using the free blog program called Blogger because our IT person is not very excited about blogs or hosting them on our website. The program is very easy to set up and has worked seamlessly after initially getting students registered for g-mail.

I also use a blog with an independent study student to verify assignments and progress. The independent study is on communications and involves working on the school webpage and playing a vital role in the weekly radio production. The blog is limited to the two of us and we communicate often, but even more important, we communicate well. The expectations that the student has to meet at each quarter's end are listed on the left-hand border of the blog so she always knows what projects are due. I consider our on-line interactions as part of the "communications" grade.

If you would like any help with setting up a blog account or have any questions, feel free to contact me at:

hristau@mahnomen.k12.mn.us



Top 10-15 Reasons to Participate in the British Children's Literature and Photography Study Abroad Program, July 14 - July 31

1. The landscape that influenced authors such as David Almond, Beatrix Potter, and J. K. Rowling
2. World renowned Alnwick Gardens
3. Quidditch, anyone??
4. The bracing North Sea air and stunning coastal views
5. Hilltop Farm garden, inspiration for the *Tales of Peter Rabbit*
6. Two nights in one of the most peaceful B&Bs in the world
7. The quayside of port city Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
8. The ancient stones of Hadrian's Wall
9. Good food and friendship
10. The medieval market town of Alnwick
11. Breathtaking vistas to photograph
12. The Duke's Hulne Park
13. A real 12th century castle
14. The study of an eclectic mix of children's and young adult books, from the classic to the contemporary
15. Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books in Newcastle upon Tyne...

The airline tickets have been reserved—one of them should have your name on it. Don't delay—apply today. Applications can be downloaded at:

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/studyabroad/application.asp> Program website is at <http://web.stcloudstate.edu/methompson/england/>

If you need further persuasion, contact either Marcia at mthompson@stcloudstate.edu or Mert at methompson@stcloudstate.edu for reasons 16-50!

MINITEX and MnLINK Launch Research Project Calculator

www.elm4you.org/research

Research Project Calculator

FIVE STEPS

- Question
- Gather
- Conclude
- Communicate
- Evaluate

Web-based tool creates a timeline for completing an assignment

Available to all MN residents

Creates a timeline for completing your project

Stay on track with email reminders

Free and available 24/7

The Research Project Calculator is a project funded jointly by MINITEX and MnLINK to develop Cool Tools for Minnesota secondary school students and their teachers. It is based on the original Assignment Calculator from the University of Minnesota Libraries.

Try Cool Tools @ Your Library

MINITEX MnLINK

Access the Research Project Calculator at:

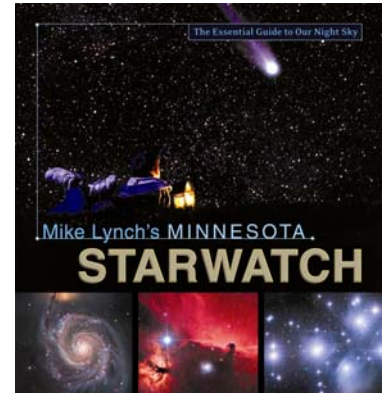
<http://www.elm4you.org/research>



Keynote speaker and author at this year's MEMO Midwinter Conference is Mike Lynch - broadcast meteorologist at WCCO Radio since 1981. Mike has covered everything from horrific tornadoes to record cold temperatures. He did a live broadcast from Tower, Minnesota when the temperature plummeted to 60 below on February 2, 1996, setting an all time record cold temperature for the state of Minnesota.

Mike's other love involves the night sky. Mike is an avid amateur astronomer who's been teaching astronomy classes and hosting stargazing parties all across Minnesota and Western Wisconsin for over 36 years. Thousands of people in CCO land have gazed through Mike's many telescopes and have made the stars and constellations their old friends! Mike's astronomy website is www.lynchandthestars.com.

Mike has written a book, *Minnesota Starwatch* and has also written *Starwatch* books for other states and regions in the United States. He also writes a weekly stargazing column in the Sunday St. Paul Pioneer Press as well as other newspapers across the United States. His newest book is *Mike Lynch's WCCO Radio Minnesota Weatherwatch*.



Mike will be our keynote speaker on Sunday evening. For even more fun, bring your warm winter jackets and join us outdoors at 9:00 PM for an extra-special stargazing event! Mike will also present a breakout session Monday morning on "Kids and Stargazing".

MEMO Midwinter Conference

January 28-29, 2008

Creating a New Literacy Landscape, Continued

For more information:

www.MEMOweb.org



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: Sun - Mon (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)

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)

Members ___MEMO ___MLA ...(Student 45.00)..55.00 ___ \$ ____
Nonmembers...(Student 60.00).....85.00 ___ \$ ____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Deanna Sylte

POB 130555

Roseville, MN 55113-0005

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 23, 2007

Office: 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.

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