




Technology Newsletter

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Websites of Interest

 Howcast offers how to videos as well as how to wiki guides. Howcast combines user ideas with the expertise of professional studio video to give you what is nothing short of amazing how to videos.
<http://www.howcast.com/>

 They call it the definitive online “Encyclopedia of Life” because that is pretty much what it is. VideoJug offers videos that are professionally made and thoroughly researched. There are “how to” videos and then there are “Ask the Expert” videos.
<http://www.videojug.com/>

 eHow is another website that teaches you “how to do just about everything” The site offers how to’s in the form of professionally written articles and videos covering a wide range of topics. There is a K-12 Education section.
<http://www.ehow.com/>

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High School “MODEL” Technology Classroom

Family and Consumer Science class rooms have come a long way through the years from teaching the basics in cooking, sewing, and child care to still teaching the basics in cooking, sewing and child care but with a 21st century twist, the use of technology.

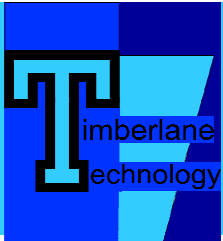
In the past Family and Consumer Science students were taught how to prepare for married life or how to

become a good house wife. Today with the use of technology we are teaching marketable skills preparing our students for the real world. For example, in our Gourmet classes the students operate a faculty luncheon. With the use of our new laptops, students are able to research and create new and exciting menus. “Survey Monkey” have allowed students to collect reservations for service. This gives the student a taste of how a professional restaurant may operate.

In the Culinary Classics classes the focus is on healthy cooking and its affect on overall health. Having access to the internet in these Family and Consumer Science classrooms, changes teaching from teacher centered to student centered. Students can do their own research and create power point presentations to teach the class. This adds more excitement and creativity to lessons.

Technology has also brought our Child Development Classes into the 21st century as well. The internet in these classrooms give students an endless resource of different opinions allowing them to participate in mock classroom debates debating controversial topics such as, bottle feeding versus breast feeding. Students in the Advanced Child Development classes can now research different child care options and learn what options are available to new parents within their community. They see firsthand how state requirement are used within these establishments. They are able to use this information to create their own mock child care facility based on actual state requirements and budget outlines all accessed through the internet.

In the future we hope to use technology to expose students to the process of creating and publishing a cookbook. Students in our Creative Sewing and Designing Homes will be able to create computer accurate patterns and design palates giving students taste of what it will take to work in the design industry.



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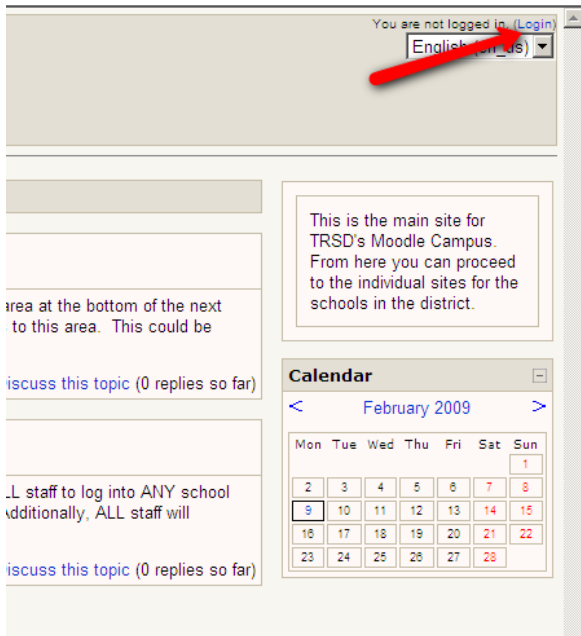
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Technology brings opportunity and exposes students to endless possibilities. It is exciting to bring all this into the classroom.

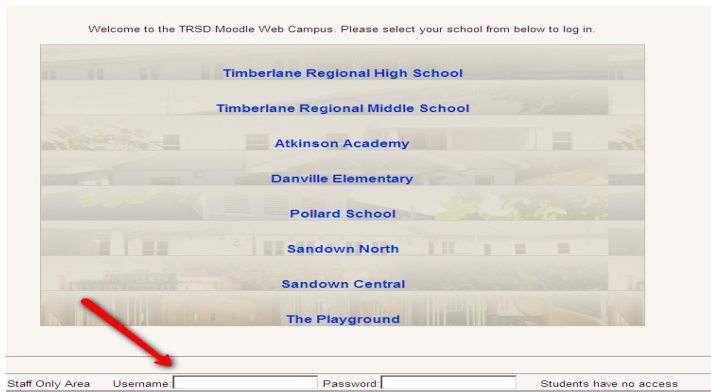


Staff Resources on Moodle

Go to our Moodle site web.timberlane.net. You will see **Login** in the upper right hand corner.

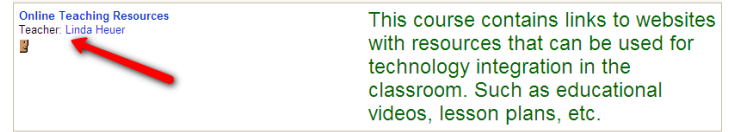


Click on it and it will take you to the Staff Only Area login page



Enter your network username and password.

On the next page look for this course.



Click on [Online Teaching Resources](#) to open the course.

If you have a website you use in your classroom and would like to share it, email it to me at linda.heuer@timberlane.net. I will put it on the list of resources.



Technology Use at Our Elementary Schools

Danville

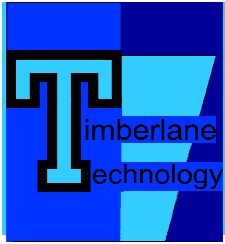
☀️ Kim Cook, Music teacher, uses iTunes/iPod to create folders and playlists to quickly access music for the classroom, which enables her to play much more music than if she had to keep switching back and forth between CD'S.

Kim also uses Finale to write songs/instrument parts out so that the students can read real musical notation instead of just the letters off a page.

The kids (band) use an iPAS software program to play their instrument into a microphone. The software plays an accompaniment and then provides feed back to the student so that they can improve their playing.

☀️ The students in Mrs. Mezquita and Mrs. Newman's kindergarten classes are using their classroom computers to access the Waterford application in addition to using this program in the Waterford lab. The students are also using an Every Day Math series application for math. The students are also using Tux Paint, which is a drawing/paint application.

☀️ The students in Mrs. Charmanski's, Mrs. George's first grade classes, Mrs. DeSantis second grade class and Ms. Gingras class are accessing the Waterford



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application in the classroom in addition to using Waterford on a regular schedule in the Waterford lab.

☀ Dave Ciarla's third grade class is using the Alpha Smarts 3 or 4 times a week for word processing. The students are using MS Excel to keep track of their home reading minutes. Every Day Math games are used weekly on the computers.

☀ Each 4th grade class is participating in three separate video conference connections with the South Central Kansas Education Service Center located in Kansas during the month of February. The titles of the three sessions are; Welcome to China, The Lunar New Year and the Mid-Autumn Day Festival.

☀ The students in Mrs. Antonakos fifth grade class are using the Interwrite pad for many educational opportunities. They are using the Inter-write pad in conjunction with an on-line story organizer applications. Each reading group wrote a skit about their book "Loser" by Jerry Spinelli. The skit was an interview that took place in a news studio. They taped the skit in front of a green screen. Using "green screen" technology during the editing the green was replaced with an image of a newsroom.

Central

☀ Carol Mortenson just started using PowerPoint with her fourth grade students. They are researching an Inventor as part of their Science Unit on Inventions. Then they are developing a PowerPoint to share their inventor with others. They have been using word processing throughout the year to write stories and do reports.

☀ Jan Gilman's fourth grade class uses technology mostly for word processing in their writing. They type poems, stories, make cards, newsletters and thank you notes. They also create PowerPoint presentations to show information they have learned. Students practice touch typing with Mavis Beacon. They use search

engines and data bases to research topics. Every Day Math games are used on a regular basis.

☀ Katie Gerry frequently uses the internet to find leveled reading texts to use with students. She uses the overhead projector daily. Students use classroom computers/lab computers for word processing. They play Every Day Math games on the computers. I have also used PowerPoint presentations in the past and will again this year for our whole school Asia Enrichment day.

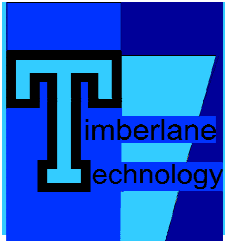
North

☀ Amy Difeo's first grade uses the internet to support their animal studies, allowing the children to view animals at the San Diego Zoo with their live cam. The children recently were able to watch the polar bear plunge while we learned about polar bears in the classroom. We use computers daily in the WERP lab and the children use some reading games such as Starfall as well as the EDM games on the computer.

☀ In Denise St. Hilaire's computer classes the first graders will be doing moon journal activities that tie into the moon journal unit they are using in their class.

We will be reading Color Me a Rainbow by Jane Yolen and then using the color words from her book to change the color of fonts. From there the students use their color dictionary to describe moon journal entries that they do in home and in school. I also have them create a moon journal entry using Tux Paint and then using their new fancy language to describe it. We will be using Bookflix online to share stories such as "Happy Birthday Moon" and "The Moon" to discover and learn interesting facts about our moon. The students will lastly create a wanted moon poster as a class using clipart and a word template.

The second grade is working on slides for nutrition using PowerPoint. The third grade is finishing up with Mavis Beacon.



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As part of the PLC groups at Sandown North I have been using CultureGrams online for scavenger hunts for the 3rd graders to learn about South America. They have also used paint to color and label a map of South America. The second graders during PLC time used Kidspiration to make community maps and Paint to color and label a map of the continents and North America.



Webinars for Professional Development

Danville School:

Cindy Wood, Enrichment teacher, participated in a Webinar on January 29th titled, "The Stock Market Game Teleconference". Cindy plans to use this game as an enrichment activity with her students in the near future.

Teacher comment/feedback: *"It was a good seminar. I'm going to do a teacher version of the game over the next 3 weeks to familiarize myself with the game...hopefully I'll have a group do the game from March-May."*

TRMS:

Janet Hart and Caroline Herold facilitated a two hour on-line webinar for several staff members at TRMS on January 26th titled, "What does it Mean to be Ready for Algebra in Grades 6-8".

Teacher comment/feedback:

The participants had a relaxed, comfortable setting in the TRMS library and were supported by the technology department who skillfully connected and reconnected us to the workshop. The interruptions were mildly disruptive but not derailing because we never lost the audio portion. The goal of the session was to provide an overview of algebra readiness content skills needed to help prepare our students for the formal study of algebra. A teacher commented that she was happy to hear that we should not keep re-teaching to students who already know the concepts and even check to be sure that we do not do too much

re-teaching in general. We must believe that students have been part of the well developed K-8 curriculum and have some of the skills in place before we get them. Another highlight of the workshop was the necessity of providing exposure to the building blocks of algebra, namely: the distributive property and proportionality. Teachers were connected live via the telephone to the presenter and were able to ask questions and offer suggestions. The exchange was interesting and informative.



Community Outreach

On December 18th and 19th, the High School was opened up to the community as a drop in center to provide activities and resources to interested families to help provide some relief during the ice storm which left many families without electricity. Technology resources provided included wireless Internet access in the Media Center and use of the Media Center computer lab.

Parents were able to use the Internet for important communications (sending and answering emails, online Christmas shopping, etc). Students used the computer lab for games, Facebook, and maybe homework research? The Technology Department staff were very helpful in putting this together in a short period of time, and provided technical assistance during the event. Kevin was much relieved when he was able to make the wireless access secured again!

