



## June Media/Tech Talk

By Jennifer Varney, Director of Media and Technology

### **TECHNOLOGY TRAININGS AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER**

This training is designed for any teacher trying to incorporate technology into their curriculum but is specifically geared toward GenNET Pioneers as they continue to build upon the skills they have learned during their yearlong Pioneer training. Floyd is a nationally recognized educator, presenter and digital coach and through his partnership with GISD has worked with thousands of teachers.

#### **Curriculum & Technology Integration in the 3rd- 8th Classroom**

\* Summer Session: June 21-24, 2010

\* Time: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Register online @ the following link: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/gisdtraining/cw/showcourse.asp?1082>

#### **Technology Tools in the 6th-12th Social Studies & Language Arts Classroom**

\* Summer Session: June 28 - July 1, 2010

\* Time 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Register online @ the following link: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/gisdtraining/cw/showcourse.asp?1146>

#### **Ready For Reading Technology Tools in the K-2 Classroom**

\* Summer Session: July 12-15, 2010

\* Time: 8:00 am - 3:00pm

Register online @ the following link: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/gisdtraining/cw/showcourse.asp?1062>

#### ***Cost per Session:***

GenNET Pioneers 4 and 5  
FREE

GenNET Pioneer Planners  
FREE

Teachers in GenNET participating districts                      \$150.00

# Regional Technology Academy

July 26,  
2010

~~~~~One fun filled day of 90 minute technology sessions~~~~~

You will be able to choose 4 sessions for just \$25.00 and earn .5 pending SB -CEUs.

Your choices include:

**Beginning Windows**

**Creating Smart Notebook Lessons**

**Examview and Data Analysis**

**Google Docs**

**Photo Peach/ Picnik**

**Animation Motivation**

**Beginning Internet**

**Creating a Talking Book**

**Google Earth**

**Weebly – Creating Your Web Page in Just Minutes**

To register go to

<https://www.solutionwhere.com/inghamisd/cw/showconference.asp?1690>

For more information call Nancy Manning at 517-244-1467



## **MOODLE TO REPLACE BLACKBOARD – 2011/2012 SCHOOL YEAR**

As you know, Eaton ISD/REMC 13 currently provides Blackboard to all teachers and students in our region. After careful consideration, Eaton ISD/REMC 13 has made the decision to transition to Moodle, an alternate course management system. Moodle is an “open source” solution which means there is no license fee. However, there are other associated costs in running any course management system such as servers, storage, and tech support/management. As budgets shrink and Blackboard licensing costs significantly increase, moving to Moodle will allow EISD/REMC 13 to continue providing a course management system at no cost to their local districts. EISD plans to use 2010-2011 as a transition year and then fully implement Moodle for the 2011-2012 school year. **Please note that Blackboard will still be available during the 2010-2011 school year at no cost to local districts** as we transition.

### **Important things to know from the EISD:**

- As online learning opportunities develop and expand, we are committed to supporting a course management system for our local districts
- All existing Blackboard courses will remain intact for the 2010-2011 school year and teacher and student accounts will still be accessible
- We are working on obtaining a course conversion tool to copy existing Blackboard courses to Moodle during the 2010-2011 school year
- REMC will offer Moodle training this July and August and throughout the 2010-2011 school year
- To learn more about Moodle, visit <http://www.moodle.org> or <http://www.moodletutorials.org>

More detailed information will be provided after August 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **SUMMER WORK**

- This summer the technology department will continue to be busy by virtualizing our servers and making appropriate updates to software in order to make our technology more efficient. During the summer there may be periodic down time that would affect your abilities to get into your server space from home or be able to access Groupwise. While this time will be limited to the best of our abilities, the summer is the only time in which we are able to do this work appropriately with minimal disruption.
- We are also looking at the implementation of the Wide Area Network (WAN) through the Eaton Intermediate School District. The planned hand off of the project is expected in early August and we hope that we will be able to utilize the WAN at the start of the school year. In making this connection CPS staff should see an increase in speed with computers in classrooms as well as labs.

- Please remember that if you have bookmarks or approved software on your computers that you work with your lab managers to make sure it is saved or installed when you return.
- Please report any technology issues to your lab managers before you leave, most importantly....make sure to clean the area around your computer station so that it is easily accessible for cleaning this summer.