

# MONTROSE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY 2009

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
IT.MCSD.ORG 252-7900

## MCS D TECHNOLOGY- NOW & NEXT

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<b>REMINDERS AND UPDATES</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>2</b>



Don't Forget to complete these end-of-year computer procedures!

*You may not come back to the same computer!*

- Save all wanted data to School Weblocker or other media type (jump-drive, CD etc.)
- Clean off C: Drive (hard drive)
- Clean off Desktop
- Clean off Z: Drive
- Turn off and unplug.

Hard to believe this year is already over. Looking at the day to day work completed, one does not always recognize large gains. However, looking at the larger picture over the course of this year, we have many causes for celebration. Perhaps the largest was the philosophical shift from an open by request system for our internet, to an open system being monitored by the professionals using it. This shift came relatively seamlessly, with much credit going to the IT department to make it happen in a short period of time. Credit also goes out to teachers and staff, who have been patient and professional in the implementation of this new system.

Another cause for celebration is a more gradual shift towards moving end user technology into our classrooms and into the hands of students and teachers. We were able to get some document cameras into the schools, aided in a pilot program using i-pod technology for low level readers, and offered some general classes for staff in Word, Excel, and Infinite Campus. As we re-group over the summer, a shift towards experiencing more technology in the hands of teachers and students will continue to be a focus. We love hearing from you and listening to your suggestions.



As you break for summer, make sure your Z drive information has been backed up, take advantage of professional development opportunities within the district, rest and recoup. Thanks for a great year.

*Kirk Henwood*

*“One’s destination is never a place but rather a new way of looking at things.” Henry Miller*

### Combat Digital Snarking in Your School Community

Sarcastic comments can be funny, but when snide remarks about schools, students, teachers, or principals go digital, they can damage reputations and cause harm. Whether it's parents posting snarky comments about their child's teachers online or students texting rude comments about each other, "digital snarking" leaves a permanent record. Before this behavior disrupts your school community, engage staff, parents and students in a conversation about [digital citizenship](#) so everyone understands the rules of the new "[netiquette](#)." For more ideas, see this [tip](#).



**REMINDERS AND UPDATES**

GOT JUNK?

Please inventory all technology items such as printers, fax machines, copiers, TV's or monitors that need to be recycled. Please place them in one area and e-mail Chad Nutter and Tech Dept will pick up within the next two weeks.



If discarding "broken" Infocus Projectors, please send to Jonna Adragna, MHS. She is collecting them to salvage the lamps and filters.



Need Training?

These WebEx/Webinar classes will be held soon in the Technology Lab at the Educational Services Building. If you would like to attend for clock/credit hours, please send an email to Cheryl Rice (crice@mcsd.k12.co.us).

**Schedules, Registrations, Teams**  
**MON - June 1 (9-12)**

**Beginner Adhoc Reporting**  
**WED - June 3 (9-11)**

**Grad Planner**  
**WED- June 3 (12-2)**

**Standards Based Reporting**  
**TH - June 4 (9-12)**

**Personalized Learning Plans**  
**WED - June 10 (9-11)**

**Advanced Adhoc Webinar**  
**MON - June 15 (9-11)**

**Windows Vista users can now access the exchange server (check your e-mail from home)!**

**Blog vs. Wiki?**

Blogs are online journals that are really simple and easy to use. Wiki is the Hawaiian word for quick or fast. Wikis can be edited by many different people. They are a great tool for collaborating and synthesizing information.

The open style of a wiki can be useful for group projects, while a blog may aid in brainstorming or generating discussion. Also, a combination of the two may best suit educational purposes. Because a wiki can limit which users can login and edit the content, facilitator control can virtually be the same as a blog, where comments and posts can be pre-screened. The main difference, then, between a wiki and a blog becomes the layout and organization of information.

A wiki becomes a continually modifiable easy-access web page, while a blog's journalistic style catalogs and dates content so readers can see the interchange of ideas related to the blog topic in question. For more information and how-tos, go to [http://opencontent.org/wiki/index.php?title=Using\\_Blogs\\_and\\_Wikis\\_in\\_Education](http://opencontent.org/wiki/index.php?title=Using_Blogs_and_Wikis_in_Education)

**INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

John McKinnon , OMS, developed a science website to integrate technology into his classroom content! Way to go Mr. McKinnon! <http://olathescience.org/lessons%20mckinnon.html>

*An Instructional Technology class is offered during Summer Symposium this summer! Don't forget to register for this class if you need any help or new ideas in this area!*



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A Building Support Learning Community has been established and Infinite Campus classes have been scheduled for necessary training. The group meetings are designed for secretaries and classified support staff to share ideas and collaborate on how to streamline certain processes to help the schools and buildings operate more consistently and efficiently. If interested in attending, email Cheryl Rice.