



SEPTEMBER 2009 TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT IT.MCSD.ORG 252-7900

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What are RSS FEEDS?

RSS (most commonly translated as "Really Simple Syndication" but sometimes "Rich Site Summary") is a family of web feed formats used to publish frequently updated works...

MCSD TECHNOLOGY- NOW & NEXT

Asimov's statement below seems more relevant than ever with rapidly changing technology and its impact across the globe. With programs like One Laptop per Child providing tens of thousands of laptops to children around the world...

Adam cannot possibly know all the software and internet applications, however, his energy and passion to learn plus his willingness to help will undoubtedly help us bridge this gap. Look him up, use him, and help us help our students develop the technology and critical skills they need to be successful in the future.

Handwritten signature: Kirk Khenwood

No sensible decision can be made any longer without taking into account not only the world as it is, but the world as it will be - Issac Asimov, 1981

TECH DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS & INITIATIVES

- Teacher & Student Computer Rotation for CTMS, CMS and student labs completed.
Infinite Campus modules, Tableau (information dashboard) and ShoutPoint (quicker voice & email notification system) are in the implementation process.
MS Office 2007 will be downloaded on all elementary school computers this year.
Instructional Technology Facilitator hired to help us move forward with 21st Century Learning Skills



IT Department

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REMINDERS AND UPDATES

The Help Desk is for everyone. Follow the login instructions to the side of this article to create a user account. Once you have successfully entered yourself into the help desk system, you will be able to enter your own help desk tickets and view your previous tickets. We realize that it is much easier to pick up the telephone and call the help desk for immediate answers (and this is okay for password resets), however the IT Department must have a "workload" tracking system in order to determine future needs to best serve our district. Please create a help ticket even if your issue has been resolved, just type "resolved" in the note section. The system also allows prioritization of requests. This means if someone else puts in a ticket and you do not, they will be served first.

THANK YOU for your patience and support!

TECHNOLOGY HELP DESK

At <http://www.mcsd.org>, go under "Staff" to "Technology Help Desk" and then click "Help Desk" and login.

- Enter your email Address: jdoe@mcsd.k12.co.us
- Do not enter a password at this point!
- Click "Logon".
- Create your profile and a password and use new password for future logins
- Enter your help desk ticket

IMPORTANT: You must enter a Help Desk ticket in order for the technology department to assist you!

Want a WIKI Webinar?

Attend a free webinar and learn to use wikis in your community:

<http://wikiwebinars.wikispaces.com/>



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Dear outside the box thinkers,

Hello, my name is Adam Truitt and I'm the new Instructional Technology Facilitator for the district. This position is the other half of IT - more on the integration, instructional, staff development side of technology. I have been in the district for six years as an elementary teacher in Olathe and building facilitator and before that, I was in Telluride as an elementary teacher and technology facilitator/trainer. Although new to the position I feel that I have some good visions but certainly don't claim to know it all. In fact, it's going to take the relationships I have made and are going to make amongst the district to get the motivational fire lit.

Short and long term goals came up in a recent meeting with Kirk Henwood and myself regarding where to take off from. Our fear of course is to not bite off more than "I" can chew, yet at the same time, "we" are both very hungry on the direction we feel Montrose schools need to go. I'm starting with just a brief note to let you know a bit more about where I want to begin. Once again, I don't claim to know everything in the realm of educational technology and between my RSS feeds updating all the time, emails, and new publications hitting my desk constantly - I could definitely spend a majority of my day just reading leading bleeding edge "stuff". BUT, I want to get out in your classrooms! I want to chat and build goals and explore your visions for the future. This position allows me to do a bit of research with you to build the classroom you want - instead of unanswered sticky notes and emails to busy teachers and administrators - I can be your link. My job is simple - to help the end user in a multitude of ways - research, integration, staff development, grant writing, curriculum and tag-teaming in the classroom. I want to fire you up and stand by your side.

I am currently working on getting a few systems in place. I have been given the reins of the MCS D Tech blog site (edublogs), which I am currently revamping. I am also working on a new instructional technology wiki that down the road can be updated within different genres of content with your input. I am visiting classrooms by invitation to see the cool things that are already in place as well as helping with some of the software help desk tickets as they arise. Simply, I want to be a support and motivator with 21st century skills and to take Montrose County Schools to a new level. Frankly, I need you to join this effort and to ignite the technological fire in your buildings to start asking questions and to get on board with our drive and mission. I'm completely honored to be working you and to be in a new position of working from the ground up. I can't promise the world but the more on board the heavier the push.

Have a great beginning of the year and as blogs and wikis become friendlier from my end I would love for them to be more of a place of communication and discussion in terms of what is wanted and what's coming down the pipe. Again, please invite me to visit with times that are convenient to pop in.

Adam