

Technology Training for Staff

Technology training is available to Midview staff on software that can assist you in the classroom. See calendar below for dates. Elementary sessions are located in the North Elementary LRC from 3:50 to 4:20, Middle School sessions are held in their LRC from 2:40 to 3:10, and High School sessions are held in their LRC from 2:50 to 3:20.

NOTE: Elementary teachers interested in PowerPoint and/or How to Make Graphs and Charts Using Excel should e-mail Dr. Pugh at midvw_cp@leeca.org. The first twenty people will be in the first sessions noted on the calendar below, March 8 and March 15, respectively. If there is more interest, additional days will be arranged.

Outlook Level 1- Sending and receiving mail, organizing mail in folders, contact list, calendar and task list (Please bring your laptop to this session)

Outlook Level 2- Attachments, receipts, scheduling a meeting, searching folders within Outlook (Please bring your laptop to this session)

PowerPoint- Creating slides, changing fonts and colors, slide transitions, slide sorter, viewing the show

Turning Point Level 1- Getting started, creating a new presentation, using an existing presentation

Turning Point Level 2- Adding animation and importing from Examview disks


School Pad- Operating the buttons and toolbars

EbscoHost- Searching the online database of periodicals for classroom and professional assignments


Electronic Resources- The top five electronic resources appropriate for grades 7-8 and grades 9-12 will be reviewed.

How to Make Charts and Graphs- Numbers can usually be represented quicker and to a larger audience in a picture format. Excel has a chart program built into its main program to help you graph data.

Attending these training sessions can help improve efficiency to gain a little more of that most precious of things—time—to your day.

 FEBRUARY 2006				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
20	21	22 TurningPoint I High School	23	24
27 PowerPoint*	28			

*PowerPoint is a prerequisite to Turning Point

 MARCH 2006				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 TurningPoint I Middle School	2	3
6 TurningPoint II High School	7	8 PowerPoint Elementary	9 TurningPoint II Middle School	10
13 SchoolPad Middle School	14 SchoolPad High School	15 Charts and Graphs Elementary	16	17
20 EBSCO Host High School	21	22 Electronic Resources HS	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

NEED HELP? Your friendly neighborhood tech support will be in your building on the following days:

	FRANK	DAVE
Monday	Middle School	East Elementary
Tuesday	High School	West Elementary
Wednesday	North Elementary	Middle School
Thursday	West Elementary	High School
Friday	East Elementary	North Elementary

Weekly updates are now being sent to your principals regarding progress in each of the buildings. Remember, if you are having a tech issue, report it first to your LRC, especially if tech support is in your building that day.

e - Knowledge

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MIDVIEW LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Midview Presents at State Technology Conference



L-R Cathy Pugh, Kim Kauffman, Valerie Thompson of SoundCom, Mary Shepherd, and Kim Gregory

On Tuesday, February 14th, three Midview teachers gave a presentation on "Interactive Technology and Its Use in the Elementary and Middle School Classroom" at the 2006 State Technology Conference in Columbus, Ohio. As one of the largest educational technology conferences in the nation, the State Technology Conference offers educators from Ohio—and beyond—the opportunity to network with peers to share best practices and strategies for leadership, integration and implementation, while reviewing the latest technology trends and emerging technologies.

Representing Midview were Kim Gregory, East Elementary, Kindergarten; Kim Kauffman, West Elementary, Grade 6; Mary Shepherd, North Elementary, Grade 3; and Cathy Pugh, Director of Curriculum. Valerie Thompson of SoundCom also attended to provide her support and answer questions from attendees to the conference.

Although the presentation was held at 8:00 a.m., the room quickly filled up to standing room only, exceeding the expected attendance of 40 individuals. Demonstrating their use of SoundCom's PolyVision Interactive Lectern in their class-

rooms, each teacher also showcased her teaching techniques and dedication to aligning lessons to the state standards.

In Mrs. Gregory's presentation, she featured the ways the lectern assists her in providing a visual and auditory representation that is so important at the Kindergarten level. As example she demonstrated some of her lessons introducing letters of the alphabet, shapes, and story elements. She also shared her use of websites such as Starfall.com which adds animation, sound, and vibrant colors to her lessons.

Ms. Shepherd, a first year teacher at Midview, showed her use of the lectern in a lesson about the Chinese New Year. The lectern supported her lessons with vocabulary primers helping students sound out and understand new words learned in a Chinese story about "Sam and the Lucky Money." The lesson plan also linked to a video clip of an authentic dragon dance, and explored the personality traits of the different animals represented in the Chinese Zodiac. Ms. Shepherd also explained how important it was for the students to contribute interesting facts they learned about the Chinese culture with their classmates.

Mrs. Kauffman shared a lesson about Ancient Egypt from her classroom, in which the students explored the rich history of the region, and their favorite part—mummification! Mrs. Kauffman also detailed her use of color theory to help make seemingly dull information, such as "Ancient Mesopotamia," seem more exciting with the use of vivid colors and contrast. In addition, she employs fun ideas such as "Math in the Dark" to help student involvement in classroom learning soar. As example, she featured some beautifully sophisticated and detailed slides created by one of her own students.

After the presentation, fellow educators from around the state stayed to speak with the presenters and learn more about their techniques and experiences. Dr. Kathleen Cintavey, Assistant Superintendent for New Philadelphia City Schools, was particularly impressed, summing up their presentation by saying what was on everyone's minds, "That's good teaching."

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Have You Visited Our Website Lately?

Log on to www.MidviewK12.org and check out all the new content available to see what's happening in the other buildings, and how our students are growing and learning every day! If you have something you'd like to share, please contact egadd@midviewk12.org or call 926-7605. Let's spread the good news!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The following is an excerpt from Silver-Pacuilla, H., and Fleischman, S. (2006)

Technology to Help Struggling Students.

Educational Leadership.

What We Know:

Research in psychology has shown the power of simultaneous, multiple modes of input to gain and hold a person's attention and to improve memory. Lewandowski and Montali (1996) conducted a study that compared the learning of poor readers with skilled readers who were both taught through a text-to-speech application with simultaneous on-screen highlighting of the spoken word. This study showed that experiencing the text bimodally (visually and aurally) enabled poor readers to perform as well as skilled readers in word recognition and retention.

Text-to-speech also relieves the burden of decoding for struggling readers, allowing them to focus on comprehension in completing reading assignments (Hecker, Burns, Elkind, Elkind, & Katz, 2002). A technology application that has received research attention is computer-based graphic organizers. These tools

facilitate brainstorming, concept mapping, and outlining in much the same way that teacher-led instruction does, but with the advantages of providing work processing and text-to-speech support and the ability to rearrange elements or switch between outline and map view. In one study (Sturm & Rankin-Erickson, 2002), middle school students with and without disabilities were taught concept-mapping strategies and then were asked to write descriptive essays.... Students who constructed concept maps during the prewriting stage...produced significantly more sophisticated and complete essays.

What You Can Do:

Educators should not hesitate to integrate technology features into instruction for students who struggle with academic tasks. These approaches can support learning by building literacy and language skills and independence.

Premier Assistive Technology downloads are available via our server. Instructions to download software from the server are available in each LRC.

Ohio Resource Center—OhiORC.org

The Ohio Resource Center for Mathematics, Science, and Reading is an excellent source for effective instructional resources—offering peer-reviewed lesson plans and units. *Instructional Resources* include digital images, reference materials, tutorials, and applets. Teachers can register to receive e-mail updates, information on ORC's upcoming projects, services, and presentations.

The science feature this week is Marine Virtual Explorer: (<http://pangea.stanford.edu/projects/marve/>)

"MARVE is a simulation of a research dive in the Alvin submersible to a hydrothermal vent field on the East Pacific Rise. MARVE combines real oceanographic data with 3-D computer modeling to represent a real place on the earth (though it is not an exact representation). Your students can go to 20 different locations in the model and at each location they can look in all directions. At each place they will discover a fascinating world where deep sea animals thrive on super heated water in a rugged volcanic

landscape. Your students can explore the area and find out what is there, just as the research oceanographers who first explored this part of the East Pacific Rise had to do. Requires Shockwave and QuickTime 5."

Assessment Resources offer specific assessment items and tasks correlated to the Ohio Content Standards. *Standards-Plus* identifies resources to help teachers connect academic and career-technical standards to a real-world context. If you are taking a graduate course or want to stay current in your teaching field, this website also offers *General Education Resources*. However, the biggest draw is the carefully aligned, Internet-based instructional resources for classroom activities and lessons.

Atomic Learning — Click. See. Hear. Learn.

Atomic Learning is web-based training software. You ask a question and then watch and learn. To get started, Midview teachers have an extended opportunity until April 1 to log on and test drive online learning. The username is etech06; the password is [atomic](http://atomic.com). If QuickTime is not available on your laptop, you will need to download it from the Atomic Learning web site. This does require some time.

The tutorials are video presentations available in both Windows and Macintosh formats. The tutorials themselves are usually no more than three (3) minutes in length, with the majority under two (2) minutes. A topic is broken down into small segments. For example, if you choose to learn SMART Board, the table of contents is divided into five (5) sections. There are seven (7) to eleven (11) mini lessons under each section.

The first SMART Board section is "Getting Started" with 7 mini lessons followed by "Notebook Tools"—9 lessons; "Edit Notebook Items"—11 lessons; "Working with pages"—6 lessons; and "Presentation Tools"—6 lessons. PowerPoint options include Quick Start, Intro or Advanced. Again the table of contents breaks down the learning process and it helps identify specific problems or questions that one can immediately go to rather than listen to a longer presentation.

For elementary teachers struggling with e-mails and who need to learn Entourage, a tutorial is available. You will also find Kidspiration and Inspiration. Under the top tool bar, *Curriculum Tools*, one can learn how to make charts or download Storyboard Pro Software to create video projects. Lesson plans are available to integrate technology into your classroom instruction.



If teachers find this web-based training software worthwhile, then we will consider a site license for next year. Please give me some feedback at midvw_cp@leeca.org. This is an opportunity to offer professional development that is convenient—always available to meet your schedule and customized to your needs.

AL ACCESS PASS

Go to:
atomiclearning.com

USERNAME:
midvw_cp@leeca.org

PASSWORD:
[atomic](http://atomic.com)

INFOhio.org

You may already know about Ohio's virtual library--INFOhio. Did you know that INFOhio offers digital videos, e-books to read online and resources for parents, too? There are currently 130 videos such as *Writing a Research Paper*, *Rocks and Minerals*, *Real World Science: Simple Machines*, *The Century 1941-1945: Civilians at War*, *Writing an Autobiography*, *Earthquakes: Quake, Rattle & Roll*, and *Learning to Use Graphs*. A complete list is available in each building's LRC. Next year, this list will grow to over 700. To access a video:

1. Go to www.infohio.org;
2. Select [Ohio Media Resources](#);
3. Select [Digital Video Collection](#) and then follow the directions provided.

Under CORE COLLECTION a resource titled "American National Biography" contains more than 18,000 articles about famous Americans. Elementary teachers may want to try "Annals of American History" with 700 multimedia clips to show via the PolyVision Lectern. Tell your students about **Homework Now**, a free online resource service available 24 hours a day. One can also access free [e-books](#). At the INFOhio homepage, click on the parent bar at the top of the page. Scroll to

Books and Reading. Once you are on the Books and Reading page, click on e-Books and Audio Books. The e-books are divided by elementary, secondary—middle school and high school, and college levels.

From the Books and Reading Page, you can go to Billie Collins, former Poet Laureate of the United States, and view *Poetry 180*, a *Poem a Day for American High Schools*. Students can access the *Writer's Workshop Grammar Handbook*. To improve reading skills, the *Learning Express Library* requires each student to create a user password so practice and test results can be saved. At Parent-Teacher conferences, let parents know that *Homework Help Tools* and *How to Help With* identify web sites to assist with book reports, study skills, school projects, writing research papers, maps, and much more. For example, at *Homework Help Tools* there is a virtual scientific calculator for students to use for math homework or Babel Fish that will translate up to 150 words of text from or to another language. Parent resources also offer Internet Safety tutorials. At the District webpage, MidviewK12.org, we will establish links to these sites, too.