Tech Notes

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A monthly newsletter to communicate trends in technology integration, quick tips, useful sites, and other relevant educational technology integration information.

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Technologies to Enhance Learning

KS Blogs

A ***blog*** (a portmanteau of web log) is a website where enteries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order. "blog" can also be used as a verb, meaning to maintain or add content to a blog.

Blogs provide communication on a particular subject that you would like to post. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, web pages and other media that is topic related. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs. The appearance and functionality of KS Blogs looks like a full-fledged website. For more information and to setup an account please contact your ITS Representative.

"blogs allows a teacher to take the class beyond the 45 minutes because the internet is accessible 24/7.."

Nathan Javellana, Kapālama-High School, Science Department

Curriculum Integration

Discovery Education ***United Streaming*** can be integrated as a supplement for existing curriculum. United Streaming is the largest library of K-12 digital video clips available today and it is the only digital video-based learning resource scientifically proven to increase academic achievement and stimulates student engagement. US enables you to seamlessly integrate digital media in the classroom. To acquire an account and learn more about Discovery Education United Streaming, please contact your ITS Representative.

New Faces of Learning at Kamehameha Middle School - Kapālama

A new, exciting 1:1 Learning program was launched at Kamehameha Middle School, Kapālama, on Friday, September 14, 2007. After weeks of comprehensive basic training, including proper use, care, printing and ethics, 320 eager seventh grade students received their Kamehameha-issued laptops for learning. This historic day was preceded by a year long, collaborative planning process, professional development opportunities for teachers, an Internet Safety workshop for parents, and an unwavering commitment of support at all administrative levels.

Still in its infancy, the 1:1 Learning program has become an impetus for exciting change in both teaching and learning at KMS. The overall success thus far can be attributed to teachers' willingness to learn and apply new instructional and classroom management strategies, the on-going facilitation by a committed group of Instructional Technology Resource Teachers (ITRTs) – Liz Castillo (grade 7), Renee Teraoka (grade 8) and Don Kroessig (resources) - and the desire to continue to develop a professional learning community whose primary focus is the students – the New Faces of Learning at Kamehameha Middle School.

Please access the KMS 1:1 Learning program web site at http://kms.kapalama.ksbe.edu/1to1/ and join them on their exhilarating educational journey.

Featured Teacher

Kilohana Hirano
KS Hawai'i Middle School
Hawaiian Language and Culture

Classroom Performance System (CPS)

CPS is a package of hardware and software created by eInstruction as a tool for engaging students using classroom technology. There are two hardware packages, one with an infrared receiver and the other with a radio frequency receiver. Both allow each student to have their own remote control to answer teacher-developed questions. The software allows the teacher to develop questions using a variety of formats including multiple choice, true/false, and yes/no. Questions may also be downloaded from the CPS online site. Standards may also be added to the programs database to record student progress and achievement in each standard.

The CPS program allows for instant reports on achievement and performance. These reports can be in many different formats including review questions, class summaries, incorrect answers, standards analysis and a combination of the above.

At KS Hawai'i Middle, the Hawaiian Language and Culture department uses this technology as a pre and post-test tool as well as a test-taking tool. The program works with the fonts on the computer allowing for the inclusion of Hawaiian markings of the 'okina and the kahakō correctly. Eventually, the department would like to include video to the questions to monitor reading and listening skills in Hawaiian. As a part of their on-going Nohona Hawai'i development, this new technology has also been used in staff meetings to challenge the staff's 'ike Hawai'i.

QuickTIPs

Function Key: F11

Hides all open windows to access and view your desktop.