



CECA Newsletter

Connecticut Educators Computer Association

Vol. XIV No. 5

President's Message

M. Denise Moynihan

It is hard to believe that I have come to the end of my first term as president. This year of renewal has been an exciting one and a rousing prelude to our 20th anniversary conference!

The 1999 conference, with the remarks from Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell and Rep. Melody Currey, set the stage for supporting technology funding throughout the state. CECA has worked very hard to communicate the needs of classroom teachers to the decision makers.

The CECA Retreat, in January, gave the Board of Directors the opportunity to look at the organization as a whole and examine how we respond to our membership. Several changes were proposed and you will begin to see them implemented in the fall.

One of the most exciting new additions is the CECA Educators' Award. It is an opportunity to recognize educators who integrate technology into their curriculum and develop exciting projects that benefit student learning. Our first awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner, on June 7th, at Harbor Park in Middletown.

The Educational Technology Exposition at the Legislative Office Building was an overwhelming success and the addition of the online chat with Lt. Gov. Rell gave students and teachers both at the Capitol and at their schools, the opportunity to see and participate in government in action.



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Finally, the annual meeting and dinner will be held on Wednesday, June 7th at Harbor Park in Middletown. The dinner is open to all CECA members and we invite you all to attend. We are also asking each Board Member to bring a guest that is interested in working with CECA next year as an advisor or worker at a CECA activity - especially the conference. Check the newsletter for details on the dinner and please join us!

If you can not come to the dinner, email Mary Esborn at (maesborn@connix.com) letting us know that you are interested in working with CECA and we will contact you.

Thank you to all the Board of Directors and CECA members for your support. You are the heart of this organization and without your hard work, CECA would not be able to carry out its mission.

Legislative Office Building Tech Expo

CECA sponsored the Sixth Annual Legislative Office Building Exposition on March 30th. Schools from thirty-six districts across the state brought technology projects to share with state legislators, the general public and each other. This year's Expo participants represented a wide range of ages from kindergarten students to seniors in high school. Their projects were as varied as their ages.

Kindergarten students showed the onlookers how they used Waterford Early Reading Program to create storybooks that they could then take home and share with their families. Other elementary school students showcased their multimedia projects. Many of the projects having been created with HyperStudio, Kid Pix, and Power Point. The legislators and public had a chance to observe how students used technology to enhance their learning. Hurlbutt Elementary School third grade endangered species projects came alive with pictures, sound and video.

Plainville's presentation represented a continuum of skill development of students from grade 3 to grade 12. Students demonstrated the integration of charts and graphs into various curricula. These skills relate to National Technology Standards. Glastonbury High School students used Calculator Based Laboratories to conduct live experiments, collect and analyze data, interpret results and present findings. Data from their experiments are imported into finished presentations.

Lt. Governor Jodi Rell held a live email exchange with Connecticut students during the Expo. Thanks you ACES for doing all the prep work and coordination that went into making exchange possible. Not only students from around the state could email the Lt. Governor with their questions, but students that came to exhibit their projects went up and spoke to her about their use and views of technology.



CECA is planning to do a student Expo as part of the November Conference. We are hoping to having students come in the morning and share their projects as they do at the Legislative Office Building. More information will follow.

CECA Educator Recognition Awards

CECA is pleased to announce the first winners of the CECA Educator Recognition Award. The merit awards are being presented to individuals who are using technology to significantly improve the learning of students. The purpose of the award supported by a gift from SNET is to recognize and stimulate innovative and creative teaching. The winners are:

Virginia Merchant from Weston High School, Weston Public Schools for her innovative study of e-commerce business called **E-Commerce Economics And The Internet**,

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Inspiration Pricing Announcement

CECA members are eligible to purchase Inspiration 6.0 at group discounted pricing:

Inspiration (minimum 10 units)...\$32 each (normal pricing \$55 each) 1 CD and 1 Doc set with each 10 units

Also, if you purchase (1) 100-user pack of Inspiration 6 - your CECA member cost of \$2500 - all of your additional remaining machines will be upgraded for FREE.

Here are other discounts available to you .

Buy one get one free Edmark Network Versions includes: Millie's Math House, Sammy's Science House, Bailey's Book House, Trudy's Time and Place House, Thinkin' Things Collection 1, 2 or 3, Travel the World w/ Timmy, Carnival Countdown, Zoo Zillions, Number Heroes, Calculating Crew, Astro Algebra, Cosmic Geometry, Thinkin' Science & Thinking Science ZAP! ALL ARE UNLIMITED NETWORK VERSIONS

Any of Edmark's Lab packs are also on discount for \$99.

10% off all Knowledge Adventure Network Versions - visit www.edmark.com for titles

Call Staci with questions at 888-271-9888 ext. 208

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The National Center for Education Statistics has released the results of its 1999 survey on "Teacher Use of Computers and the Internet in Public Schools."

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2000090>

AppleWorks Tip :

Vertical Rulers in the WP

In Region #12 we have been teaching students to use the full power of AppleWorks (former ClarisWorks) for full desktop publishing. Most recently our 8th graders created twenty tabloid sized newspapers, two each for every year of the Great Depression decade. Such DTP activities often call for use of a vertical screen ruler. While most AppleWorks users can probably call up the vertical rulers when working in the paint or draw module, accessing them in the WP is not obvious. However, the task is simple. First, while working in your WP document, go to the WINDOWS menu and choose HIDE RULER. Then open the tool palette and select the arrow-shaped object tool. Now go back to the WINDOWS menu and choose SHOW RULER. The vertical rulers will remain in place whether you are in object mode, paint mode, spreadsheet mode or text mode. You can use them even for simple tasks like calculating how much space to leave blank when printing a letter to school letterhead. Vertical rulers were a big help as 8th grade cub reporters at Shepaug worried about filling column inches as they readied for the presses their issues of "Slim Pickins Times" and "Depression Weekly."

Emery Roth II

Listserv Tip

The default for this listserv is that messages sent by a person are not seen by them. To turn this "on" for yourself, send an email to listserv@listserv.aces.k12.ct.us and in the body say

set ceca-l repro

which will set the "reproduce" switch to on.

To subsequently turn this off, change the set message to set ceca-l norepro

To see all the options for this list, send "info refcard" in the body to listserv@listserv.aces.k12.ct.us

Al Hopkins ACES

Invitation to Participate in a School-University Curriculum Project

Invitation to Participate in a School-University Curriculum Project sponsored by a grant from the American Association for University Professors - Connecticut State University for a Research Project in Developing Online Courses for PK-12 Schools 1999 - 2000

Project Director: David L. Stoloff,

Professor and Chair, Education Department,

Eastern Connecticut State University

Project Description

Seeking a diverse group of six PK-12 teachers, representing a variety of grades and subjects taught, to develop collaboratively month-long courses that they would plan to implement in their classrooms during the 1999-2000 academic year. These courses would focus on a curricular topic that would be enriched through the integration of websites woven into the course's narrative and activities for learning. This project will examine the factors influencing the effectiveness of curriculum supported by web-based resources.

Project participants will be expected to design a curricular unit for a month of instruction that will make use of the WWW for resources and for structure. The project director will share this unit with the project participants and other educators by posting the unit on the WWW. Please link to <http://www.ecsu.ctstateu.edu/depts/edu/units.html> for examples of units developed during 1999-2000.

Participants will be expected to complete a report on how this curricular unit was integrated into their educational setting. They will also be expected to describe their assessment of the applications of this curricular unit, including student achievement and/or reactions to the unit by at least three other educators.

Participants will receive a stipend of \$300. The participants will work in collaboration with the project director via email.

For more information and application please contact

*Dr. David Stoloff, Education Department Chair,
Eastern Connecticut State University,
Willimantic, CT 06226,
email: stoloffd@ecsu.ctstateu.edu,
tel. no. (860) 465-5501.*

CECA 2000 Nov. 6, 2000

Check www.ceca-ct.org for information

US Dept of Ed's Community Technology Grant Winners

The US Dept of Ed's Community Technology Centers Program (<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/CTC/index.html>) recently announced two CT grant recipients:

1. Hartford Public Schools. Gladys Hannon (860-297-8460). \$600,000 over 3 years. A loose network of nine Technology Learning Centers at schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and local libraries will hire a technology coordinator, purchase software to improve IT workforce preparation, increase home access, create a "factory" to rehabilitate and distribute recycled corporate donations, and institute a standards based curriculum at all Centers.
2. LEARN (RESC). Doreen Marvin (dmarvin@learn.k12.ct.us). \$671,286 over 3 years. Four new Regional Access for Technology Centers will be created in southeastern CT to provide public computer literacy programs, teacher professional development, parent information technology programs, and information on assistive technologies for the physically challenged.

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CECA Awards

Sally Dastoli from Silas Deane Middle School, Wethersfield Public Schools for her project titled **Integrated Inquiry Based Learning: Not Your Typical Seventh Grade Science Fair Project**

Jennifer Cecarelli and Julie Greeman from Vivian McRae Wesley Elementary School, Middletown Public Schools for their multi-age project titled **A Year In The Life Of An Elementary School**.

E-Commerce Economics And The Internet

The content developed by Virginia Merchant resulted in a changed curriculum that included the study of economics using the Internet, Excel spreadsheets and PowerPoint presentations. Curriculum changes were made to integrate four types of technology into an Economics course that helped students to understand e-commerce business between the consumer and business and business to business. The project created an opportunity for students to learn about aspects of a growing and rapidly changing business environment and introduced students to a new way of thinking about business and economics within their classroom.

Inquiry Based Learning: Not Your Typical Seventh Grade Science Fair Project

The interdisciplinary project developed by Sally Dastoli that begins in October and ends in March connects science, English and math lessons and supports the use of technology using a subject-related objective. The result is a science project involving all seventh grade students that is thoroughly researched, comprehensive and interdisciplinary. In the long development of their projects students use the Internet, CD ROMS, spreadsheets, word-processing, graphing, concept mapping etc. Carefully monitored and assessed with a rubric the science fair project produces a comprehensive lesson that integrates technology in an inclusive manner.

A Year In The Life Of An Elementary School

The year long multi-age project developed by Jennifer Cecarelli and Julie Greeman involves Kindergarten, Grade 2 students and their teachers. Students create a published text sharing a typical day in the life of their school during each of the four seasons. Students use a digital camera to photograph events and create text using a word processing program. Students' work is also published on the school web site. At the culmination of the year long activity Kindergarten and Grade 2 students host a workshop for school staff to teach others how to operate the technology used in the project.

Important Dates:

JUNE 14 - 16 More than 1500 educators, federal & state policy makers, parents, students, & community & business leaders will come to Washington, DC, June 14-16, for a national discussion of Reinventing High School. Conference sessions will focus on innovations in designing schools, using technology, creating smaller & safer learning environments, supporting teacher & principal leadership, strengthening academic rigor & high expectations, improving the culture of teaching, forming partnerships with parents & business, and improving students' transition to college, work, & adulthood. For more information & to register, go to — www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/nahs/nahsce.html

EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY
The federal Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology (OET) is reviewing & revising the national educational technology plan. The revision will be completed by fall 2000 & will include new national goals for the effective use of technology in education.

The website also offers white papers on the future of technology in K-12 education & other information. Go to — www.ed.gov/Technology

Source: E-NOTES, The Electronic Newsletter of CT Voices for Children. Monday, May 15, 2000

CECA 2000 Presentations

These are some of the exciting presentations which will take place at CECA 2000. Updated information about CECA 2000 and registration materials can be found in future issues of the CECA Newsletter and on CECA's website at <http://www.ceca-ct.org>

Presentations are tentative and subject to change.

Funding for Technology in Your School District, School, or Classroom—Robert Hale, Consultant, Madison

Improving Classroom Technology Practices—Jonathan Costa, Esther Bobowick, Performance Innovations

Journey North—Stephen Donnelly, Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill

Integrating the Internet with the Curriculum—Catherine Drury, Christine Spadafora, Orchard Hill Elementary, South Windsor

Computers in the Classroom: A Teacher's Perspective—Carol LaRow, Iroquois Middle School, Niskayuna, NY

On the Road to Emergent Literacy with Good Books & Technology—Carol Magliocco, Amy T. Norton, Assistive Technology Training Center, Storrs

Beyond Keypals: Meaningful Classroom Exchanges and Lessons Using the WWW—Gail McKenna, South Windsor High School, South Windsor

Total Cost of Ownership in a K-12 Environment - How to Reduce Your Costs—Steven Moskowitz, Vogel-Wetmore School, Torrington

Music in Your Classroom: Using Software and the Net—Bill Myers, Pleasant Valley Elementary School, South Windsor

More Aunt Goodiebags—Nancy Smith, President, Aunt Goodiebags, Inc., Syracuse, NY

Building Technology Into Your Classroom—Tracy Sidoti, Mansfield Middle School, Storrs

KidPix and the Curriculum—Karen Waupotic, Carol Muska, Washington Primary School, Washington Depot

Integrating Technology and Assuring the Experience: Doing and Assessing—Emery Roth II, Student members of Tech Team, Shepaug Middle/High School, Karen Waupotic, Washington Primary School, Washington Depot

Using Inspiration in the Classroom—Celinda Weber, William Wajda, Windermere School, Ellington

Technology Infused Project-Based Learning: From Staff Development to Classroom Implementation—Janet Wislocki, Beth Maroney, Debbie Hourgian, Milford Public Schools

Instituting a Model of Integrated Curriculum—Mike Zito, Coleytown Middle School, Westport

I Think, Therefore i-Movie—Kenneth Holvig, Jerry Crisci, Scarsdale Middle School, Scarsdale, NY

Mission Impossible 2: Assessing Your District's Technology Program—Kenneth Holvig, Jerry Crisci, Scarsdale Middle School, Scarsdale, NY

What Do You Mean, Infuse Technology into My Classroom?—Cosmo Civale Jr., Darien Public Schools, Darien

The Wireless Classroom with Apple's Airport Technologies—Bob Trikakis, K12 NE Market Development Executive, Apple Computer

Hot New Technologies from Apple—Bob Trikakis, K12 NE Market Development Executive, Apple Computer

CECA's Annual Board Meeting and Dinner

Wednesday, June 7th

Harbor Park Restaurant

80 Harbor Drive

Middletown, CT 06457

CECA's Annual June Board Meeting and Dinner will be held on Wednesday, June 7th at the Harbor Park Restaurant in Middletown. This is an opportunity for the general membership to meet the board and other CECA members, and to discuss the issues that are important to educators with regards to technology in Connecticut. This dinner/meeting is open to all board members and general members of the CECA organization. The meeting begins at 7:30. The Happy Hour and dinner begin at 5:30 pm. and there is \$20 fee for general members to cover the appetizers and meal. Those wishing to attend must contact Marc Lefkovich at lefkom@hotmail.com before May 30th for reservations.

CECA Officers 1999-2000

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Nina Hansen, 2nd Vice Pres. CECA '99 Co-chair
Pat Palmer, Secretary.
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CECA 2000 Information