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- CET and CETconnect - New Home for Fifth Third Business Beat

Connections wants to hear from you!

Submissions for the March/April edition are due Wed. Feb. 27

Technology Training Academy

April, May and June
Registration Opening Soon
Visit the [Tech Training](#) website for details.

SchoolNet Plus FY 2008

Grade 8 Application
Deadline - Feb. 13
www.etech.ohio.gov/programs/snplus

Distance Learning Clearinghouse Discussion Feb. 5

Educational Technology Conference
Please come and participate in the discussion!
www.etech.ohio.gov/web_services/dlc



Ohio Connects!
February 4-6, 2008

Transforming Education Through Technology

eTech Ohio Educational Technology Conference

eTech Ohio's Tenth Annual Educational Technology Conference Coming Soon

February 4-6, 2008

Greater Columbus Convention Center

By Victoria Boczkowski
Educational Technology Consultant
eTech Ohio

The eTech Ohio Educational Technology Conference is Ohio's premiere educational technology professional development event. The annual, three day event includes keynote and featured speaker sessions, 300 concurrent sessions, teacher and student displays, emerging and assistive technology areas and vendor exhibits.

Conference News Briefs

Registration Now Open

Did you miss the early bird registration deadline? Don't worry. On-site registration will be available at the Conference at an increased rate.

2008 Online Conference Planner

Plan your Conference experience in advance with the new and improved Conference Online Planner! Use the online planner to create a personalized schedule of Conference sessions and events, then import them into your Outlook, Palm or iCal calendar. Also use the Conference online planner to review and print session handouts.

New for 2008: Registration Location and Conference Bags

In an effort to make your registration experience more efficient, eTech Ohio has relocated the registration area from the main concourse into Hall C. For attendees who receive their registration materials in advance, bag pick-up will still be available in both the concourse and the connector bridge between the Hyatt Regency and the Convention Center.

Keynote and Featured Speakers

eTech Ohio presents nationally-known keynote and featured speakers who are experts among a variety of topics relevant to Ohio educators. This year's speakers include:

Monday

Keynote: Robert Ballard - Oceanographer

James Hirsch - Associate Superintendent for Academic & Technology Services, Plano Independent School District, Texas
Joy Zabala - Assistive Technology Developer

Tuesday

Keynote: Ray Kurzweil - Inventor and Author

Michael Korcuska - Executive Director, The Sakai Foundation
Mark Leon - Manager, Lunar MicroRover Project, NASA Ames Research Center

Wednesday

Keynote: Paula Kerger - President and CEO of PBS

Bernie Dodge - Professor of Educational Technology, San Diego University

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Technology for Learning Center

eTech Ohio's Technology for Learning Center (TLC) will be located in Hall C and will include:

- New videoconference sessions located adjacent to the content provider displays. This move will allow attendees to easily visit with distance learning providers before and after videoconference sessions.
- The Conference Documentary Team's editing suite and interview stage. Watch students from WOUB Center for Public Media interview attendees and edit their video footage into the conference documentary.
- Assistive Technology will be showcased in TLC in the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) Assistive Technology area. Universal design software and hardware will once again be demonstrated in this area.

Educator Awards Ceremony - Feb. 4

Make plans to join us in celebrating and honoring the 2008 Technology Teacher, Specialist and Administrator of the Year and finalists. The Educator Awards ceremony will be Mon., Feb. 4 from 4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. in room C110-111.

Student Video Contest - Feb. 6

Contest winners will be announced live before the Keynote Session on Wed., Feb. 6. Cheer for the finalists in the Grand Ballroom at 9:00 A.M.

Visit the Conference webpage at www.etech.ohio.gov/conference to navigate the online exhibitor floor plan to map vendors you want to visit, get directions, parking information and lodging locations.

Contact [eTech Ohio's Conference Team](#) at 877.383.2406 for additional information.

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eLearning Courses Meet IPDP Requirements

By Tracy Taylor
Coordinator
eTech Ohio

Are you looking for a convenient way to satisfy required Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP) hours before the end of the school year? eTech Ohio offers professional development in the following:

- 21st Century Skills
- Assistive Technology
- Education and Technology Integration
- Education and Technology Management Tools
- Administration
- Education and Academic Content Standards including: Mathematics, Social Studies and Science

View the Course Catalog online www.etech.ohio.gov/programs/elearning for course descriptions and expectations offered throughout the year.

In addition, graduate credit is available for all of eTech Ohio's eLearning opportunities from select Ohio colleges and universities. Sign up for an eTech Ohio Online Professional Development course during the Spring Registration period starting Jan. 15.

Contact the [eLearning Team](#) at 877-383-2406 for additional information.

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Technology Planning Tool - Guided Tour Now Available

By Rachael Granatir
Educational Technology Consultant



eTech Ohio

Now that the school year is in full swing and you've begun preparations for E-Rate filing, you might be thinking about the status of your technology plan. If your organization has not yet created a plan using eTech Ohio's Technology Planning Tool (TPT), or you want to sharpen your skills using the tool, make sure to visit the newest TPT feature, the [TPT Guided Tour](#). The Guided Tour provides a snapshot of the major features of the TPT such as how to start a plan, adding users and navigating the five phases of the tool.

Technology planning is an ongoing process from writing the plan, to implementing the actions and finally evaluating and revising. If your organization currently has a technology plan, now is a great time to revisit it the TPT and begin making plans for revisions. Some questions your technology committee might consider are:

- Are we on track with the goals we've set?
- What revisions are necessary?
- Are the necessary resources available and in place?
- Do we need to add members to our committee such as new teachers, new administrators, board members or community members?

It's simple to begin the revision process. The technology plan administrator will start by changing the status of a currently certified plan to 'Draft Started'. This will archive the current plan, while retaining data in the new draft. The next important step is to update the plan years in section 1.4. Once these steps are completed, reviews and revisions can begin.

Contact your local eTech Ohio educational technology consultant for more information and assistance.

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Multimedia Production and Educational and Assistive Technology Grants Awarded to Eligible Ohio Public Television Stations

By Tonia Gibson
Grants Officer
eTech Ohio

eTech Ohio recently awarded \$1.2M in Multimedia Production Grants to eligible Ohio public television stations for the production of interactive instructional programming series.

Multimedia Production Grant funds are used for the production of interactive instructional programming series with priority given to resources aligned with the state academic content standards and targeted to the needs of the poorest two hundred school districts as determined by the district's average per pupil property valuation. This year, major components of each project will be made available online to Ohio's public K-12 schools through the Data Driven Decisions for Academic Achievement (D3A2) project.

The FY08 Multimedia Production Grants showcase projects such as:

- A self-guided online learning resource that promotes independent learning;
- A kit that will explore a wide range of Ohio history themes, including westward expansion, the Fort Ancient Indian culture, and the Northwest Ordinance;
- A video game of basic economic concepts to facilitate learning by second grade students;
- A curriculum kit that will consist of three primary topics related to the community water cycle; and
- Teacher professional development sessions for K-12 educators showcasing a specific technology and pedagogical method.

eTech Ohio also awarded over \$185,000 in Educational and Assistive Technology Grants to provide hardware, software and staff development in support of educational uses of technology in the classroom. Educational and Assistive Technology Grant funds are used to support assistive technology for youth with disabilities.

FY08 Educational and Assistive Technology grant recipients are working on a multitude of projects including:

- A series of professional development resources for K-12 teachers across the curriculum that present an overview of social media;
- A project designed to increase student's ability to use technical resources for research and communication;
- Development of a unique multimedia resource to assist Ohio's teachers in effectively teaching all the students who enter their classrooms; and
- Development of a program that infuses technology and learning manipulatives.

Contact [Tonia Gibson](#), Grants Officer, at 877.383.2406 for additional information.

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eTech Ohio Seeks Proposals from Experienced Technical Staff

By Chad Rex
Educational Technology Consultant
eTech Ohio

The sixth annual eTech Ohio Technology Summer Summit will take place June 24-25, 2008 at the Quest Business Center in Columbus, Ohio. This technical professional development event provides attendees access to training and resources that support their roles and responsibilities in leading, planning and supporting their organization's technology systems.

Share your Knowledge and Experience with Your Colleagues from Around Ohio!

eTech Ohio is seeking a wide variety of topics appropriate for varying levels of experience amongst attendees. Some attendees may be new to their field, while others are more experienced professionals who would like to attend sessions that offer new or more advanced information. To this end, eTech Ohio encourages submissions at the intermediate or advanced instructional levels.

Acceptable presentation formats are 90-minute Tutorial Sessions and six hour Workshops that provides hardware for attendees' convenience. Compensation and complimentary registration are available as well.

Proposals will be accepted Feb.1, 2008 to Mar. 4. Visit www.etech.ohio.gov/go/technicaltraining to learn more or submit a proposal.

Contact [Chad Rex](#), Educational Technology Consultant, at 419.878.0341 for additional information.

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CET and CETconnect - New Home for Fifth Third Business Beat

By Katie Weitkamp
CET Promotions
CET

Beginning Jan. 11, Fifth Third Business Beat will have a new on-air home at CET. The weekly 30-minute local business program hosted by Brian Patrick will air Friday nights at 7:30 P.M. on CET. Following the program's debut on CET, the program will be available for viewing on demand at CETconnect.org.

"This is another great opportunity for CET and the Cincinnati Business Courier to work together," said CET President & CEO Susan Howarth. "Cincinnati Business Matters has been a successful Internet program for CETconnect.org and this on-air program will be an important addition to our Friday night public affairs program schedule."

"We're excited to broaden our partnership with CET with this fast-paced local business program that compliments our coverage in print each week and daily on the Web," said Business Courier Publisher Doug Bolton.

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