About the presenters

Donna Drasch is a Service Learning Coordinator at EASTCONN. **Rebecca Pilver** is an Education Technology and Literacy Specialist at EASTCONN. Between the two of them, they have 40+ years of experience in the field of education. As staff developers, they are committed to providing authentic, meaningful learning experiences where children learn to problem solve, think critically, collaborate, communicate, and care.

Both Donna and Rebecca believe that Web 2.0 tools can be a way to change the level of student engagement, increase student satisfaction, and enable students to take responsibility for their own learning. They believe that while the old Web allowed us to be consumers of information, the new Web provides us with the opportunity to be information producers and collaborators on a global scale.

Some of the benefits that Donna and Rebecca foresee happening by using Web 2.0 tools in the classroom include:

♦ Students write for a real audience.
♦ Learning expands beyond the classroom walls
♦ Parents can participate in the learning experiences.
♦ Students are motivated by the authentic learning environments they create.
♦ They allow for purposeful reading and writing across the curriculum.
♦ They foster communication and collaboration.
♦ Students have voice and a sense of ownership.

EASTCONN—Where Learning Comes to Life

EASTCONN, one of six Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs) in Connecticut, is a public, non-profit agency that has been serving the educational needs of schools, organizations, communities, and individuals of all ages in northeastern Connecticut since 1980.

Headquartered in Hampton, EASTCONN's 425 employees work in partnership with 36 towns and boards of education to provide a wide range of cost-effective services that include customized professional development, grant-writing, embedded staff support, school operations support, strategic planning, early childhood and adult education services, as well as technology solutions and cooperative purchasing. In addition, EASTCONN's fleet of 95 vehicles is able to meet a variety of transportation needs.

For more information about EASTCONN and its programs and services, please call EASTCONN's Communications Department at 860-455-0707, or visit www.eastconn.org.

EASTCONN
Where Learning Comes to Life

Walking the Web 2.0

Four Workshops for
Motivating the Plugged In Generation

These sessions will inspire you to take your next steps with these *free* tools, whatever your level…just beginning the journey, ready to implement best practices, or ready to innovate and lead the way.

At these sessions learn about free, easy to use technology tools, wikis, blogs, podcasts, and digital movie making software that simplify collaboration among students, experts, school personnel and the community. Students, born in this era of technology, are already integrating these collaborative tools into their own lives and schools now have the infrastructure to take advantage of those skills in the classroom.

Blogging Basics
December 11, 2007

The Wonderful World of Wikis
February 13, 2008

The Potential of Podcasting
April 8, 2008

Digital Storytelling
April 29, 2008

Blogging Basics

Weblogs or blogs are easily, updateable, websites that allow an author (or authors) to publish instantly from any computer. Powerful teaching and learning tools for both students and teachers, blogs can be used for reflection and learning logs, student journals, team blogs for group work, communication between home and community, collaborative learning communities, teacher and class webpages, a class portal, and more.

At this session you will:
- Learn all about blogs, what they are, how to access the best blogs for education, how they are being used in classrooms and schools, and how to use them.
- Explore ideas and strategies for using blogs across the curriculum.
- Create a blog and a plan for implementing the blog in your classroom or school.

"The blogs give us a chance to communicate between us and motivate us to write more. When we publish on our blog, people from the entire world can respond. We can then know if people like what we write and this indicate[s to] us what to do better. By reading these comments, we can know our weaknesses and our talents. Blogging is an opportunity to exchange our point of view with the rest of the world not just people in our immediate environment."

— 5th grade student

▼ 2007 (20)

▼ July (20)

- Comments
- Questions
- Responses
- Reflection and Feedback

Motivating the Plugged In Generation
Workshop Schedule

♦ **Blogging Basics**
Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2007
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 11/27/07
#07 253 097

♦ **The Wonderful World of Wikis**
Date: Friday, February 13, 2008 *(snow date: 2/15)*
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 1/30/08
#07 253 098

♦ **The Potential of Podcasting**
Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 3/25/08
#07 253 099

♦ **Digital Storytelling**
Date: Tuesday, April 29, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 4/15/08
#07 253 100

Motivating the Plugged In Generation
Summer Series 2008
*Register for as many workshops as you like!**

Blogging Basics
Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
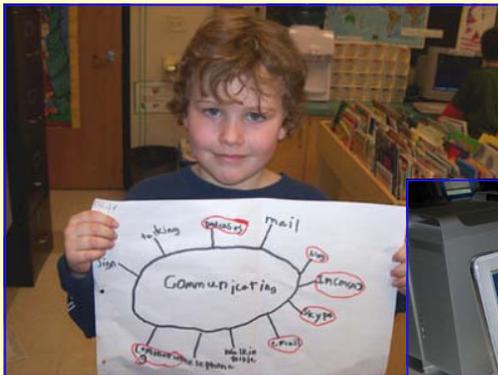**Fee**: $95.00
Register by: 7/9/08 - #07 253 101

The Potential of Podcasting
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 7/16/08 - #07 253 103

The Wonderful World of Wikis
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 7/10/08 - #07 253 102

Digital Storytelling
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Hampton
Fee: $95.00
Register by: 7/17/08 - #07 253 104

*Register and pre-pay by June 30th for all four summer workshops and receive a 10% discount

Ms. Oakes, a workshop participant said...
"First of all, my thanks to Donna, Rebecca, and to all of you that participated in the workshop today. I learned a great deal more than I already knew, and had fun doing it. The workshop was inspiring!"

Vicki C., workshop participant said...
"If a colleague asked me about today I would tell them to run to this workshop. We are always looking to keep up with our students when it comes to technology, this is definitely the way to do that. I would love it if we could have you come to our school and present it to all of the staff at once. Thanks for the exciting day!"

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Register online at **www.eastconn.org**: Click on "Workshops." You will need to input the last 4 digits of your social security number and a valid purchase order (PO) number from your school. Note: if you are paying by personal check, you will receive an invoice via e-mail to send in with your check.

If your registration has been accepted, written confirmation of enrollment and directions to the conference site will be e-mailed to you.

Questions? Contact the EASTCONN Conference Office at conferenceoffice @eastconn.org, or 860-455-0707.

In case of inclement weather, call 860-455-0420 for cancellation information.

Actions

- New Page
- Recent Changes
- Manage Space

Search

Navigation

The Wonderful World of Wikis

Wikis are Webpages that anyone can edit. They allow students to contribute to a single piece of writing or a collection of writing. They are easy to use and have huge potential for helping students build projects across the curriculum.

At this session, you will:

♦ Learn all about wikis, what they are, where to access the best wikis for education, how they are being used in classrooms and schools, and how to use them.

♦ Explore ideas and strategies for integrating wikis across the curriculum through individual and group projects, teacher and class Webpages, teacher collaboration and professional development and more.

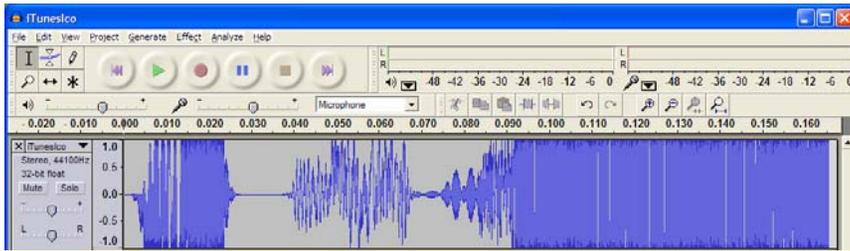♦ Create a wiki and a plan for implementing the wiki in your classroom or school.

"It's about getting a kid's voice out there and giving them an audience. If you write an essay and I'm the only one reading it, nothing grows from that. Over time the ideas die."
~Clarence Fisher, 2007

Beth M, a workshop participant said...
"My computer knowledge is limited so everything today was a learning experience. I am reluctant to admit that I had a hazy idea but really didn't know what blogs, wikis and podcasts were. Thanks to you, not only do I know what they are but how to use them."

The Potential of Podcasting

Podcasting is the creation and distribution of digital recording. Podcasts can have incredible instructional benefits for reading, writing, speaking, and research skills. Podcasting can be used to record and share classroom news, radio shows, stories, interviews, reenactments of historical events, lesson reviews, special events, guided tours, and more.

At this session, you will:

♦ Learn all about Podcasting, how they are being used in classrooms, how to create and publish, how to publish them, and the simple tools you'll need
♦ Explore ideas and strategies for using Podcasts with your students
♦ Create a Podcast and a plan for trying out Podcasting in your classroom.

Educators are starting to see how podcasting can help hone students' vocabulary, writing, editing, public speaking, and presentation skills, said Dan J. Schmit, an instructional-technology specialist at the University of Nebraska's college of education. Students can also learn skills that will be valuable in the working world, such as communication, time management, and problem-solving, he said."

7th grader Alyssa M. Gilbertson described the appeal of creating a podcast. "When you're writing an essay," she said, "you don't try your hardest because after you're done, you throw it away or put it in a box."
But with podcasts, she said, "now we try a lot harder because we want other people to know that we [can] do more. We want people to hear us."

Source: Edweek, Podcasting Craze Comes to K-12 Schools, Vol. 25, Issue 14, Page 8, December 7, 2005

Digital Storytelling

There are many different definitions of "digital storytelling", but in general, all of them revolve around the idea of combining the art of telling stories with any of the variety of available multimedia tools, including graphics, audio, video animation, and Web publishing.

The process of digital storytelling respects the writing process first. The inclusion of the technology into the process represents a "value-added" approach by extending the learning experience beyond what could be accomplished without technology.

At this session you will:

♦ Learn about Digital Storytelling, how it is being used in classrooms, how to create digital stories, how to publish them, and the simple tools that you'll need.
♦ Explore ideas and strategies for using Digital Storytelling with your students.
♦ Create a Digital Story and a plan for trying out Digital Storytelling in your classroom.

"If people aren't taught the language of sound and images, shouldn't they be considered as illiterate as if they left college without being able to read and write?" — George Lucas