

Monday, June 30, 2008

Teacher Resources

Open Source Resource Switchboard

Classroom Toolkit is participating in the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC). This is in the EduBloggerCon and Open Source sections. The demonstration for low-cost Open Source tools for teachers is available Online.

Sidebar The issue of Online tools for teachers is different than the issue of "Free and Cheap" software for use in the our public schools.

See our article, The Case Against Open Source in this issue of Classroom Toolkit What does the "Demo" Demonstrate? The Open Source Resource Demonstration shows what teachers can do with Online hosting and "Free," "one-click" installation.

The application programs that are installed for this "Demo" include:

Blogs: (Blogger, Serendipity, Wordpress,)

Forum: (Simple Machine Forum,)

Content Management System (the Switchboard - Joomla!)

Learning Management System (Moodle!)

Wiki (PHPWiki)

These Online "Demo" resources took "one click" to install, and were provided without extra charge by the Web Hosting Company. Domain registration cost \$9.91 per year, or less, and Web hosting with automatic installation of application programs like these (and many more) cost as little as \$4.00 USD per month.

The Switchboard application (Open Source Content Management System - Joomla!) links and launches the other applications.

Here are the links: Open Source Resource Switchboard

Open Source Resource Blog

Open Source Resource Forum

Open Source Resource Wiki

Open Source Resource Tutorial The Real Purpose of the "Demo" Site Teachers need a demonstration of the easy, online capacity as much as they need the successor to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

What this "Demo" site is for is to deliver a workshop on what it takes to build a Technology Integration Program, and what Open Source Advocates must do in the way of "changing the tune that they sing to school district executives" about "Free and Cheap" solutions.

Our students deserve quality programs, not half-baked, minimally funded, doomed to failure schemes to save money. Financial Wisdom: "Either fund a program fully, or kill it in its tracks."

Sidebar Last year, Classroom Toolkit produced a series of articles for Open Source at NECC that focused upon marketing Open Source Solutions.

These articles comprise most of the articles posted in the Open Source Resource Blog. This year, the focus is upon finding a method for documenting the direct relationship between technology and observable, measurable student outcomes. (Yes, maybe even test scores.)

Open Source Solutions will remain stalled in our schools until school districts get the Technology Integration component functioning. Until now, Technology Integration has been: Focused upon technology, not instruction

Focused on technology specifications, not teachers' needs

Under funded

Missing the huge training and professional development funding that it needs

Missing the even more huge Back-End programming and "one-click" integration funding that it needs Null

Hypothesis Experimental design requires that we use a "Null Hypothesis" because we cannot prove that something exists.

Instead, we disprove that something does not exist.

The Classroom Toolkit presentation contains a slide show, an online presentation, a wireframe, and mind-maps.

Here are the links: Open Source Resource Switchboard

Presentation Wireframe (Graphic Overview)

Technology Integration: Fire, Aim, Ready! Slide Show

Experiencing New Technology Integration Mind Maps

Exploring Emotional, Social and Motor Learning: Technology Integration Mind Maps

Personalizing and Applying Technology Integration Mind Maps

Synthesizing and Structuring Technology Integration for Measurable Student Outcomes

Evaluating Technology Integration Mind Maps

Blog Export: Classroom Toolkit Newsletter, <http://classroomtoolkit.net/serendipity/>

Posted by Classroom Toolkit Newsletter in Teacher Resources at 05:00