

Technology Integration Newsletter

TILT Tips

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The Technology Integration Leadership Team (TILT)

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Grade 5 IEI-E for 2011-12

For over a decade, the Information Economy collaboration with school staff. These centralized Initiative (IEI) and the Information Economy and school based approaches will facilitate the Information Economy development of technology integration professional Initiative—Extended development based on each school's Plan for Improvement and individual needs.



(IEI-E) have helped provide classrooms and learning spaces in Nova Scotia public schools with computers, peripherals, software, technical support, and professional development. We expect the hardware rollout to be very similar to that of the grade 4 rollout consisting of netbooks and LCD projectors for each classroom. The software will be very similar as well, with a few new titles and science probes to fit the grade 5 science curriculum.

Next year (2011-2012), the focus for the IEI-E will be on grade 5 classrooms. There will be PD support for the grade 5 teachers, but at this time, we are still working on exactly what that will look like and what form it will take.

In the Halifax Regional School Board a variety of professional development opportunities in technology integration will be developed in

Technology in our Classrooms East St. Margaret's School

Principal John Dobrowolski, assisted by TILT leader Susan de la Ronde, made a digital recording of each student, primary to grade 6, reading a piece of their own writing. The recordings were then imported to the school website where they can be accessed by the student and family members. Visit the site to hear the student voices! http://www.estm.ednet.ns.ca/audacity_files.htm



IMP Email Clean-up

Each school should have an IMP Email administrator. If your school does not have someone designated as the IMP Email administrator the Principal should find someone to fill this role. TILT may be providing some support to school based email administrators in the upcoming year. In the meantime, if you have questions you should check with the help desk or your IT technician. This is a good time of year for email administrators to do some email clean up. Below is a (suggested) Clean-up To Do List:

- Check the roles in your school’s accounts. Ensure that each student or staff member has the proper role. Teachers should be T, school-based email administrators are S, all students are E.
- Delete accounts for users who have “never logged in” if the account is more than 6 months old. If necessary, these accounts can be reactivated.
- Use the Move User function to move staff and students who are no longer in your school. They will remain on your list until they are picked up by their destination school.
- Bring in staff and students who are new to your school using the Move From function. They first need to be released by their previous school using the Move To function.
- Don’t do mass updates to move students on to a new school at this time. For example, students going from a junior high school to a senior high school should be moved in September.
- Warn graduating students (grade 12) that their accounts will be eliminated over the summer and that they should clear anything they need that may be in emails.

Learning Resources and Technology (LRT): a wealth of information at your fingertips!

<http://ednet.ns.ca>—follow the links under *Educators—Classroom and Curriculum Resources—Curriculum Related Websites*

- Video loans and dubbing: 6,000 curriculum related classroom and professional development videos. Online catalogues arranged by subject and searchable database. Online order forms.
<http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/index.shtml> (Media Library links)
- Photographs: **ImagesProject** contains copyright-cleared images that have been contributed by educators in Nova Scotia for use in Nova Scotia school activities.
<http://imagesproject.ednet.ns.ca>
- Check out the latest edition of the Branch newsletter (*Branching Out*) at
<http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/branching.shtml>
- Curriculum-related websites. A large collection of curriculum related websites can be found at
- Teacher Resources: information about Integrating Information Technology into your classroom. Quick Start tutorials for software, websites related to integration of technology, lesson plans that integrate ICT.
- **The Integration of Information Technologies within the Curriculum** available for download at <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca> under *Publications*.
- Curriculum documents:
<http://educators.ednet.ns.ca>. Teachers use their IMP webmail ID and password to access “cut and paste” versions of curriculum documents.



TILT Tips Wants Your Stories

The Technology Integration Lead Team (TILT) is collecting examples and stories that highlight the use of technology as a student engagement tool. Do you have a success story related to technology? Are you - or someone you know - doing something innovative with technology to engage students? Are you a student who has a teacher who engages you through their use of technology? **If so, we want to hear from you!** Remember, it doesn't have to be a big deal and technology isn't necessarily “computers.” Send us your story and be entered in a draw for technology equipment for your school and we may use your story in an upcoming issue of *TILT Tips*. You can email your story to amacdougall@hrsb.ns.ca or just [use this form](#).



Discovery Education offers thousands of curriculum-

aligned video clips and other resources including hundreds of Canada-specific topics for P-12 Canadian classrooms.

HRSB has acquired a 1-year subscription for every elementary school beginning on September 1, 2011 and **Discovery Education** has extended that subscription to cover the period from now to the end of June.

Passcodes have been sent to every school which allow teachers to login and create their own accounts under the school account. Please visit the following link www.discoveryeducation.ca, select Passcode/New Users and enter your school's pass code. TILT will be working with **Discovery Education** to schedule webinars and other PD that will support teachers in navigating the site and integrating video streaming and many other components into their curriculum. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy MacDougall at amacdougall@hrsb.ns.ca.



The netbook computers that went out to grade 4 classrooms this year were loaded with

OpenOffice.org software. The netbooks for the grade 5 classrooms will have this software as well. OpenOffice.org is the leading **open-source office software suite** for **word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, databases** and more. It is available in **many languages** and works on all **common computers**. It stores all your data in an **international open standard format** and can also read and write files from other common office software packages. It can be downloaded and used completely **free of charge for any purpose**. This open-development approach to software is becoming more and more common and means that anyone can report bugs, request new features and enhance the software.

OpenOffice.org replaces much of the Microsoft Office suite of applications (i.e., Word, Excel, Powerpoint). If you have any questions about OpenOffice.org please contact your Technology Integration Leader.

Remember—OpenOffice.org can save in Microsoft file formats (.doc, .xls, .ppt), can run on Macs or PCs and is available free for use on ANY computer—at home too!!



Clip-art for Comic Life!

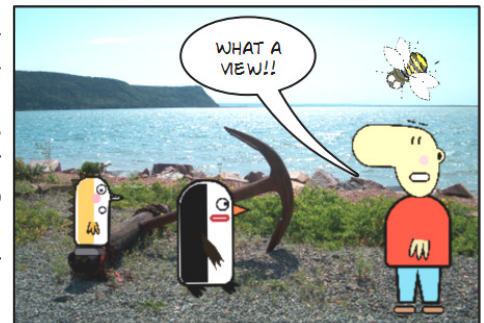
Do you use **Comic Life** with your students? Do you wish there was some ready-made clip art available for **Comic Life**? Well,

your wish has been granted!!

A very generous artist has created and donated a set of clip-art cartoon images that can be used with **Comic Life**. These images can be used on their own, or layered with other digital images to create wonderful stories in **Comic Life**!

To get this clip art collection, go to <http://plasq.com> then select the Education tab, then the Sourcing images tab, and scroll down to **plasq distributed clipart** where you'll find the directions for downloading and installing.

You may have to put in a request to the help desk to have your Technical Support technician install the files under DeepFreeze so they remain on your computer (s) after shutdown.



Gambling Awareness Nova Scotia Student Scholarship Video Challenge

Are you in grade 12? Are you interested in film making?

Create a 3-minute video that debunks this common gambling myth: "It's easy to make money playing poker."

For more information on this great opportunity go to <http://www.nsgamingfoundation.org/> then select the link "Interested in Our Student Scholarship Video Challenge?" at the bottom under What's New

Summer Learning Opportunity IT Integration Summer Institute 2011



This opportunity is available to all teachers in Halifax Regional School Board, however priority will be given to those who registered for last year's Summer Institute and were unable to attend because it was cancelled.

Registration and kick-off: Tuesday (afternoon), August 2, 2011

Workshop dates: Wednesday, August 3 to Friday, August 5, 2011

Location: Truro campus of the Nova Scotia Community College. Rooms and meals will be provided in the college residence. Although efforts will be made to provide each participant with a separate room in the residence, the number of rooms available is limited. If you are willing to share a room with a friend, please indicate this, with the name of your roommate. Please also indicate any dietary issues or concerns.

This summer institute is sponsored by the NS Department of Education. Fees for the workshop, lodging and meals for the duration of the workshop will be covered by the Department of Education. Travel expenses to and from Truro will be the responsibility of the participant.

Information Technology can be integrated into any curriculum. This **3-day Summer Institute** will provide a mix of learning and working to develop ideas and activities that will fit IT into your classroom next year.

There will be sessions provided to help you decide what specialized software might be right for your activities. You will be able to select from a variety of mini Tech Sessions on topics such as: video editing, multimedia, podcasting, productivity tools (word processing, presentation tools, spreadsheets etc.) as well as curriculum-focused software. You

will have time to work on topics of interest to you, participate in discussions about the ins and outs of working in an ICT-integrated classroom, and develop connections with like-minded teachers from across the province.

Bring your own curriculum materials for developing IT-integrated lessons and/or activities for your students for next year: previous lesson plans, websites, or other resources (images, media, hard copies, curriculum documents, texts).

Halifax Regional School Board welcomes teachers to express their interest in attending. Please contact Sandy MacDougall at amacdougall@hrsb.ns.ca and include the following information in your email:

- Name
- School this year and grade(s)/subject(s) taught
- Summer address
- Email address where you can be reached this summer
- Phone number where you can be reached this summer
- Single or double room: roommate if applicable
- T-shirt size
- Dietary requirements
- Please describe why you feel you would be a good candidate to participate in this Summer Institute

Seats are limited. Please send in your information to your Board contact by May 20th. Information and updates regarding the Summer Institute will be sent out from the NS Department of Education. Ray Fernandes, Education Media Librarian, and Nancy Chisholm will be providing you with additional information as it becomes available. Therefore, it is very important that you provide an email address that you check regularly, even in the summer. If you need to get in touch with Ray, his email is fernanf@gov.ns.ca and his phone number is (902) 424-2439. You can contact Nancy by email at nchishol@staff.ednet.ns.ca.

The Department of Education's Learning Resources and Technology Services has gathered together resources and links related to bullying. This includes videos that you can borrow or buy from them as well as other online resources. Access LRT at <http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca>—the link to the Bullying resources is near the bottom of the page.





...What's in it for me!?

Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) is designed as a course management system (CMS). Many teachers in junior high and high schools throughout HRSB are using **Moodle** as an extension to their classroom. Some of the functions of **Moodle** that are being currently used by teachers in HRSB are:

- notes, assignments and other documents available to students for download
- quizzes/tests
- discussion forums
- surveys/polls
- assignments completed and/or submitted online
- and more...

If you're interested in using **Moodle** as an extension of your classroom, please contact your Technology Integration Leader (see contact info on page 1).

We're also using **Moodle** to make a variety of resources available to you. To access **Moodle**:

- Go to <http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca/>
- Select **MOODLE**
- Login with your IMP email username and password

You may then see a list of "courses" along the left hand side of your screen. These are the "courses" that you belong to. To enter other courses choose "All courses..." (this is in small font so look carefully). "All courses..." will bring you to a list of categories from most of the school boards in the province.

Example: Scroll down to near the middle of the list where you will find the HRSB categories:

- Choose **Teacher Support and Collaboration** (under HRSB)

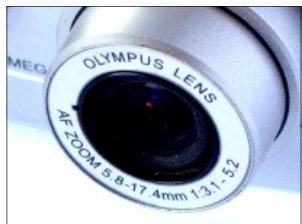
Within that category you can click on:

- **Aligned Resources & Teacher Collaboration** -
- You'll be asked for an enrolment key. Use *hrsbonline*

Below are other **Moodle** resources you may find useful, with their category, title, description and enrolment key. There are too many to list them all here, so feel free to browse the categories for **Moodles** that apply to your teaching assignment.

Category	Title	Description	Enrolment Key
Teacher Support and Collaboration	<i>Aligned Resources & Teacher Collaboration</i>	Many online resources sorted by grade, subject area, GCO and SCO	hrsbonline
Teacher Support and Collaboration	<i>Social Studies Grades 3-6</i>	Resources for teachers of Social Studies grades 3-6	socialstudies
Teacher Support and Collaboration	<i>Science Grades 3-6</i>	Resources for teachers of Science grades 3-6	handsonmindson
Teacher Support and Collaboration	<i>HRSB Teacher Take Home Rights</i>	Take home rights for many of the software titles you use in school	hrsbonline
School Communities and Collaboration	Grade 4 IEIE PD	Links, information and resources related to the grade 4 IEIE PD sessions	ieie
Teacher PD	Combined Classrooms P-6	Provides supports for teachers who are teaching combined classes	combined
Teacher Support and Collaboration	Music Moodle (P-9)	Resources for teachers of music	musicmoodle
Teacher Support and Collaboration	Grades 10-12 Courses (below are some samples...) African Canadian Studies 11 - Teacher Collaboration Global Geography 12 - Teacher Collaboration Global History 12 - Teacher Collaboration English Communication 11 - Teacher Collaboration English Communication 12 - Teacher Collaboration Chemistry 12 - Teacher Collaboration Physics 11 - Teacher Collaboration Physics 12 - Teacher Collaboration		Key for all listed: collaboration
Teacher Support and Collaboration	Arts langagier 7-9	Write Traits for French Immersion and Integrated Core French teachers; literacy resources; outcomes framework	culture

Teachers and Students using Digital Images and Music



Students want digital images for projects. Teachers want digital images to enhance lessons. Google Images has lots of easily searchable and readily available images for both teachers and students to use... right?? **Wrong!**

Most of us know that although there are thousands of images available through a Google search, those images are, for the most part, not part of Google and more importantly, are not generally copyright free. However, if you or your students use Google's advanced search feature and select images (or pages) for "reuse" or "free for use" you may get some acceptable results—though, since image tags may not be complete this is not a fool-proof process.

So... what can you do? What can your students do? There are many options—all of which are better than Google!

- All elementary schools and teachers in HRSB now have access to Discovery Education. There are thousands of great images available at Discovery Education for teacher and student use. Many of these images are HD.
- Students and/or teachers can use their school's digital cameras to capture digital images and video.
- Many teachers and students also have cell phones with cameras—they could use these to take photos (when/where appropriate) and email the photos to their school email.
- Many schools/classrooms have small document cameras that take high quality images. These can be used for capturing photos of student work, or student produced art work for use in projects, assignments and/

or lessons.

- Images Project – <http://imagesproject.ednet.ns.ca/>
- Images Canada—<http://imagescanada.ca/>
- DoE has created a set of Technology Integration PD Modules in a Moodle. One of these modules contains a list of sound and image resources. You can access that list at <http://nsvs.ednet.ns.ca/m19/course/view.php?id=32&topic=15> you'll need an enrolment key—it's *welcome*.
- Also, check the list of sources for images and sounds on the TILT website at <http://www.hrsb.ns.ca/tilt/>

IMPORTANT: Before downloading any image, music file, video clip, clip art, etc., even though the title of the website may say "free", please carefully read the copyright information located on the website. Some are not "free", some require the item to be cited, and some may require you to contact the owner of the item to ask permission to use. Also, the "image" might be "free", but you have to subscribe to the website or at least "register" in some way—which may not be acceptable under PIIDPA legislation.

The US has a "Fair Use" policy which allows "free" use of items in educational projects. Canada does not have that policy; however some Canadian websites allow downloading of images for educational purposes. Again you have to determine this for every website. Confusing? Yes, but it is a good teaching opportunity for students who often think that if it is on the internet, they can download it—no questions asked.

Also note, Microsoft clipart can ONLY be used in documents or other items created with Microsoft products.

Finally... remember that regardless of the source, it is the teacher's responsibility to ensure students are accessing appropriate sites and materials.

Technology in our Classrooms Kathy Fletcher, Grade 4/5, East St. Margaret's School

"My class has been working very hard on their medieval studies unit using our new technology. Using **Comic Life**, each student created a medieval comic strip which we have on display with their castle projects. The comic strips also covered technology and visual art outcomes. What

a great tool for learning!

My class will also be making brochures for a health topic involving study habits with another program, on my new and wonderful little computers. AND because I now have an LCD projector working...my lessons can be enhanced in new and exciting ways. My goal is to do as much cross-curricular work with technology as I can...and I think I can come up with some exciting stuff...we have a Peace Conference coming up...oh the possibilities."