

Mouse Tales



October/November 2007

“640k ought to be enough for anybody”

*-Microsoft Chairman
Bill Gates, 1981*



Email me if you would like help with a lesson or project integration idea

Congratulations to the following teachers who were **Caught on Task** the first six weeks:

Mike Burgess
Ragina Shearer
Holly Statecny
Marilyn Riedinger
Tina Beaty
Terri Hooper
Sandy Hughes
Darla Weatherley
Mary Helen Schlesinger
Monica Colson
Toni Smith
Jessica Doffing
Stephanie Swann
Stacey Sneed



Welcome to Mouse Tales – our campus Technology Integration Newsletter. In Mouse Tales you’ll find information such as project ideas, cool websites, district and campus information and more. Hopefully, you’ll find the newsletter informative. If you would like to see something specific included, please let me know!

Thanks –
Carolyn



Caught on TASK

In an effort to recognize the efforts of teachers who utilize technology in their delivery of instruction, Denton ISD has the Caught on TASK program. When your principal, assistant principal, or CTT observe you using technology they have the option to present you with a certificate that recognizes that **you were caught on TASK** - Technology Accelerating Student Knowledge.

Recipients of the "Caught on TASK" certificates can enter their name in the database, which will enter them in a six week drawing for one of two digital cameras. At the end of the school year all recipients will be entered into a special drawing for a document camera and projector combo.

Some ideas for using technology that count include: students using digital cameras for curriculum learning, integration of software into the learning process, distance learning in the classroom, student created projects involving technology, instructional blogging on your website, using PowerPoint as a teaching tool, etc. (in your classroom setting or computer lab)

What doesn't count: using Eduphoria, GradeSpeed, SRI testing, etc.

Please let me know if you would like help in planning a lesson utilizing technology and I’ll be happy to help.



Student Accounts

Just as with all Denton ISD employees, students must also sign a user's agreement prior to using technology. In addition to this form, found in the Student Code of Conduct book, all students are required to attend a short AUP training. **If you have a new student needing AUP training, please email me to reserve a time.**

Sometimes students forget their passwords. If a password needs to be reset, please send students to either Rhonda Thomas in the library or to me in my office. Before you send anyone, please remind the students of their password choices they were given during AUP training:

- ☞ **locker combination** of six numbers followed by initial of first name in lowercase letter and a period (example: 052409c.)
- ☞ **birth date** of six numbers followed by initial of first name in lowercase letter and a period (example: 120994c.)
- ☞ **phone number** of seven numbers followed by initial of first name in lowercase letters and a period (example: 3870212c.)

Most times, giving students these reminders will help them login without having to have a reset, which will save time and frustration.



Drop Boxes Available

Need a place where students can put their technology assignments and projects that you can access quickly and easily? Ask Carolyn for a Drop Box!

A folder will be created just for your classes. After you have the drop box ready, your students simply need to:

- ☞ Create their file and save it to their H drive
- ☞ Close file
- ☞ Right click on the file and choose copy
- ☞ Go to the Drop box: Common (G) Drive > Drop Boxes > YOUR NAME
- ☞ Open folder of correct period
- ☞ Right click and paste

You can then see what the students have done, but they cannot see each others' work. Pretty cool, huh?



Did You Know?

Scheduling a lab for student use is easy! Simply go to:

MMS > For Staff > Computer Labs

- ☞ Find a date on the calendar that works for your students' needs
- ☞ Fill out and submit the lab request form
- ☞ You'll be notified letting you know if your request has been accepted *(Most times requests are taken on a first-come, first-served basis)*
- ☞ If you are new to McMath this year, please make arrangements to meet with me briefly prior to your first lab time
- ☞ All first-time users for the Wireless Carts should arrange a time to meet with Jody prior to date requested



Do our kids have what it takes to compete on a global scale?

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills has developed Route 21, an online, one-stop-shop for 21st century skills-related resources. Route 21 demonstrates how 21st century skills can be supported through standards, professional development, assessments and teaching and learning.

21stCenturySkills.org



Did You Know?

Denton ISD has a one-stop shop available to you to help meet your classroom integration needs...



TIDE:

**Technology Integration
Delivered Electronically**

Check it out at:

Denton ISD >
Technology >
Instructional Technology >
Integration Lessons & Activities

Other Integration Resources

Sail-on: Subject Area

Interactive Lessons On-line

<http://www.pasadenaisd.org/sailon/>

Integrating Technology in the Classroom by Wes Fryer

<http://www.wtvi.com/teks/tools/>

Best Practices for Technology Integration in Michigan

<http://www.remc11.k12.mi.us/bstpract/>

Technology Application

Teacher Network (register – free)

<http://www.techappsnetwork.org/>

ALL training opportunities are awarded CPE credit upon successful completion of course(s). Trainings are open to ANY staff member who has an account.

District Training Opportunities

4:30-6:00pm – Technology Center

Register in Eduphoria

Oct 15 – KidPix

Oct 17 – Understanding Math/Numeration

Oct 18 – Movie Maker

Oct 19 – Schoolwires: Blogs & Podcasts and Web 2.0

Oct 22 – CPS (Classroom Performance System)

Oct 24 – Schoolwires: Basics

Oct 25 – Digital Cameras in the Classroom

Oct 29 – Digital Storytelling

Oct 31 – Schoolwires: Forms & Surveys

Nov 01 – Web in the Classroom

Nov 07 – Tips & Tricks with MS Word

Nov 08 – Using Document Cameras in the Classroom

Nov 12 – Producer

Nov 28 – Make & Take with PowerPoint

Dec 03 – Basic PowerPoint

Dec 04 – 50 Quick and Easy Math & Science Activities

Dec 05 – Basic Excel

Dec 06 – Google Earth

Dec 10 – Kidspiration

Dec 11 – Inspiration

By Request! Schoolwires “Build Your Website” Series

4:00-5:00pm – Lab C11 (on campus and hands-on)

Register in Eduphoria – minimum class size of three (3)

Oct 23 – Session 01: Learn the basics including an overview of your account, setting up your homepage, using e-Alerts and more!

Oct 30 – Session 02: Understanding and using different types of pages (flex page, article library, link library)

Nov 13 – Session 03: Understanding and using forms and surveys

Nov 27 – Session 04: Understanding and using photo galleries and directories and lists (MiniBases)

Dec 04 – Session 05: Understanding and using blogs and podcasts in your instruction

Individual and Small Group Training

Trainings are available by appointment for specific integration training needs. Contact Carolyn to make a reservation.



STaR Chart (School Technology and Readiness)

It's time to complete the Texas Star Chart again!

The Texas Teacher STaR Chart is designed to help teachers, campuses, and districts determine their progress toward meeting the goals of the Texas Long Range Plan for Technology, as well as meeting the goals of the district.

All teachers in DISD are required to complete the survey. The first five people to read this and send me an email with "I found it!" in the subject line will get a chocolate bar in their box. You will receive more information through your email account soon as the deadline for completion is October 30th. As always, I'll be here to answer questions you may have.



An Online Treasure

Answers.com | *educator section*

<http://educator.answers.com/>

A site designed for teachers who need to find facts, explanations, and definitions on 4 million topics. From lesson planning to student research, plagiarism issues to classroom website features... you'll find resources to help you!!!

View these two demos about the site to learn more:

http://educator.answers.com/main/flash_demo.jsp#stand_out

http://educator.answers.com/main/flash_demo.jsp#teach

Top Ten Reasons to Integrate with Technology

- 10 - Allows students to draw conclusions on information found
- 9 - Offers communication using a variety of media
- 8 - Engages the learner
- 7 - Provides collaboration and cooperation in team efforts
- 6 - Leads students in becoming self-directed learners
- 5 - Accommodates varied learning styles
- 4 - Allows teacher to become facilitator
- 3 - Offers a 21st Century Skill
- 2 - Kids love it
- 1 - Just plain fun!!!

Click to see:

[Texas Long Range
Technology Goals](#)

[DISD Technology Plan](#)

[Technology
Applications TEKS](#)



Did You Know?

**It doesn't take much time
to lock your computer!**



Be sure to protect your account by locking your computer when you step away. The easiest way to lock *Windows XP* is by simply pressing the **Windows logo key** and the **letter L** (for Lock) on a Microsoft Natural Keyboard or any other compatible keyboard that includes the *Window key*. Doing so will pop-up the *Unlock Computer Password box* and allow only you and an administrator to unlock your computer. Look on the bottom row and to the left of the spacebar on your keyboard. Do you see a key with the **flying Windows logo**? Depending on your keyboard you might also have one to the right of the spacebar. Give it a try – it only takes a second or two protects your account from intruders.