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For more information and
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<http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com>



Connecting Learning Assures Successful Students



Upcoming Events

Best Practice Institute
at Columbus, Georgia with Barbara
Pedersen & Jim McMillan
Thursday, June 4, 2009

Differentiated Instruction, Literacy
& Collaboration!
at Davenport, Iowa with Barbara
Pedersen & Jim McMillan
Monday, June 15, 2009

2009 C.L.A.S.S. Summer Institute
Hosted by the C.L.A.S.S. staff, Special
Guest: Jean Blaydes Madigan
Pike Freshmen Center
Indianapolis, Indiana
June 29 - July 2, 2009

Teaching with  Institute
Helping Disadvantaged Students Believe
& Achieve
Avon Intermediate School West
Indianapolis, Indiana Area
July 20 - July 23, 2009

Differentiated Instruction, Literacy
& Collaboration!
at Kansas City, Missouri with Barbara
Pedersen & Jim McMillan
August 4 - 5, 2009

To register please contact
the C.L.A.S.S. Office.



May Issue: School's out!

There is nothing new about personal learning networks. They are the people and information sources that help you accomplish your goals, either on the job or in your personal pursuits. They are the teachers who work in your school, your instructional supervisor, your library media specialist, the art teacher at the high school with whom you are friends, the magazines you subscribe to, books you brought home from college, etc. Today, however, new techniques for organizing digital networked information have enabled us to fashion new kinds of networks that extend far beyond our immediate location and face-to-face connections, and to grow our networks based not on explicit decisions, but through the ideas of other nodes (people and resources), whose ideas intersect with ours.

-- David Warlick

-- Tech Ed Guru

Welcome to C.L.A.S.S. E-Tools!

As we enter the month of May, we begin to think about the summer ahead. Many of us will use that time to take a break from school and work. Many of us will also use some time during the summer to continue to grow professionally.

One of the ideas going around is for people to create their own Professional (or Personal) Learning Network. Building a PLN allows one to customize the resources they want and need to help us grow as educators. PLNs aren't new, but the advancement of technology has brought our PLN to us at anytime of day or night.

Whether you attend one of the C.L.A.S.S. Institutes this summer, take a college course, read a professional journal, track your favorite blogger, or maybe follow an educator on Twitter, all of these are ways to build your own PLN. The pages that follow will give you some more specific places to start with building your own PLN.

Twitter Followers

<http://www.twitter.com>

Twitter is a micro blogging social network. You can only post in phrases of 140 characters or less. You choose who you want to follow and who can follow you. Many use Twitter strictly for professional connections while others may also opt to follow family and friends. Often people will share ideas, resources, and articles.

Some people you might want to follow on Twitter:

- Education Week (educationweek)
- David Warlick (dwarlick)
- Daniel Pink (Daniel Pink)
- Library of Congress (librarycongress)
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- Sir Ken Robinson (SirKenRobinson)
- <http://twitter4teachers.pbwiki.com/FrontPage> Wiki devoted to listing educators on Twitter.

Keep in mind that we can't control what others post, so if you don't like what you read from someone on Twitter, just stop following them.

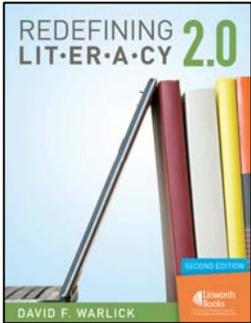
Blogs

Blogs are online journals or diaries. Many educators use this as a way to share their thoughts and ideas. There is an interactive component because the readers can comment back and further expand the discussion. You can use RSS Aggregators such as Bloglines www.bloglines.com or Google Reader reader.google.com to keep track of the blogs you want to read.

Here are some bloggers you might want to consider following:

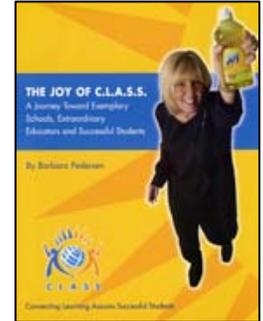
- <http://shifthappens.wikispaces.com/Education+Bloggers> Wiki that links to several Educational Bloggers
- Association for Supervision Curriculum Development Blog - <http://ascd.typepad.com/>
- Brain Rules by Dr. John Medina - <http://brainrules.blogspot.com/>
- David Warlick's 2 ¢ worth - <http://davidwarlick.com/2cents/>
- Daniel Pink - <http://www.danpink.com/>
- Kevin Jarrett - <http://www.ncs-tech.org>
- Many authors and illustrators have their own blogs, too, such as Mo Willems - <http://mowillemsdoodles.blogspot.com/> Search for your favorite author and illustrators to follow.

Books



There is nothing like a good book! Here are a few recommendations:

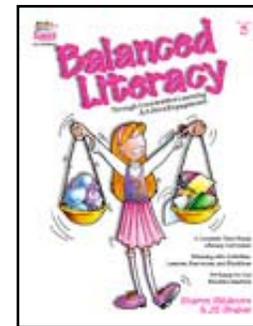
- Godin, Seth – Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us
- Pausch, Randy – The Last Lecture
- Pink, Daniel – A Whole New Mind
- Warlick, David – Redefining Literacy 2.0
- Pedersen, Barbara – The Joy of C.L.A.S.S.
- Skidmore, Sharon and Jill Graber – Balanced Literacy



C.L.A.S.S. Teacher Resources

C.L.A.S.S. is proud to be your new resource in teaching needs! C.L.A.S.S. provides books and tools in areas of:

- Character Development
- Literacy
- Collaboration
- Multiple Intelligences
- Cooperative Learning
- Life Goals
- Lifelines
- Brain-based instruction



To download the Teacher Resource Catalog, please visit <http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com> or contact the C.L.A.S.S. Office at 317-572-1576.

Conferences / Trainings

While technology continues to bring our learning to us in our living room, there continues to be a place and a need for learning face to face with professional development workshops. Check out all C.L.A.S.S. has to offer this summer and next school year at: <http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com>.

This Summer:

- Best Practice Institute
June 4: Columbus, Georgia
- Differentiated Instruction, Literacy & Collaboration!
June 15, 2009: Davenport, Iowa
- 2009 C.L.A.S.S. Summer Institute: The Thrill of Teaching
June 29 – July 2: Indianapolis, Indiana
- Teaching With  Institute: Helping Disadvantaged Students Believe & Achieve
July 20 – July 23: Avon, Indiana
- Differentiated Instruction, Literacy & Collaboration!
August 4 – 5: Kansas City, Missouri



Workshops & Events:

C.L.A.S.S. will be offering several different workshops for the 2009-2010 school calendar year:

- Behavior Workshops
- Literacy Workshops
- Best Practices Workshops
- Related Arts Days
- Support Team Days
- Model Teaching Days

Be sure to check out these services at: <http://joyofclass.pbwiki.com> or contact the C.L.A.S.S. Office at 317-572-1576.

Don't let anyone steal your Joy!

We hope you take a little time this summer to work on developing your Professional Learning Network (PLN). Whether you take advantage of the online tools, read a book, attend a training, or just have lunch with your colleagues. Anytime we get a chance to talk and share, we learn.

Also keep in mind that summer is a great time for educators to rejuvenate. Make sure to take time to enjoy the beautiful weather, read your favorite fiction book, or just spend time with your family and friends.

Have a great summer and remember, "As Good As We Are, We Can Always Get Better!"

