



# THE LEARNING CURVE

ALL THAT IS NEW AND NOTEWORTHY AT YOUR TLC!

VOUME 6, ISSUE 2 WINTER 2010



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2009-2010 TLC SPECIAL PROJECT RECIPIENTS!!

As you are aware, the TLC annually solicits innovative ideas from faculty through the "Special Projects" program. The focus of these projects is the embedded **professional development** found within them. This year, despite difficult economic times, the TLC Policy Board approved the following project proposals. Additional information about previous awards can be found on our website—consider submitting an application next year...it is never too late to start!

### **Project #1: Supporting Standards Based Student-Centered Social Studies Lesson Planning & Instruction through a World Cultures Library** **Chrissy Bersani (SL), Melissa Kelly (SN), Katie Marshall (BW)**

The TLC Policy Board will jointly fund this project, in collaboration with the Office of Curriculum and Instruction. The teachers will develop lesson materials and other resources to support the Grade 3 Social Studies Outcomes. Teachers involved in the project will use non-contractual time to select materials, develop lessons and pilot resources in their classrooms. They will share the results of their work with the Policy Board, and will make recommendations as to how to replicate their work across **all** six K-3 buildings.

### **Project #2: Developing Transfer Through Real-World Phenomena** **Dan Fullerton & Dave Cermak, (IHS)**

The TLC Policy Board will fund the purchase of 3 Vado HD pocket video cameras, with tri-pods. These cameras will support the analysis of real-world, real time physics concepts. Teachers will collaborate to develop lessons and produce models/exemplars for students to use as they create their own video analysis. The teachers involved will use non-contractual time to develop materials and lessons to support utilization. Check out the Physics in Action Blog (<http://www.physicsinaction.com>) to keep track of their progress! The team will share its results with the Policy Board in the spring and hopes to support the transfer of this pedagogy to other subject areas/classrooms.

### **Project #3: Updated Technology For Dake ELA Teachers** **Beth Ford, Xandy Quinn, Laura Klemme, (DK)**

The TLC Policy Board will fund the purchase of 2 ELMO-Projector-cart bundles for shared use by 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers at Dake Junior High School. Teachers will utilize the technology to support real-time student sharing, teacher/student modeling and engagement. Teachers involved will share their results with the Policy Board, and will share their findings through department and team structure at Dake.

- ### 09-10 TLC POLICY BOARD
- Mary Fuerst (IHS),  
Chairperson
  - Gina Grisdale (SN),  
Vice Chairperson
  - Carol Kress (BW)
  - Kate DeVoldre (BV)
  - Rosemarie Kain (CB)
  - Jamie Wixson (LW)
  - Kate Dobosz (SL)
  - Carolyn Philson (IRQ)
  - Anne Rothfuss (RG)
  - Lisa Guido (DK)
  - Kelly Petro (IHS)
  - Jean Walsh  
(Member at Large)
  - Darby Thompson,  
Paraprofessional Representative
  - Dr. Whitney Rapp (SJF),  
Higher Ed Representative
  - Val Swol,  
Parent Representative
  - Janine Sciarabba,  
Business Representative
  - Linda McGinley (Admin.)
  - Tamara Lipke (Admin.)
  - Scott Ertel (Dir. of Technology)
  - Margaret Burns,  
WICS Board of Education
  - Karen Finter,  
Director, TLC



**TLC Winter Course Opportunities & Offerings:** Additional information including registration is now [online!](#) Courses are **constantly** added to the list. Check out the information available on the [PDEExpress login page](#). Feel free to contact the TLC with questions!

1/13	<b>Reading in the Voice of the Character</b> Instructors: Jean Walsh & Nancy Reece	3:30-5:00pm	TLC Conf. Rm.
1/16	<b>Before/ After School Staff Training</b> Instructors: Ann Martin/Eric Miller/Marie DeRosa	9:00-12:00pm	Listwood APR
1/19	<b>Mimio Training (Part II)</b> Instructor: Jamie Wixson	3:30-5:00pm	Listwood 102
1/20	<b>Arts for Literacy Workshop</b> Instructor: Kelley Hamilton	3:30-5:00pm	Barnes & Noble Pittsford
1/21	<b>FLIP! For the FLIP!</b> Instructor: Karen Finter	3:30-5:00pm	TLC Conf. Rm.
1/23	<b>6th Annual Preschool Educators Conference</b>	8:45-12:00pm	TLC
1/25	<b>Library of Congress: Teaching w/Primary Sources</b> A Webinar from the LOC!	10:00-11:30am or 1:30-3:00pm	Online (Webinar)
1/28	<b>60 in 60 - 60 Web 2.0 Tools You Don't Want to Miss!</b> Instructor: Karen Finter	3:30-5:00pm	IHS, Rm. 1072
2/3	<b>Fashioning Kimono: Art Deco &amp; Modernism in Japan</b> Instructor: MAG Staff (Pre-registration is required!)	4:00-6:30pm	MAG
2/4	<b>Media Sources for YOUR Classroom</b> Instructor: Karen Finter	3:30-5:00pm	IHS, Rm. 1072
2/8	<b>Integrating Social Media in Literature Study (3-6)</b> Facilitators: Holly Brown, Jennifer McMahon, Matt Riccione, Rachel Root (Fairport CSD)	4:00-5:30pm	TJ Connor Elem Rm. 313
2/10	<b>New Teacher/Mentor Seminar Series</b> <i>Engaging Students with Complex &amp; Varied Thinking Skills</i> Instructor: Jean MacKenzie	3:30-5:00pm	TLC Conf. Rm.
2/10 2/25, 3/4	<b>K-6 Book Study Opportunity</b> <i>What Every Elementary Teacher Needs to Know About Reading Tests (From Someone Who Has Written Them)</i> Facilitators: Debra Lindsey, Nancy Reece, Jean Walsh	3:30-5:00pm	TLC Dragon Room
2/11	<b>ReACT: Rochester Area Chemistry Teachers</b> Teacher Facilitated Study Group	4:00-5:30pm	Pittsford Sutherland High School
3/3	<b>Grammar Instruction: How? Why? What?</b> Instructors: Jean Walsh & Nancy Reece	3:30-5:00pm	TLC Conf. Rm.
Anytime!	On-Demand iNotes Training Contact the Instructional Technology Department to schedule your 20-minute block with Scott! x63113	20 minutes TBD	TBD

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE! VISIT <http://wi-pdexpress/pdexpress> for a complete listing of NYS Online Academy courses! These 15 hour courses are an excellent resource to deepen your understanding, strengthen your skill base, and connect with colleagues across the state!

**INSTRUCTIONAL TIPS...WXXI'S OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES**



We are all familiar with some of the resources that you can find on or through WXXI. For years we looked to WXXI to support our Video Streaming needs through United Streaming or Powermedia Plus. Those resources aren't part of the WXXI "suite," but there are many new (and better) resources that you can access from our friends at WXXI!



**Vital on Teachers' Domain** (<http://www.teachersdomain.org>) is part of an online library of more than 1,000 free media resources from the best in public television. These classroom resources, featuring media from NOVA, Frontline, Design Squad, American Experience, and other public broadcasting and content partners, are easy to use and correlate to state and national standards.

Teachers' Domain resources include video and audio segments, Flash interactives, images, documents, lesson plans for teachers, and student-oriented activities.

**Professional Development:**

WXXI also hosts a great deal of professional development for teachers. This month, WXXI is promoting STEM education initiatives, with the following webinar opportunity:

**PBS Teachers LIVE! Webinar**, January 26, 2010 (8-9 pm) *Middle Level STEM Education With "Design Squad," "Fetch," and "DragonflyTV."* Participate in the comfort of your own home, after the kids are in bed! Register directly on the website listed here: <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/webinar/>

In addition, visit PBS Teachers STEM Education Resource Center at <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/stem> to access resources to support STEM learning. There are professional development

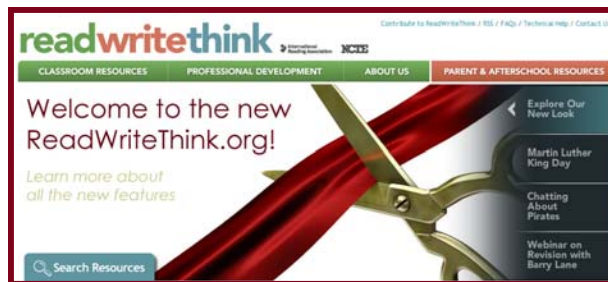
**NEED TO SET UP YOUR MIMIO, ONFINITY OR ELMO? WANT 1:1 SUPPORT IN YOUR CLASSROOM? CONTACT THE TLC TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING SESSION "ON DEMAND"!**

Over the course of the average lifetime you meet a lot of people. Some of them stick with you through thick and thin. Some weave their way through your life and disappear forever. But once in a while someone comes along who earns a permanent place in your heart.

**-Kevin Arnold, The Wonder Years**

**READWRITETHINK Has a New Look!**

Check out this amazing website for student materials (Alphabox templates, Comic Book creator, Flip Book templates, etc!) as well as lesson resources to support comprehension in ANY content area!



<http://www.readwritethink.org>



## WEST IRONDEQUOIT TEACHING LEARNING CENTER

2400 Oakview Drive  
Rochester, NY 14617

*The WI TLC is made possible through a grant from NY State.*

Phone: 585-336-3144  
Fax: 585-336-3166

E-mail: [karen\\_finter@westiron.monroe.edu](mailto:karen_finter@westiron.monroe.edu) or  
[jane\\_eggiman@westiron.monroe.edu](mailto:jane_eggiman@westiron.monroe.edu)

### WE ARE ON THE WEB!

[WWW.WESTIRONDEQUOIT.ORG/](http://WWW.WESTIRONDEQUOIT.ORG/)  
[TLC](http://WWW.WESTIRONDEQUOIT.ORG/TLC)

AND

[HTTP://WI-PDEXPRESS/PDEXPRESS](http://WI-PDEXPRESS/PDEXPRESS)

## Upcoming TLC Policy Board Meetings

**Note New Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

*What is the Way Forward? Using Video Conferencing to Support Our Work  
(Virtual Meeting using Elluminate)*

**Wednesday, March 17**

Continuing Application Grant Preparation

**Wednesday, April 28**

Self Study Wrap Up and Next Steps, 25 Year Planning

**Wednesday, May 19**

Director's Evaluation; *Special Project Reports*

**Wednesday, June 9**

Director's Reception, Summative Meeting for 09-10 School Year

**NYS Teacher Center Spring Symposium:  
March 13-14, 2010**

**Hyatt Conference Center, Rochester, NY**

WEST IRONDEQUOIT TEACHING LEARNING CENTER  
POLICY BOARD CORNER

## TECHNOLOGY TIPS & TOOLS

Here are the top 10 tips for bringing new media into your classroom, as recommended by Edutopia Magazine, as well as a resource or two to accomplish the tip!

- 1. Break the Digital Ice:** Use programs like VoiceThread ([voicethread.com](http://voicethread.com)) to get your students better acquainted.
- 2. Find Your Classroom Experts:** Take advantage of the technical know-how that some of your students (or their parents) may already have. Use survey tools like Survey Monkey ([surveymonkey.com](http://surveymonkey.com)) or a Google Form to generate the expert list!
- 3. Get Off to a Good Start:** Use the web to get organized! Use a classroom website or Moodle page to organize class materials—and teach your students to access it as well!
- 4. Think Globally:** Turn your classroom into a gateway to the world! Use resources like Google Earth ([earth.google.com](http://earth.google.com)) to map your community and beyond. Use Classroom2.0 ([classroom20.com](http://classroom20.com)) to find other teachers that are willing to collaborate.
- 5. Find What You Need:** Use the resources that you have, right here in the district! Contact your library media specialist, the DMRC, or the TLC to support your tech or media related idea!
- 6. Make Meaning from Word Clouds:** Encourage lively conversation about words by using tools that turn text into visual displays. ([Wordle.net](http://Wordle.net))
- 7. Work Better, Together:** Collaboration is a skill that is imperative for success in the 21st century. Use Google docs ([google.com/educators/tools.html](http://google.com/educators/tools.html)) as a safe, secure place for students to manage their collaborative work.
- 8. Open a Back Channel:** How can you really hear from ALL of your students? Use Blogs like Kajour ([Kajour.com](http://Kajour.com)) or even Twitter ([twitter.com](http://twitter.com)) to support an extended learning environment for all students.
- 9. Make it Visual:** Tools for sharing images and media have exploded over the years. Use Safari Montage ([media.monroe.edu](http://media.monroe.edu)), the Library of Congress ([loc.gov/teachers](http://loc.gov/teachers)) to enrich your classroom!
- 10. Use the Buddy System:** Students aren't the only ones who benefit from collaboration. Consider joining an online learning community like [teachersteachingteachers.org](http://teachersteachingteachers.org), [mimioconnect.com](http://mimioconnect.com), or [learncentral.org](http://learncentral.org).