

MEDIA MUSINGS

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Technology Showcase to take the lead at next Institute Day

Nominate Yourself!
You probably don't



SHARE YOUR IDEAS
AND SUCCESSFUL
LESSON PLANS

even know it, but you may be the building leader in some kind of technology that you totally take for granted. It probably seems to you that everybody already knows



Make your students' Brain Pop

Did you know that we have purchased a school-wide license to BrainPop? Several teachers had last year requested access to this lively collection of instructional videos to use with their classes.

Don't know about BrainPop? Go to

about how to format a spreadsheet, or how to use PhotoShop to put one image on top of another one. Believe me, not everybody knows that! We have been told over and over again that the most popular Institute Days are those in which two things happen: 1. you get a chance to see what your colleagues are doing in the classroom, and 2. you get time to work on learning a new skill.

January 28th you'll have plenty of chances to see and learn new things, in

www.brainpop.com and login using **rbhs208** as your username and **bulldog** as your password.

Explore your curricular area to find any videos that you might use to kick off a unit, to visually explain something your students just aren't

a Technology Showcase Extravaganza. But it will only happen if YOU step forward and volunteer to do some showing so that others can see and learn. Some ideas that have been suggested are: Voicethread, Screencaster, Google Docs, SmartBoards, wireless slates, Naviance, Keytrain, online citation tools, Turning Point student response systems. There are lots more—contact Tim Scanlon or Doreen Fritz if you'd like to show what you know.

“getting.” For example, I just found one on citing sources that I wish I could have used with some of our struggling freshmen researchers.

Intrigued? Talk to Kellie Dean or Kristi Sterling, who have been using BrainPop for a couple of years.

COMPUTER LAB PROTOCOLS

- ◆ Assign students particular seats, and be able to tell someone who sat at a particular computer during your time in the lab
- ◆ Activate LANSchool from the teacher station, with Limit Web and Limit Apps selected (if you haven't yet downloaded the restriction files from the R drive, see a lab aide for assistance)
- ◆ When you leave, be sure to lock the doors
- ◆ Leave the lab ready for the next class

Scheduling a Lab

Please be aware that when you request a lab in the evening or on a weekend, your request won't be dealt with until the next workday. To ensure a requested reservation, call the library (ext. 2120) when you return to school.

Google Apps for Education



RBHS has joined many other schools who have adopted Google Apps for Education as a tool to accomplish many goals.

- Students have a “professional” email account which RB can use (through Skyward) to improve communication with students.
- The Sharing function allows students to easily share files with a team partner, a teacher, or themselves without resorting to email attachments or flash drives.

- Less paper and toner: preparation, presentation, and assessment can all happen online!
- Students who go to college will work in a shared learning space (whether it’s Blackboard or something similar). Cloud computing through Google Apps will help to prepare our students for that world.

All teachers should activate their Google Apps account and should encourage their students to do so as well. The instructions for activating

your account is a Google Doc, which you can find at [this link](#) to the Professional Resources Page.

Whitney Bontrager and Chris Stiel have used the new domain of Google Apps here at RB. Tom Fuller, Kim Hayes, Kristin Bacon, and Kathleen Harsy have shared grading spreadsheets with the librarians on Google Apps. Please ask them what advantages they found in using Google Apps, and ask Alicia Duell or Doreen Fritz how to get started.

17 Things—new and improved



Have you heard of Web 2.0 but aren’t sure how it could apply to you or your professional life? Ask some of the teachers involved in the 17 Things to Chew On staff development program. Or check out their blogs —

you can link to them from the Professional Resources Page, under the Technology tab. Maybe you’ll have time to learn only one new thing this year — get some ideas by browsing through the “things” posted on the



blogs. There are currently 26 teachers involved in the “17 Things Lite” (i.e. 1st year) class, and 9 teachers in the Master Class, building on things they learned last year.



ELL and the Library

DID YOU KNOW... that some information in the library catalog can be read in Spanish or French (in addition to English)? Just click on the language button

on the left in the catalog.

DID YOU KNOW ... that our World Book subscription includes a Spanish language version? It



has a visual dictionary, lesson plans and activities, weblinks to newspapers in Spanish speaking countries, and more.

New RBHS website is coming!

Hooray! **Breaking News!** The Board has authorized the Technology Committee to pursue the purchase and design of a new district website, using SchoolCMS, a content management system created by PowerIT. The goal is to make our website more professional and up-to-date in design, accessibility, and searchability — to put our best face forward to our community.

Stay tuned for updates and progress reports.

**YOUR GOOGLEAPPS LOGIN AND EMAIL IS
LAST-NAME-FIRST-INITIAL@RBHS208.NET**



Students in the Intro to TV Production classes will be busy into the new year producing a new season of the award-winning series “Kev Head Tonight” and “Cook This” — watch for new episodes in April.

Also, a new season of “The A-List” will be produced by the Advanced TV classes—watch for new episodes beginning in May.

Log onto RBTV.tv for current program listings and to watch student productions.

*Happy Holidays from all
of us in the Library &
Instructional Technology
Department!*

