

# Media Musings

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RBHS DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY &  
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

## Did you know?

- *Last year we had 13 classrooms equipped with full AV projector packages*
- *Within a couple of weeks, we will have 42 classrooms equipped with full AV projector packages*
- *There are at least 10 COWs that can be reassigned to new locations from classrooms getting the AV package. Department Chairs are working to assign these fairly.*

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## Be in the driver's seat (of your library account)

You can activate your own account in the RBHS Library Circulation program. Why? So that you could find out what you have checked out, and when it is due. You could also request that items that are checked out to someone else be placed on hold for you. At this time, you cannot renew items. Here's how to activate your account:

- Go to the library catalog program from the RB Online Resources Page. Click on the name of the school.
- Click on the **Create**

**Account** button (top right).

- **Enter your last name**, and then **Enter your barcode** — which is your ID number (if you don't know it, contact the library. But it SHOULD be on the bottom of your ID card.)
- Now you can select any **Username and Password** that you want—and enter your e-mail address so receive updates and notices via e-mail.
- Once you're "logged in," go to the My Info tab to view your circulations.



The Library upgraded to Follett Destiny in May 2008

- Search the catalog for items, and once you're in the record of your item, click on the "Hold It" button to the right to request it.
- You can also write reviews, which will appear in the catalog once they're approved.

## CNN News Source footage in your classroom

Gary Prokes reports that he can now download for your instructional use actual footage from CNN programming. It is all available on the web, and the library of clips is searchable by keyword.

Gary can help you to find a video, and then download it to the R drive, where it will be available for you to show to your class.

If you want to try this out, please schedule a time to

meet with him, providing enough lead time before you will need the video for your class.



## Safe Travel on the Internet Highway



Secure your computer, your privacy, and your personal information

*Do NOT give any personal information in response to an e-mail asking for it, no matter how compelling the plea to do so. It is FAKE.*

There was an interesting article a couple of weeks ago in the *Parade Magazine* entitled “What should you worry about?” In the article an interesting statistic was given that 90% of identity theft occurs offline, not online. You should still be alert and follow good computing and security practices, but the threat is somewhat overblown.

<http://www.parade.com/news/2009/10/18-what-should-you-worry-about.html>

The basics of good computer security continue to be to:

- **Install a good Internet security program** like Norton Internet Security 2010 and renew the subscription or replace it annually.
- **Keep Windows, Internet Explorer, and other key programs like Adobe Reader, Java, and media players like Windows Media player or iTunes updated.** The best way to keep Windows programs (all of them) updated is to go to Windows Updates and upgrade to

Microsoft Updates, which is much more comprehensive.

- **Do NOT give any personal information in response to an e-mail asking for it**, no matter how compelling the plea to do so. It is FAKE. Clicking on a hyperlink or downloading an attached file may result in some kind of intrusion or theft of information. If you are unsure, go the company’s secure website (it will start with https, not just http) or call their customer service number. You will not get infected by just opening the e-mail.
- Do NOT just delete spam or phishing emails. All mail programs have a command to **declare them as spam** (In our school e-mail system, you can Blacklist them) so they will not come to your inbox again unless the hacker sends them from a different computer.

- **Delete your temporary Windows and Internet files.** If you need instructions on how to do it on your home computer, contact the IT Dept. or a librarian for instructions. This suggestion does not apply to your school computer.

It is estimated that 75-80% of intrusions on personal computers come from some inadvertent user action. Most of these will happen when a user responds to a phishing e-mail. Some will come from bogus websites. Microsoft maintains a database of these sites which change daily, and a good security program like Norton updates their list daily. Norton (Symantec is the company) scans 3-4 billion sites daily to find them. If you are running their program, you will be protected from most bad sites. A good security program will keep most other types of intrusions out of your system.

## RBTV is now available via AT&T U-verse

**Just tune to channel 99 and click on the LaGrange Park tab. Below is a list of communities that offer AT&T U-verse.**

Addison, Bartlett, Bloomingdale, Bolingbrook, Buffalo Grove, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Channahon, Crest Hill, Crystal Lake, Darien, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Elmwood Park, Frankfort, Frankfort

Square, Gary, IN, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Homewood, Joliet, LaGrange Park, Lake County, Lemont, Lincolnwood, Lisle, Lombard, Mokena, Morton Grove, Naperville, Northbrook, Oak, Forest, Oak Lawn, Oak Park, O’Fallon, Orland park, Palos Heights, Palos Park, Park Forest, Richton Park, Romeoville, Schaumburg, Shorewood, South Holland, Sugar Grove, Vernon

Hills, Villa Park, Western Springs, Westmont, Wheeling, Wilmette, Woodridge, Yorkville

**You can also catch RBTV on Comcast Cable channel 16 in** Western Springs, Indian Head Park, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Riverside, Brookfield, North Riverside, Forest View, Lyons, River Forest, Broadview, and McCook.

## Essential Outcomes re: Information Literacy

Anytime you expect your students to find information for any purpose, they are conducting research. Whether you want them to gain background knowledge or to delve deeper into a topic, they are researching. And according to state and national standards, there are certain things that we should all expect students to do. Some of those things are:

- Be able to find the main idea in a passage of text.
- Be able to rephrase what they've read in their own words.
- Be able to create standardized citations for a variety of information sources. (and actually do this **every time** they use a resource other than their own mind for getting information).
- Be able to identify the source of information—author or organization—and evaluate the credibility, bias, and expertise of the author/creator.
- Synthesize multiple pieces of information into a new product
- Use information ethically and lawfully—abide by copyright restrictions
- Participate in groups to pursue and generate information.

How can the librarians help you to standardize your “research” assignments?

*“Research doesn’t always mean doing a big project or paper. It could be simply sending students to find an article.”*

## Research using at least two senses

### DID YOU KNOW . . .

That at one of our online databases, **Student Resource Center**, includes the option to LISTEN to the articles as well as to read them? This feature is valuable for not only our ELL students but also for those struggling to read

prose language. Utilizing both modes of information gathering leads to better success.

Here’s how it works: search for a desired topic and select an article. If you want to hear the audio version of the whole document, click the **Play** button (the

triangle) from the player dashboard. Note that if you have any part of the document selected on the page, you will hear just that highlighted text. Refresh the page and then click the **Play** button -- with no text selected -- to hear the entire document.



Listen to the audio version, or download as an MP3 file

## We’re Going Green—No More Green Passes

After much discussion about philosophy, practical matters, and policies, the Library & Instructional Technology Department has decided that the green passes are no longer necessary. When we instituted them several years ago, we didn’t have enough computers — and fewer students had computers at

home. Back then, students were more likely to “play around,” taking up a computer that someone else might need to complete an assignment. Students used our computers for personal e-mail, games, and so on (which they couldn’t do at home).

Things have changed—in students’ homes and in our level of computer access here at RB.

Even without green passes, solely educational use is expected from 8:00—3:05. Computer lab supervisors can adequately monitor how students are using computers during the day. If you are sending a student to the lab during the day, a blue pass is sufficient from now on.



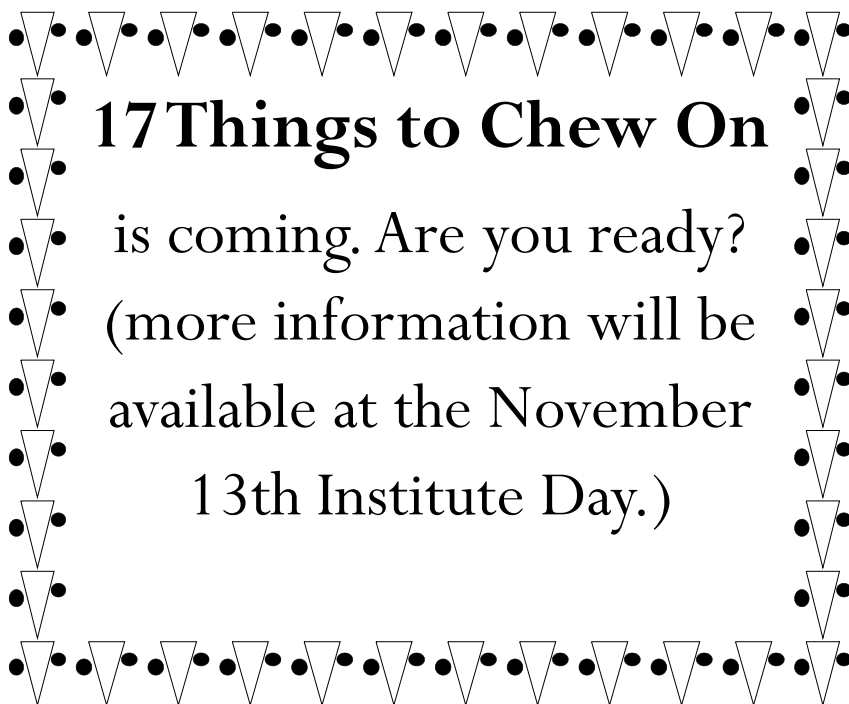
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SUPPORTING AND TEACHING  
INFORMATION LITERACY



## Why are books still important?

“...she told the audience that one of the best things about books is that they are an interactive art form: that while the author may describe in some detail how a character looks, it is the reader’s imagination that completes the image, making it his or her own. ‘That’s why we so often don’t like movies made from books, right?’ Suzie said. ‘We don’t like someone else’s interpretation of what we

see so clearly.’ She talked, too, about how books educate and inspire, and how they soothe souls — ‘like comfort food without the calories,’ she said. She talked about the tactile joys of reading, the feel of a page beneath one’s fingers; the elegance of typeface on a page. She talked about how people complain that they don’t have time to read, and reminded them that if they gave up half an hour of

television a day in favor of reading, they could finish twenty-five books a year. ‘Books don’t take time away from us,’ she said. ‘They give it back. In this age of abstraction, of multitasking, of speed for speed’s sake, they reintroduce us to the elegance—and the relief! — of real, tick-tock time.’”

Berg, Elizabeth. *Home Safe*.  
New York: Random House,  
2009. p. 229.



We have two Bulldog Book Clubs.  
**Faculty and Staff** usually meet the 3rd Thursday of the month (watch for e-mail announcements).  
**Students** meet every other Tuesday afternoon.