

September 2002

VITAL News

Virginia Initiative for Technology and Administrative Leadership



Welcome to the VITAL News

Greetings from VITAL! You are receiving this newsletter because you are part of the Virginia Initiative for Technology and Administrative Leadership in Regions 2 and 3 and eastern Region 1. Each month, we will bring you up-to-date information about workshops, conferences, and resources that will support your technology leadership training.

Our goal is to make your VITAL the best professional development experience you have ever had. To achieve that goal, we need to hear from you. What can VITAL do to help? Please contact Karen Richardson with your ideas, needs, frustrations, goals, and dreams at kwrich@wm.edu. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

TSSA Online Course Now Available

A new online course based on the Technology Standards for School Administrators has been developed by the Institute for Connecting Science Research to the Classroom under a grant from the Virginia Department of Education. The title of the course is "Technology Standards for School Administrators - *How do I get there?*"

The purpose of this course is to

assist school administrators in becoming more proficient in using technology so that they may be more effective and efficient in supporting appropriate uses of technologies for instruction and administrative tasks. Participants begin with an overview of the framework, standards and performance indicators. They then examine role-specific technology leadership tasks. Through the use of websites, suggested scenarios and an online discussion forum, participants come to an understanding of how the performance indicators can be applied to their daily tasks. A course assessment matrix helps participants gauge their progress in integrating the standards.

The course is offered completely online and can be taken for Virginia Tech credit. For more information, visit the course website:

<http://www.icsrc.org/TSSA/index.htm>

Don't Miss This!

The Educational Technology Leadership Conference will be held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center in Roanoke, Virginia December 3-5, 2002. This annual event focuses on information, strategies, and technologies of interest to technology leaders in Virginia's school divisions. For more information, visit the website:

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/conference/>

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VSTE is THE Place for Ed Tech Leaders

One of the best ways to expand your educational technology horizons is to join an organization that, for over 15 years, has been on the bleeding edge of the education technology frontier.

Founded in 1986, the mission of the Virginia Society for Technology in Education is to promote excellence in education through the integration of existing and emerging technologies.

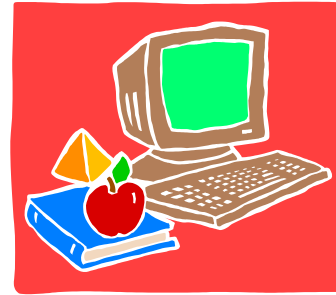
The membership is varied and includes pre-service education students, teachers, principals, specialists, superintendents, university faculty, parents, businesses, and others who are interested in promoting technology's role in education.

VSTE sponsors awards, mini-grants, an online journal and an annual technology conference.

And here's the best news of all: membership is FREE! Just visit the VSTE website (<http://www.vste.org>) and click on the membership link.

VSTE is the Virginia affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), a nonprofit professional organization with a worldwide membership. Dedicated to promoting appropriate uses of information technology to support and improve learning, teaching, and administration in K-12 education and teacher education, ISTE publishes books and journals, offers professional

development opportunities, and sponsors research concerning educational technology. Their website is a gold mine of information and resources for technology leaders: <http://www.vste.org>



A Little "Free" Reading Goes a Long Way

Faced with tight budgets and high expectations, administrators are always happy to find quality materials for a low price. Two journals meet both those criteria: *THE Journal* and *tech-Learning*.

Offering a wealth of feature articles, software and hardware reviews and web resources, both publications are available both online and in free print editions.

Get several free subscriptions for your school and circulate them among your faculty to encourage new ways of integrating technology. Suggest that an innovative faculty member write an article for submission. Take an online tour of the websites during a staff meeting to show off the additional materials not found in the print editions.

With free resources like this available, you can't go wrong!

THE Journal: Technological Horizons in Education

<http://www.thejournal.com/>

tech-LEARNING

<http://www.techlearning.com/>

Now Online

Regional VITAL Website

Find up-to-date resources, reviews, and professional development opportunities chosen with VITAL participants in mind.

<http://faculty.wm.edu/kwrich/index.htm>