



Don't Miss This!

VITAL Offers Regional Workshop

“Using Technology to Enhance Instructional Leadership Skills and Competency” is the topic of a VITAL workshop that will be held on the campus of the College of William and Mary. The hands-on training is scheduled for November 21 from 9 AM to 3:30 PM.

This workshop will use technology to teach principals and supervisors how they can use technology to lead their schools to meet the challenges of the Virginia Standards of Learning and the No Child Left Behind legislation.

The emphasis will be on acquiring the knowledge and skills needed to help teachers in all the content areas teach lessons that are aligned with the Standards of Learning. Participants will learn how to determine if lessons are aligned with the SOL, if strategies are appropriate, and if assessment is valid. They will learn how to use an on-line lesson-planner and will take back to their schools procedures that will help them respond to No Child Left Behind, including how to implement the on-line planner, a Power Point presentation on curriculum alignment, and other material.

Workshop leaders are Dr. Robert Hanny and Dr. Bud Cothorn.

Robert Hanny recently retired after thirty three years teaching at William and Mary where he taught courses in curriculum, instruction, and classroom assessment. In recent years he has focused on the VA SOL with special emphasis on Instructional

Leadership, the integration of technology and teaching, and the development of Web-based resources.

Dr. Harold “Bud” Cothorn is the recently retired superintendent of Goochland County Public Schools. Widely recognized for his expertise in both school improvement and instructional technology, Dr. Cothorn was at the helm when all of Goochland Schools became fully accredited. Currently, Dr. Cothorn serves as a member of the State Board’s Accountability Advisory Committee and is employed by VDOE as a consultant to audit schools who are “Accredited with Warning.” Dr. Cothorn is known as the “father of Virginia’s Public Education Network” (VA.PEN). He teaches courses in school improvement both for the College of William and Mary and for the University of Richmond.

Space is limited. We encourage each division to send up to four administrators who are responsible for evaluating instruction. Teams of principals and assistant principals would be particularly appropriate.

There is no cost for the workshop and lunch will be provided. Please contact Karen Richardson (karen@ivyrun.com) to register. Deadline for registration is October 31. Divisions who are interested in sending more than four people may place additional names on a waiting list.

ExploraVision Awards

Students Team Up to Create A Better Vision

Toshiba and the National Science Teachers Association challenge K-12 students to create a technology of the future. Winners with the most innovative ideas will be awarded a U.S. EE Savings Bond worth \$10,000.

Now in its eleventh year, the ExploraVision competition invites teams of two, three, or four students to use their imaginations and the tools of science to envision a future technology and design web pages to express their ideas.

Teams choose a technology or aspect of a technology to investigate. They explore its history, current uses, and then predict how the technology will evolve over the next two

decades. Each team has a coach and optional mentor.

There are four entry levels (K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12). Entry deadline is February 4, 2003 so now is the perfect time to begin forming teams!

For more information and to request an entry kit, visit the website:

<http://www.toshiba.com/tai/exploravision/>



Have You Talked to Your Librarian Lately?

The library often serves as the technology center for a school. In fact, many schools have replaced their libraries with “media centers.” This term seems to more accurately describe the variety of materials available from books and software to information databases and web access to laserdiscs and DVDS.

The Virginia Department of Education’s Office of Instructional Media and Training website has published brochures designed to guide administrators in evaluating and improving the library through the

identification of the essential elements of a library program as identified by The American Library Association in cooperation with the Association of Educational Communications and Technology Association. Brochures are available for elementary, middle school, and high school principals.

Visit the website to read the brochures and be sure to take time to share them with your librarian:

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/libr-media.html>

VITAL TO DO LIST:

- Register for VITAL Workshop (karen@ivyrun.com)
- Revisit Action Plan at <http://www.vitalactionplan.org>
- Register for DOE Technology Conference at <http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/conference/>
- Visit the Regional Training Office website at <http://faculty.wm.edu/kwrich/index.htm>