

February 2003

# VITAL News

Virginia Initiative for Technology and Administrative Leadership



## ***Regional Workshop***

# **Evaluating Technology Integration**

As you walk through your school, you observe technology being used in a variety of settings and ways: one teacher reserves a computer lab for word processing while another sends students to the media center to do research. Perhaps several teachers have computers in their rooms, each choosing a different strategy for integrating them into their daily instruction. As with any instruction, your job as principal is to focus on best practices. What works? Which strategies lead to increased learning? And which strategies seem to be a waste of time even though the kids might be having fun?

These questions will help guide our next regional workshop: **Encouraging and Evaluating Successful Technology Integration**. Led by Karen Richardson, the workshop will focus on best practices using a matrix that relates specific technologies to instructional practices. We will review several needs assessment surveys, including TAGLIT, and show how the data can be used to promote successful integration.

Throughout the day, we will be demonstrating emerging technologies and online resources, discussing how they can support instruction. In addition, participants will experience a sample lesson that uses technology.

The workshop will be held at the College of William and Mary on March 26 from 8 to 4. Participating VITAL schools are encouraged to send up to four people. Registration is free, and breakfast and lunch

will be provided. If you are interested or have additional questions, please contact Karen Richardson at [kwrich@wm.edu](mailto:kwrich@wm.edu) or 757-229-9969. Deadline for registering is March 10. Looking forward to seeing you!



**FETC Keynote:** Peter Benchley, best known as the author of *Jaws*, delivered the keynote address at the Florida Educational Technology Conference. He shared both entertaining stories of swimming with sharks as well as his passion for ocean conservation. His most recent project is a series of films produced with the New England Aquarium. You can learn more about Benchley's ocean conservation efforts online by [viewing a CBS interview](#) or [hearing him talk about California's Channel Islands](#).

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## Lemke Discusses 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

Cheryl Lemke of the Metiri Group was a featured speaker at the Florida Educational Technology Conference.

Lemke talked about the enGauge 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills model, which identifies four areas in which students must be proficient in order to succeed in this world of technology and change.

**Digital-age literacies** move beyond basic literacy and numeracy to embrace scientific, technological, visual, information and multicultural literacy. In addition, to be fully literate, people must have a sense of global awareness.

**Inventive thinking** is marked by the ability to adapt to and manage complexity. This requires self-direction, curiosity, creativity, and risk-taking. Higher-order thinking skills and sound reasoning are part of this area.

**Effective communication** is essential in a world that increasingly promotes collaborative work environments. We must all have a sense of personal and social responsibility towards the technology we use, doing so in ways that promote the quality of life of all people.

**High productivity** skills are a powerful factor in one's ability to succeed in the workforce. Students must be able to use technology to prioritize, communicate, solve problems, accomplish tasks and produce high-quality, relevant products.

To learn more about enGauge, visit the North Central Regional Education Laboratory website: <http://www.ncrel.org/engauge/>

You can view Cheryl's slides, learn more about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, and discover helpful online resources at the Metiri Group's website: <http://www.metiri.com/presentations/FETC03.html>.

### It's Not Too Late for VSTE

The 17th Annual VSTE Technology Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City on March 9-11, 2003. For more information, visit the VSTE website: <http://www.vste.org>.



Cheryl Lemke talks about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills at FETC.

### On The Bookshelf

## Leadership for Our Time

Michael Fullan's short but compelling book, *Leading in a Culture of Change*, provides insight into the leadership skills required to deal with technology and change.

Fullan describes five core competencies: attending to a broader moral purpose, keeping on top of the change process, cultivating relationships, sharing knowledge, and setting a vision and context for creating coherence. These five components "represent independent but mutual reinforcing forces for positive change." (3)

Using a variety of examples from both education and business, Fullan shows these competencies in action. He describes how Tony Alvarado worked in school divisions in both New York and San Diego to create professional learning communities that placed the highest value on instruction. These divisions found ways to weave professional development into the workday so it took on meaningful, real-world contexts. For example, by using both external and internal consultants, District 2 in New York, can provide just-in-time support to individuals and groups of teachers for specific areas of need.

Fullan's framework is designed to help each of us improve our leadership skills. He provides practical ideas and detailed examples.

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Fullan, Michael. *Leading in a Culture of Change*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2001.