Galesburg CUSD #205 Technology & Learning

Technology & Professional Development Update

January 25, 2015

Click the link below to jump to the story

Curriculum Alignment Meetings Feb 10 & 17

Team Members: If you have not already done so, please complete a professional leave form ASAP.

- February 10: ELA Team
- February 17: Math Team

When: 8AM-3PM
Where: Board Room
What Else: See [District 205 Curriculum Wiki](#) for maps & other info

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Vote for the 2015-2016 School Calendar

The District #205 School Calendar Committee met on Thursday, January 22, 2014, to begin developing a calendar to offer for Board approval. The team will use your input via this form to make their final recommendation. Please join us in thanking the Calendar Committee members for their input, efforts, and great ideas!

View the calendar options & Committee roster at bit.ly/205cal1516
Vote at goo.gl/forms/RVkZiZiF1H

This form will close at Noon, Wednesday, February 4, 2015. Recommendation will be made to the Board by Thursday, February 5, 2015. The Board of Education will establish the final 2015-2016 School Calendar after reviewing the recommendation.
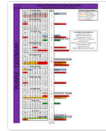
Your school email address is required to log in to this secure form, but it is not reported in any results visible to staff or administrators in our District. This ensures that only 1 response is allowed per person. Your opinion is completely anonymous.
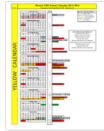
Google Drive

Calendar Options 4 items

| 1-UPDATED Red C… | 2-UPDATED Purple… | 3-UPDATED Yellow… | Calendar Committe… |

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Take the Illinois 5Essentials Survey

The Illinois State Board of Education requires every public school to administer the Illinois 5Essentials Survey at least once every two years. The results of this survey are used to help inform and drive school improvement efforts at the local and state level.

For the convenience of staff, students, and parents, a link to the 5Essentials Survey has been added to every school and district web site home page. The survey will remain open until March 13, 2015

To learn more about the 5Essentials Survey, when the results will be available, and how schools will use this information to drive improvement, please visit The Illinois 5Essentials Survey website.

Image from https://illinois.5-essentials.org/2014_public/

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Dream Big Book Club Feb. 4

The **Dream Big Book Club** is began Wednesday, January 21 from 4-5:00 at the Board Office. We will be discussing Kim Bearden's book, *Crash Course - The Life Lessons My Students Taught Me*. Summaries and a schedule of meetings is found at http://205newteachers.blogspot.com/

Our next session will meet on Wednesday, Feb 4, from 4-5PM in the Board Office. we'll read & discuss Chapters 3, 4, & 5. If you'd like to do the "homework" at the end of each chapter, feel free, but it is NOT required. We want this to be fun & <u>stress free</u> for all of us!

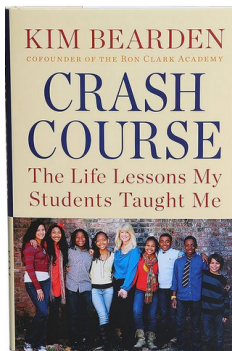Attendance at these hour-long meetings will be paid at committee stipend rate!

Image from http://www.ronclarkacademy.com/Neque-porro-quisquam

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Cyberbullying Law Updated

Recently, Illinois' existing legislation was updated in an effort to further protect students from the effects of cyberbullying. The new law states that all schools will investigate instances of cyberbullying if it is found that the act of bullying is affecting the victim's ability to engage in school activities, even if the bullying behavior occurs outside of school, with non-school-owned resources, etc.

The new language in this law is still being discussed and interpreted by schools, and will likely make the news more often than it already has. (See this story on WHBF-TV News).

It is very important that schools expressly teach Internet Safety lessons, including how to recognize & deal with cyberbullying behaviors, during the course of every school year. In fact, it is the law. (See below)

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Internet Safety Resources

Since the 2009-2010 school year, the [State of Illinois has mandated](#) that every student in grades 3-12 receive instruction in Internet Safety Topics every school year.

- [Read the law, here](#)

With the growing availability of internet accessible devices, including Chromebooks, everyone can help students to learn how to learn with Internet resources safely and responsibly.

- Resources to help [teach Internet Safety Topics](#), organized by grade level clusters: [K-5](#), [6-8](#), [9-12](#). There are even [Internet Safety Resources for Parents](#)
    - Find something newer, better, or more fun? [Share your ideas, here!](#)

Did You Know? *According to the [Illinois State Board of Education's Internet Safety Website](#), our Internet Safety Curriculum is a model of best practice, and is used by schools nation-wide!*

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Auto-Play & Loop in Google Slides

To make a Google Slides Presentation automatically advance:
- Click **File**
- Select **Publish To The Web…**
- Select the preferred **Auto Advance Timing** (default is every 3 seconds)
- There are 2 other boxes you may or may not wish to select
  - **Start slideshow as soon as the player loads** - This will depend on your preference
  - **Restart the slideshow after the last slide** - if you want the show to play in a continuous "loop"
- Click the **Publish** button
- You'll be asked if you're sure… tell it you're sure… :)
- Then you'll see a bunch of messy code highlighted in blue. don't let it scare you! Just hold down the **CTRL** key and press **C** to copy it.
- Open a new tab in a browser.
- Click in the address bar
- Hold down the **CTRL** key and press **V** to paste that mess into the address bar
- Press your **ENTER** key, and your slide show should play.

Creating a STRONG Password

Creating passwords and keeping them secret are not behaviors that many students develop on their own. For some reason, students often think it is okay to share passwords with their friends. It is important to advise students at every grade level that student that passwords should never be shared with anyone besides a parent or school personnel.

School passwords can be changed as often as desired. Please teach students how to create complex passwords, and provide time on a regular basis (once a quarter, once a semester, etc.) to change these passwords to something unique each time. It is important to instruct students to make sure their school password is nothing like passwords for other services, like gaming, music services, etc.

Please work with students to develop a unique & strong password that will be very hard for others to guess. Here's an example, but don't use this exact password:

- Complex passwords are not found in the dictionary, are 8 characters or more, and use a combination of caps, lowercase, numbers & special characters
  - Start with a phrase, perhaps from a song or poem, like **"O say can you see by the dawn's early light"**
  - Just use the first letters of each word: **oscysbtdel**
  - Capitalize some of the letters: **OscYsbtDel**
  - Change other letters to numbers or special characters that look similar: **O$cY5btD3!**

New Semester = New Password

Teach kids the importance of maintaining security online by reminding them to change their passwords regularly. Once a strong new password has been developed, here's how to use it with school resources:

When the student knows the old password
- District Web Page
- Point to **Internal Links**
- Click **Password Change Tool**
- In the first field, type the letters **ghs** then use the forward slash it looks like this \ and it lives **on the key between Backspace & Enter**, NOT with the question mark.
- Type the old password
- Type the new password
- Type it again, exactly
- Click **Submit**

When the student has forgotten the old password, or it just isn't working
- District Web Page
- Point to **Internal Links**
- Select **Intranet Web Page**
- Select **Student Password Reset Tool**
- Enter your network credentials (login & password)
- Enter them again
- Enter the student's ID number (from their ID card, etc.)
  - **BE CAREFUL!** If you mistype a number you could unknowingly reset some random student's password!
  - DO NOT allow students to do this!
- Click the **Reset Student Password and Log This Activity** button
- A random password will be generated write it down and give it to the student.
- The student can then change the password to something meaningful to them using the instructions above.

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Professional Development Opportunities

For even more opportunities see the [District #205 PD Calendar](#)

Tue Jan 27, 2015
Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) Training
8:30am - 3:30pm Galesburg Community Foundation, 246 East Main Street #101, Galesburg

Wed Jan 28, 2015
Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) Training
8:30am - 3:30pm Galesburg Community Foundation, 246 East Main Street #101, Galesburg

Thu Jan 29, 2015
Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS)
Administrator Training
9am - 1:30pm Galesburg Community Foundation, 246 East Main Street #101, Galesburg

Wed Feb 4, 2015
Dream Big! Book Club
4pm - 5pm Lincoln Education Center, 932 Harrison Street, Galesburg

Tue Feb 10, 2015
Curriculum Alignment - ELA Team
8am - 3pm Lincoln Education Center, 932 Harrison Street, Galesburg

Tue Feb 17, 2015
Curriculum Alignment - Math Team
8am - 3pm Lincoln Education Center, 932 Harrison Street, Galesburg

Wed Feb 18, 2015
Dream Big! Book Club
4pm - 5pm Lincoln Education Center, 932 Harrison Street, Galesburg