



Technology & Professional Development Update

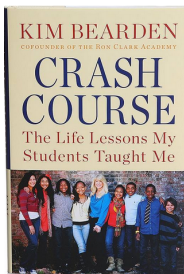
January 30, 2015

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Dream Big Book Club: Feb 04!

The next meeting of the **Dream Big Book Club** will be held Wednesday, February 04, from 4-5PM at the Board Office. We will be discussing Kim Bearden's book, *Crash Course - The Life Lessons My Students Taught Me*.



Our next session will examine chapters on Courage, Play, and Recovery, and will be led by Orinda Benbow, Jenny Bredemeier, and Molly Kleine. If you'd like to do the "homework" at the end of each chapter, feel free, but it will NOT be a requirement for the book club members. We want this to be fun & stress free for all of us! Don't forget: You can get paid to be there, too!

A schedule of meetings is found at <http://205newteachers.blogspot.com/>, along with a summary of each meeting's discussion & activities.

NOTE: Please bring the copy of this book that you received at [Institute](#), October 10, 2014.

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2015-2016 Calendar Update



In light of new information, the 2015-2016 School Calendar Poll has closed. Curriculum Director Tammie Bolden will meet with the School Calendar Committee to determine next steps.

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Take the 5Essentials Survey

5Essentials

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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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

PLEASE NOTE: Current curriculum maps are posted on the wiki, so teachers can view other grade level maps in addition to their own.



Image from <http://205curriculum.wikispaces.com/>

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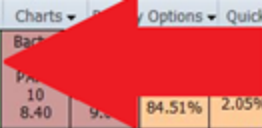
Restart an Online Assignment in Skyward

For teachers in Grades 6-12 using Skyward Online Assignments:

There may be times when a student has started an online assignment and, for some reason, has to stop in the middle or loses connection with Skyward. If this happens, there is a way to restart the assignment, quiz, or test so the student can finish it. Many thanks to Chris Carpenter from Lombard who helped us uncover this little gem!

From Mike Doney:

In the Online Assignment view, FROM THE GRADEBOOK, click on the assignment header:



Categories	Grade Marks	Posting	Reports	Charts	Options	Quick Scoring	Export											
Term	I4	M4	I3	M3	Infect 01/28 TEST	Bar	Review 01/14 HMWK	Infect 01/13 PART	Rules 01/12 TEST	Succes 01/12 HMWK	Edible 12/19 TEST	M2	Bill N 12/12 PART	Amusem 12/11 HMWK				
By %			79.40%	79.40%	14.19	10 8.40	10 6.56	20 18.80	20 15.24	0 0.00	60 51.48	82.90%	10 10.00	10 5.84				
79.00%			D	D	17	0	10 A+	5.71	9	20	15	*	58 A	10	9			
72.00%			A	A	17	10	10 A	2.54	9	20	18	*	55 B	10	9			

The Assignment Options screen will open. On the right side, you have a button that says 'Score Online Assignment'. Click this:

Prev Next

Assignment (Available Online)

Category: **TEST - Test**

Description: **Infectious Disease Quiz**

Detailed Description:

Assignment Group:

Entered Date: **Mon, Jan 26 2015**

Assign Date: **Wed, Jan 28 2015**

Proposed Due Date: **Wed, Jan 28 2015 Week 23 - Wednesday**

Actual Due Date:

Max Score: **20** ☒ Post to Family Access

Weight Multiplier: **1.00** ☒ Post to Student Access

Display Options

Show Score As: **Score** ☐ Show Comments ☐ Show On Lesson Scheduler

Score History *Changes appear in red*

Date	Time	Last Name	First Name	Changed By	Score	Spec Code	No Count	Missing
------	------	-----------	------------	------------	-------	-----------	----------	---------

Attach (0)

Add Edit Clone Delete Report Chart Score Online Assignment Score Entry Assignment Display

A list of student names will show up. Highlight the student in question, and on the right side of the screen is a button that says 'Allow Student to Resume'. Click this.

Online Assignment Info

Unique Assignment ID: 1676

Online Assignment Name: Infectious Disease Quiz

Start Date: Wed, Jan 28 2015 at 8:00 AM

Stop Date: Thu, Jan 29 2015 at 11:59 PM

Total Points: 20

Number of Questions: 18

Do not Show Results in Student Access until: Mon, Jan 26 2015 at 12:00 AM

Then click here to allow student to resume the assignment

Click Student Name first...

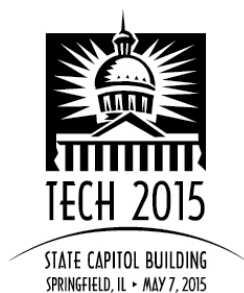
Last Name	First Name	Status	Show Results	# Questions Unanswered	Online Score	Online Percent	Online Grade	OB Score	OB Percent	OB Grade	Comment	Time Spent
1		Graded	Y	0	17	85.00	B	17	85.00	B		5 Mins
2		Graded	Y	0	17	85.00	B	17	85.00	B		4 Mins
3		Graded	Y	0	11	55.00	F	11	55.00	F		6 Mins
4		Graded	Y	0	16	80.00	B-	16	80.00	B-		7 Mins
5		Graded	Y	0	16	80.00	B-	16	80.00	B-		6 Mins
6		Graded	Y	0	13	65.00	D	13	65.00	D		4 Mins
7		Graded	Y	0	13	65.00	D	13	65.00	D		3 Mins
8		Completed	N	10	2	10.00						
9		Graded	Y	0	15	75.00	C	15	75.00	C		3 Mins
10		Graded	Y	0	11	55.00	F	11	55.00	F		11 Mins
11		Graded	Y	0	17	85.00	B	17	85.00	B		4 Mins

Refresh Score Online Assignment Allow Student to Resume Reports

The student will now be able to log into the assignment again. Unfortunately, there is not a way to allow several students at once to resume the same assignment. They must be done individually.

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Make Tech Known: TECH2015



Students and teachers with innovative projects are encouraged to apply to present at the annual TECC205 in the Capitol Building in Springfield! Applications are due next Tuesday, Feb. 2. Learn more at http://www.iceberg.org/TECH_2015

Image from http://www.iceberg.org/TECH_2015

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Enhance Jigsaw Reading with Tech Tools

Recently on [Free Technology for Teachers](#), author Richard Byrne posted an excellent article on [how to tech-up jigsaw reading activities with a resource called Today's Meet](#).



Image from <http://todaysmeet.com/>

[Today's Meet](#) is known as a “backchannel” service. Think of it as a sort-of-public bulletin board where students can record their thoughts. Teachers can set up a private “chat-room” of sorts just for the class. You can set the room to “close” in an hour, a day, a month, or almost as long as you want, and you can have an unlimited amount of such workspaces, too. You can access transcripts, embed the work into your blog or website, etc. Yes, it's all free.

Conduct the jigsaw reading as usual - no tech required, if you wish. Assign a short passage to read, discuss with a partner/answer questions if assigned, etc. Then, have kids go to your Today's Meet space and have them type out their comments about their reading, ask & answer student questions that came up during the reading, make connections, etc.

Give it a try the next time you do a read-and-respond activity with your students!

Free Technology for Teachers

written by Richard Byrne

Image from www.freetech4teachers.com/

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PARCC Prep Resources

Many are planning to work more intensively on honing students' skills in preparation for PARCC testing now that the new year has begun & a new semester will soon begin. We will be using Chromebooks for PARCC Testing, grades 3 & up, beginning in March.

- See the [Official State Assessment Dates from ISBE](#), on [ISBE's Assessment Division website](#).

If you haven't already started, it is VITAL that students become familiar with what the testing site will look like and how to use the various tools associated with testing.

PARCC Sample Items & Practice Tests

Help your students prepare for our first ever Official PARCC Performance Based Assessments.

PARCC Tutorials - This will help students get used to the testing portal and show them how to use the online tools (highlighters, calculators, etc.) that will be available.

PARCC Task Prototypes: [Math](#) and [ELA & Literacy](#)

Remember: Even if you don't teach English or Math, you can still help support students & colleagues with the [Literacy Standards](#) and the Literacy portions of these assessments!

PARCC Sample Items - simulates the actual testing environment

PARCC Practice Tests - simulates the actual testing environment

NOTES:

While there are PDF (paper-and-pencil) versions of the PARCC Sample Items available, it is important that students become comfortable with the online testing environment used with the Practice Tests, too.

Answer Keys and Rubrics are available for the ELA and Math Sample Items and Practice Tests.

The Math Practice Tests will soon have an auto-grading feature available at some point in January, but I have not received an exact release date at this time.

Make sure students fully understand the Equation Editor and have opportunities to practice so that they are completely comfortable with this tool before testing begins in March.

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PARCC Testing Dates

As published on the [District #205 Calendar](#), PARCC Performance Based Assessment (PBA) testing will take place from **March 9 through April 2** for schools using traditional schedules.

Students in grades 3-8, plus high school students completing English 11 and/or Algebra 2 courses this semester will participate in these assessments. In most cases:

- ELA testing will consist of 3 sessions
- Math testing will consist of 2 sessions


School buildings will determine testing schedules, within parameters set by ISBE and PARCC. Testing & make-up schedules will be established by your building principal.

District #205 School Calendar 2014 2015
Community Unit School District #205 - Galesburg, IL

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Update Chromebooks

A Chromebook update was released during the past week. Please check student Chromebooks and follow the procedure below to apply the update.

When you see a small upward-pointing arrow like this  in the lower-right corner of your Chromebook screen - near the clock - it's time to install an update. Here's how it works:

1. When you see the arrow, click on it.
 2. Click the words **Restart to Update**
 3. Let the machine restart, then log in again.
- [Watch a video about this simple process on YouTube](#)
 - [Read a Google Support article about this process](#)

And that's it! This process is simple, safe, and takes about 30 seconds. It's a good thing to teach students to do as well. In fact, you are encouraged to find some time to do this periodically as part of your regular classroom activities. Updates are scheduled by Google about every 6 weeks - we don't control this locally. Users are notified automatically, but it requires a very brief manual restart to apply the changes.

This might be a good thing to schedule into Advisory, Homeroom, Morning Meetings, or at the beginning of a certain class or period. Installing updates is an essential part of using our Chromebooks, as it helps us keep up with changes, prevent or deal with hacks, etc.

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Weebly Sites Are Back



Earlier this week you received a notice that the ability to view school websites was temporarily interrupted. An explanation for this

temporary problem has not been provided. However, all sites appear to be running fine currently.

Image from <http://education.weebly.com>

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Professional Development Opportunities

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

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

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