



Going Back to School

Getting Organized!

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Now that teachers have gotten past the first days of school, here are a few tools that teachers can use to stay organized.



Simply Circle



With a focus on communication and attention to data privacy, SimplyCircle allows you to use a single, synced calendar for all parents, use group or one-on-one messaging, use one-click volunteer signups, and, in short, run a more efficient, organized, and productive classroom. With SimplyCircle, you can communicate with the entire group, or have individual conversations with parents as needed, all in a secure and private environment. (www.simplycircle.com)

Newsletter Spotlight



Looking for typing resources, here are a few that you may want to try:

Typing.com

Ratatype

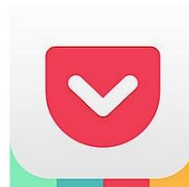
Typing Agent

Typing Ace

Keybr.com

Pocket: Save Articles and Videos to View

Save and tag essential media--documents, books, blog posts, social media posts, and more--for your curriculum and classroom application. (<https://getpocket.com>)



Allcal: Social Planning App



Google Calendar is great. Another possibility is Allcal, a unique social planning calendar for projects, academic coursework, or parent-teacher interaction. (www.allcal.com)

Teachers need to integrate technology seamlessly into the curriculum instead of viewing it as an add-on, an afterthought, or an event. – Heidi-Hayes Jacobs

Sign Up Here!

Are you tired of shuffling papers back and forth during parent-teacher conference time? Are you looking for a way to organize your class's snack schedule? Did you get roped into organizing parent volunteers for the annual school function? An online volunteer management service would be great for coordinating parent helpers or organizing conference meeting times. Quickly schedule jobs and items needed, invite parents to sign up, and send automated reminders help parents remember when it's their turn to pitch in. Listed below are three different sites to choose from:

Volunteer Spot (www.volunteerspot.com)

SignUpGenius (www.signupgenius.com)

The School Volunteer
(www.theschoolvolunteer.com)

Five Fresh Lesson Ideas to Start Off the Year

Every year when school starts, teachers think of ways to get their students and parents excited about the new year. After doing the same thing over and over at the beginning of each school year, it can probably get a little repetitive year in and year out. Listed are some suggested ideas to use to help students to discover their learning strengths: create magnificent works of art, have fun following directions, create a special notepad for parent-teacher communication, and create a budget for back to school. Included is a link to the webpage with links to the various activities as well as other fun activities/lessons for the classroom.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson319.shtml

Back to School Tech Projects

Kee your students up-to-date with the latest technology by using it in the classroom. Below are some cool technology tools you can use for projects with your students.



Be Funky

Let your students get funky by making a photo collage about themselves or another topic! Be Funky is a great tool for students in second grade or up. Students can choose how many photos they want to add to their collage, and there are a variety of templates to choose from.

Green Screen by Do Ink

If you have iPads in your classroom, have students create short videos about different regions around the globe. Green Screen by Do Ink allows students to place themselves right in the actual place they are describing.



Thing Link

Thing Link allows students to create an interactive photo to present to their peers. Their interactive photos can contain text and links. They can also add bubble icons on their photos that take them to the link, and their text comes up when hovered over with the mouse.



Need Training or Support? Please contact your
Technology Training Specialist
(click image)

Back to School with Weebly

Teacher webpages, using Weebly, are a user-friendly way to share back to school and/or general classroom information. If building a webpage seems like a daunting task, Weebly will be a pleasant surprise. To get started, follow these simple steps:

1. Use a web browser to navigate to www.weebly.com
2. Provide your name, e-mail address, and a password to create a FREE account
3. Choose a name and type it in the first area. This will be your full web address that you can share with parents. The first option is the free option. NOTE: it may take several times to find a name that is available.

Choose Your Website Domain

This is the address where people will find your website online. Reserve your domain now or skip this step and choose it later.

Use a Subdomain of Weebly.com

A great way to get your website started

http:// .weebly.com

I recommend that you begin by choosing a Design template and then by adding text. These items can be accomplished between the Build and Design tabs. Once you choose Publish in the upper-right corner, your webpage is live and ready to share with your parents and students!

Suggested next steps:

Ask your school's webmaster to link your teacher webpage to the Faculty information area on your school's webpage!

The Next Step

Technology Training Specialist Website, please [click here](#).

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*Created and Designed by the
Instructional Technology Team*