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\*You can download a printable version of this newsletter at:

[www.sbschools.org/tech\\_support](http://www.sbschools.org/tech_support)



TechTalk

## Technology Issues

- CableVision will no longer allow the sending of e-mail to the South Brunswick mail server through its Optimum Internet Services.
- World Client is currently not effected by the CableVision change in policy and can still be used to send and receive messages.
- Contact your building Technology Coordinator to learn more about using World Client.

## Web Sites of Interest

By Aaron A. Bryan

Director of Technology

<http://www.anovember.com>

November Learning promotes the effective use of information and communication technologies that support and enhance learning for children and communities. When visiting the Web site, click on the Weblogs, sign up to participate in an interactive community discussion on the impact of technology on K-12 education.

<http://www.hub.harvard.edu/pdf/CUBOVE.pdf>

Larry Cuban's online version of the book Oversold & Underused: Computers in the Classroom. He writes extensively on the reasons why we should be cautious in our optimism for the transformative effect of technology on education.

By Dr. Lisa Marie Bouillion

Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania

Case Studies [Online]: These Web sites provide a range of multimedia case studies on uses of technology in the classroom, as well as district level efforts to support technology integration.

<http://www.glef.org/php/keyword.php?id=137>

George Lucas Education Foundation - Case Studies of Innovation Teaching & Learning with Technology.

<http://www.edc.org/LNT/news/Issue4/cct14sum.htm>

Jan Hawkins, Bob Spielvogel and Erica Marks Panush. National Study Tour of District Technology Integration: Summary Report EDC Center for Children and Technology Report #14, 1996.



## STAFF NEWS



### Technology Department Staff Changes:

- ♦ Joseph Saporito - Manager of Information Systems
- ♦ Eileen Deitz - MAC Administrator/Video Technician

### New Staff:

- ♦ Kristel Slawinski - Data Processing Clerk
- ♦ Michael P. Moore - System Software Designer/Programmer
- ♦ Adam Davis - District Technician

### Temporary Reassignment (Referendum Project):

- ♦ George Elliott - Clerk of the works

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT



### Contact Information

In every school building, the Technology Coordinator(s) will handle all school-related technology purchase requests and computer support issues.

The school's Head Custodian(s) will handle electrical and wiring support requests.

The district has made every effort to provide each school an assigned technician, plus a designated day to support each individual school facility.

The Technical Support Department can be reached at the HS ext. 5249 or e-mail questions to [Support@sbschools.org](mailto:Support@sbschools.org).

**SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE**

By Marilyn Pruce

Supervisor, Special Education Department

Technology use for special education students at the high school is proving to be a valuable tool to help students with disabilities compensate for their deficits and successfully participate in mainstream instruction. C-Print captioning and read aloud technology, such as Kurzweil 3000, are two of the tools currently being used in this way.

C-Print Captioning is currently being provided to two hearing impaired students. These two ninth-graders, one with an IEP and the other with a 504 Plan, are fully mainstreamed in all academic courses, and C-Print Captioning is being done in their English classes, and one Honors Government & Economics and one Physical and Earth Science class. Real-time note taking has been in place since January 2004. In addition, a copy of the class notes are e-mailed to each student at the end of the day for their use when completing assignments and studying for tests at home. Both students have been receiving grades that are A/B range and have reported satisfaction and greater understanding of both the material and directions given in class. Next year, this program will be continued for these students and may be expanded to include an incoming eighth-grader who is hearing impaired.

Kurzweil 3000, a read/scan system, has been in place in our resource center support rooms for the past year and half. Scanning is being done at one desktop station and read-only capabilities are available on three laptops. This year we offered a hands-on workshop to the special education teachers early in October and in January trained a paraprofessional to assist in preparing materials and bringing the read aloud technology equipment into classrooms in other parts of the building. In addition to using Kurweil for scanning and reading a variety of printed materials for students, teachers in the department have purchased CDs for many of the core novels read in the high school. These CDs can be played in an average CD player or computer without additional software. Finally, we have expanded our use of materials from Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic as another resource in this area.

Resource center support students, both classified and those with 504 plans, can be seen regularly using one of these read aloud systems in the course of the day. In January, we began to require students to enter information on log sheets to document the use of this technology. The assistance of the trained paraprofessional has helped to increase the use of Kurzweil 3000 in Study Skills classrooms in the building. Next year we plan to continue expanding the use of the existing read aloud technology. By Fall 2004, we will have a complete collection, either in Kurzweil or on CDs, of all core novels read in the high school and they will be available to teachers and students, as needed. It is anticipated that documented use of the existing desktop scan station and laptops will warrant an additional scan station to be in the annex or in one of the 3rd floor special education rooms to allow for easier access to a greater number of students for the 2005-2006 school year.



## ••• PETERSON'S COLLEGE GUIDE

By Kevin Farrell

Director, Student Personnel Services

Last school year (2003-2004), Student Personnel Services (SPS) contracted with Peterson's College Guide/Planning to offer students an online SAT preparation course. This required the technology department to support the software so that our students could use the online preparation tools in school. Unique passcodes had to be generated for each student who signed up for the course.

The Peterson's Online SAT Preparation Course proved to be a successful tool for many of our students who were unable to take a traditional course for a variety of reasons including the high cost and time commitments involved. Our students were able to enroll in Peterson's course at a cost of \$20.00 per person - making this course accessible/affordable for the majority of our students. It is my understanding that the district supplemented other costs involved to keep family cost to a minimum.

As a result of such SAT preparation courses, our average SAT scores have increased. In order to support district and administrative goals of increasing our average SAT scores and broadening post high school options for our students, we must continue offering similar opportunities like this one to our students.

## *Director's Corner* •••

By Aaron A. Bryan

Director, Technology Department

I would like to thank the entire South Brunswick school community for their continued support and well wishes during my recent recovery. I look forward to another exciting year supporting technology in the school district.