Connected Educator

Connecting Technology Educators in Maine - September 2018

President's Message

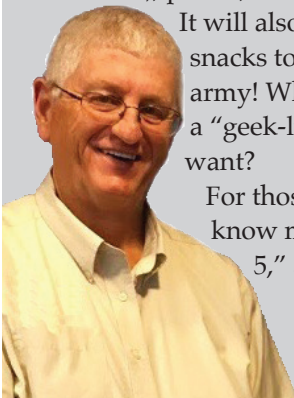*Yes, you CAN attend a national conference!*

Have you ever attended a national conference? More specifically for this newsletter, have you ever attended the ISTE national conference? I've had the pleasure of being able to attend many times, and I have always found them to be inspiring. If you have always thought that getting to go to the ISTE National Conference was not possible, I am hoping that I can change your mind!

In 2019, ISTE will be in Philadelphia, from June 23-26. Having it on the east coast keeps travel expenses to a minimum. Also, ACTEM is planning to sponsor a bus! There will probably be a fee to ride the bus, but it is likely that it will not exceed $50. Now before you say "I'm not sure I want to travel on a bus from Maine to Philadelphia," I've done it once to Philly and once to Washington, DC. The bus will have WiFi (more on that in a second), power, and a bathroom. It will also have enough snacks to feed a small army! What else could a "geek-like person" want?

For those who don't know me, I am 6' 5," and I was

Keynotes for ACTEM 2018, Dr. Joe Sanfelippo & Holly Clark

Are you Ready for ACTEM 2018?

By Cheryl Oakes, Conference Chair

Well, it is the Back to School season where you begin planning your new school year schedule. Be sure to put in to attend the 31st ACTEM Conference with the theme PriMEd for Learning on October 11th and 12th, 2018 in Augusta, ME. This conference is gearing up to be a great meeting place for collaboration, new ideas and inspirational presentations from national speakers and presentations from many of our peers in the State of Maine.

Below is a sampling of the workshop sessions you can look forward to at the ACTEM 2018 conference.

ACTEM has two days jammed

Here is a sampling of the workshop sessions
You can look forward to hearing about how classroom teachers are:

- Using 3D printing across the curriculum
- Creating Makerspaces
- Teaching coding
- Using Apple tools: iWorks, Notetaking, Animation in Keynote and Book Creator
- Locating & using digital primary sources
- Using Google Suite in the classroom
- Using Drones
- Infusing Google into the classroom with student voice and understanding with Holly Clark [Thursday morning keynote]
- Using and creating w/Google Expedition
- Using the FREE Adobe Spark software
- Using the various Synergy modules in the school environment
- Using iPads & technology to support our youngest learners in Science, Art and Literacy
- Using Green Screens throughout the curriculum and school day
- Using the new Microsoft classroom tools
- Changing the narrative with Joe Sanfelippo *Friday morning keynote*

actem Business Meetings

All Members Welcome!

September 17, 2018
December 19, 2018
March 11, 2019
May 13, 2019

New start time!

9:30-noon Mondays in Room 103A/B, 1st Floor, Cross Office Building, Augusta.
Remote sites are generally available for these meetings.
Check actem.org for meeting details.

actem.org
Professional Development

Reimbursement Changes

By Dennis Kunces

At the summer ACTEM Board of Directors meeting, a change and two temporary policies have been put in place. These adjustments and change were made to help increase participation and meet the needs of our membership.

The change starting this year (beginning July 1st) is that the maximum reimbursement for approved professional development activities has risen from $300 to $400. All the other rules for participation including personal payment proof, completion documentation and completing the completion survey still hold.

The first of the temporary policies deals with the Wonder Workshop Program. Last school year several members participated in the Wonder Workshop training as a reimbursement PD activity that included a robot as part of the elementary curriculum. Because the cost is low at $125 and because a new Middle School robot and course ($150 estimated cost) is about to be released, the Board to encourage the program has temporary amended the ACTEM rule that allows only one reimbursement per year. This ammendment grants an exception for Wonder Workshops only to allow members to be reimbursed for one or two Wonder Workshops as long as the total for the year is under $400. Also, since a level II Elementary Wonder Workshop is in development, this could be part of the two Wonder Workshops allowed for reimbursement in one year. Thus members could apply twice this school year for two different Wonder Workshops and be reimbursed for each upon completion and submitted paperwork. This exception is only for the Wonder Workshop Program.

The second temporary policy adjustment deals with the ISTE Conference which will be held in Philadelphia in June 23-26, 2019. ACTEM as an ISTE affiliate, and to encourage our membership to attend, is offering an alternative to our Professional Development Reimbursement program. Members will need to make a choice to participate in our regular program or the special ISTE reimbursement. The ISTE reimbursement Level will be at the Early Bird Registration Rate which was $550 last school year as opposed to the $400 reimbursement in our regular PD program. Members will still need to provide proof of personal payment of their registration, proof of attendance (certificate of attendance, badge or to check in with ACTEM's President or Business Manager) and complete a special survey taylor made for this event. Also the ACTEM Board is working towards offering a low cost bus down and back from the conference with the details to be announced.

So members have some choices to make for the upcoming school year. They can be part of the special ISTE program and get a higher rate of reimbursement or participate in the regular program with a new maximum of $400. If one chooses the regular program then they could take two Wonder Workshop trainings and be reimbursed for both. Also available are any of the traditional conferences, college courses, one day workshops and online

courses now up to $400 in reimbursement for registration.

Make your own Professional Development

By Dennis Kunces

The ACTEM Professional Development Reimbursement Program provides members opportunities to increase their knowledge and skills especially when funds are limited or non-existent from your school district or other outside sources. The reimbursement program has been available to members for eighteen years and has provided over $225,430 to participants. The purpose of this article is to encourage using traditional and non-tradition training to access ACTEM's reimbursement funds. These funds are part of ACTEM's yearly budget, set aside to go to members who have paid with their own resources for technology related training. The rules and an application are on the web site at ACTEM.org.

Typically members use the funds to attend regional conferences (ISTE, MASSCUE, FOSSED), one or more day workshops or hands-on training. Some members enrolled in in degree programs use this funding to help defray part of the cost of a course as the maximum reimbursement is usually less than the full course cost. Also it can be used for summer institutes such as those offer through UMF, UMaine, UNE, Thomas College and others. Google Institutes and similar training opportunities often several days in length are another activity which often occurs during summer vacation. Most subject conferences offer a strand on the use of technology to enhance instruction and would qualify for the program.

Innovative ideas on using the funds are encouraged and as long as they meet the general requirements, will be approved. Most of this type have been on-line course work. There is no time limit in completing the course but you need to be an ACTEM member in the membership period when the activity ends. Extensions can be granted to complete the course work as long as they are requested before the original end date with an explanation for the need of extra time. Communications with the program director or with the ACTEM Business Manager is important so we understand the status of your application.

This program is unique to ACTEM. Other states with similar technology education

based organizations find it amazing that we can offer our membership such a great opportunity and membership benefit. So if funding is limiting your professional development plans, think ACTEM and participate in your reimbursement program.

ACTEM INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER BENEFIT

Bring Your Administrator to the ACTEM 2018 Conference, FREE!

Did you know that ACTEM offers **one free fall conference registration** to an approved district/school administrator for institutional memberships? Approved administrators include Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Special Ed Directors, Curriculum Directors, Principals and Assistant Principals.

ACTEM institutional memberships ($50 for most school districts, $25 for small, one-school districts) offers schools and districts significant price savings on major software titles and other items through our purchasing consortium. Check out the purchasing section of ACTEM's website for the software and other items we offer at special discounted prices.

This year's Friday keynote is Joe Sanfelippo, a superintendent from Fall Creek, Wisconsin. Joe is the author of the book, *Hacking Leadership*, that will also be available at the conference. Several ACTEM board members have had the opportunity to hear Joe speak and feel that he has a great message and is an exceptional speaker. We want Maine's educational leaders to hear Joe's message as well!

With Joe Sanfelippo as our Friday morning keynote, we encourage ACTEM members to invite your administrators to the ACTEM 2018

OCTOBER
Save the Date
11-12
ACTEM 2018
Conference

ACTEM 2018
Conference Registration Rates

Early Registration *Through Sept. 21, 2018*	Member	Non-Member
One Day Pass	$110	$130
Two Day Pass	$185	$205
Regular Registration *September 22 - October 8, 2018*		
One Day Pass	$135	$155
Two Day Pass	$210	$230
Late/Walk-in Registration *October 9th - Conference*		
One Day Pass	$160	$180
Two Day Pass	$235	$255
Non-Member rate includes ACTEM individual membership thru June 30, 2019		

Membership Renewals Due July 1st

ACTEM has a fixed membership year from July 1st – June 30th annually. All memberships are coming up for renewal as of July 1, 2018.

Individual ACTEM Membership Benefits ($20 annually)

- Quarterly newsletter "The Connected Educator"
- Lunch at quarterly business meetings
- Discounted registration fees at the annual ACTEM conference and other sponsored PD
- Opportunity to apply for Professional Development reimbursement
- Educational discounts on software & other items (as permitted by vendor)

Institutional Membership - $50 annually ($25 for small, single school districts)

- Gives school and districts the opportunity to purchase software and other items at our low educational, volume pricing. Some of ACTEM's vendor partners also provide special benefits to our institutional members.
- Also provides one free fall conference registration to an approved district/school administrator* for institutional members.

Approved administrators include: Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Special Education Directors, Curriculum Director, Principals and Assistant Principals.

Membership can be renewed by sending a PO or check to the ACTEM office at P.O. Box 187, Gorham, ME 04038. Members may also renew online with a credit card or PayPal at http://actem.wildapricot.org/join.

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conference and if your school district is an institutional member, you get to send one administrator to the conference at no cost one administrator for both days, or two different administrators for one day each.

School and district institutional members can get a code for complimentary registration for administrators by emailing glanoie@actem.org.

A New Partnership with Connection

Connection Public Sector Solutions is dedicated to fulfilling the unique specialized IT needs of public education institutions throughout the United States. We understand there's a lot more to IT than just technology. Our customer-centric approach focuses on the unique IT goals and challenges facing your district. We work closely with you before, during and after every purchase to make sure you get exactly what you need, when you need it. As part of the total Connection solution, we support all the technology we sell with a complete portfolio of IT services designed to help you get more out of your investment. We'll also identify and apply the federal, state, and local contracts and purchasing vehicles that enable you to achieve your school's goals—on time and on budget. We'll help you get it done right the first time.

Connection has set up a Purchasing Portal on the ACTEM website to make purchasing easier for your districts. Clicking on "Connection" will bring you to a landing page that will make purchasing easier than ever. Connection is manufacturer agnostic so whatever device you are looking for we can help you.

Connection was recently chosen by Microsoft to offer low-cost devices to districts receiving MLTI funding.

Reach out to Jill Meade, Business Development Manager (603) 213.0987 or Eric Sedlisky, SLED Account Manager at (800) 800.0019 x34233 with any questions. Ask about the 21st Century Classroom, STEM and STEAM today!

Wonder Workshop at ACTEM 2018

Wonder Workshop is partnering with ACTEM to offer Maine Educators a discounted cost on the Teach Wonder Initiative online course plus a robot. The elementary online course plus a Dash robot is offered at $125 and the middle school online course plus a Cue robot is offered at $150 through the Dec. 31, 2018. These online courses including the robot are offered to all Maine educators.

If you would like a hands-on introduction to the Teach Wonder Initiative courses, ACTEM will be offering two extra fee half-day workshops at the ACTEM 2018 Conference to attendees. Registered participants will receive their robot and login credentials to the online course at these workshop sessions along with an in-person introduction to your robot. Both these workshops require pre-registration plus the extra fee to cover cost of the Teach Wonder Initiative course. Additionally, ACTEM PD reimbursement is not available for these specific hands-on sessions offered at the conference.

Here are the two Teach Wonder Initiative workshops that will be offered at ACTEM 2018:

BRING WONDER TO ELEMENTARY KIDS WITH DASH AND DOT - $125 Let's bring excitement

and wonder to kids through robotics and coding with Dash and Dot. Learn why computer science and computational thinking skills are essential for all learners. Understand how to implement a computer science program that supports learning and critical thinking skills across the curricula. Participants will leave with the confidence that computer science for elementary-aged learners is appropriate and doable along with the knowledge of how it can be done, and where to find the resources necessary to do so. All participants will receive a PD Bundle (retail value $450) that includes a Dash robot and an online course enrollment to "Introduction to Coding and Robotics with Dash & Dot" as part of their registration fee.

BRING WONDER TO MIDDLE SCHOOL KIDS WITH CUE -

$150 Let's bring excitement and wonder to kids through robotics and coding with Cue. Learn why computer science and computational thinking skills are essential for all learners. Understand how to implement a computer science program that supports learning and critical thinking skills across the curricula. Participants will leave with the confidence that computer science for middle-school-aged learners is appropriate and doable along with the knowledge of how it can be done, and where to find the resources necessary to do so. All participants will receive a PD Bundle (retail value $500) that includes a Cue robot and an online course enrollment to "Introduction to Coding and Robotics with Cue" as part of

their registration fee.

Both of these workshops are available as an optional add-on in the online conference registration system. Register today at http://www.actem.org/event-2952099 to reserve your seat!

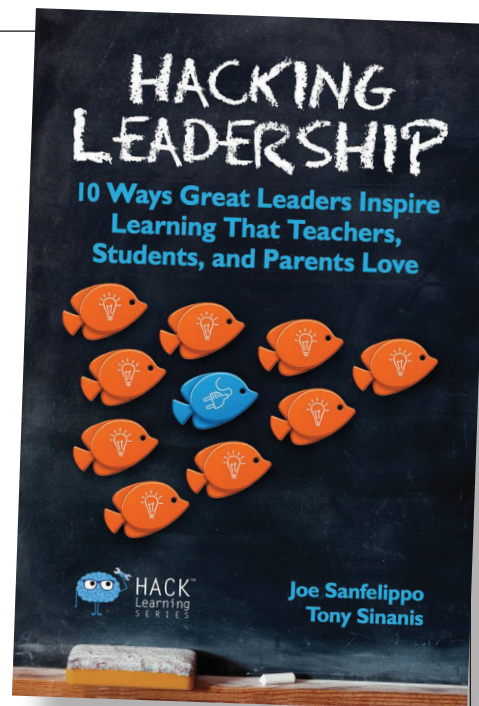# HACKING LEADERSHIP
by Joe Sanfelippo and Tony Sinanis

Reviewed by Barbara Greenstone

As a teacher, I often said that there are two kinds of administrators: those you work with and those you work around. In my more than four decades in education, I'm afraid most of the administrators I worked for fell into the latter category. Often they are good managers who impose order on a building or district. They oversee the daily operation of the schools while sticking to a budget. They hire and fire employees and preside over meetings. They make the buses run on time. But they're not the educational leaders and mentors that I and most teachers truly want and need, and as the kind of teacher who tried to be innovative and take risks, I found myself hiding from these administrators rather than seeking their advice or feedback on my work. But occasionally I had the opportunity to work for administrators who were true educational leaders, and they all became mentors who had a profound effect on my teaching practice.

In the book *Hacking Leadership: 10 Great Ways Leaders Inspire Learning That Teachers, Students, and Parents Love,* the authors, Joe Sanfelippo and Tony Sinan-
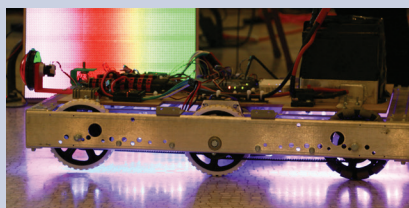
is offer advice for administrators who strive to be that kind of leader. They identify problems administrators will encounter in their schools and provide ways to address these problems that will promote a culture of creativity and collaboration and lead to better communication among teachers, students, and community. The book is part of the Hack Learning Series published by Mark Barnes, and it follows a format where each chapter identifies a problem and offers a practical solution (the hack). The chapters also include immediate and long-term steps school leaders can take, as well as ideas for overcoming pushback and examples of what success looks like.

The beauty of this book lies in its practicality. All ten hacks are steps any administrator can take. Many of them seem obvious (get out of your office and into classrooms) and others are solutions to problems that school leaders might not have identified yet (use social media to tell your school's story before someone else does). Adopting even one of the ten strategies is bound to have a positive impact.

Computer Science Day 2018

The Maine Department of Education, Maine State Library, Project Login, and Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance hosted Computer Science Day on Monday, August 13th in Augusta.

We were joined by educators and students from our K-12 schools, colleges, universities, adult education programs, and career and technical education centers and regions. We also had representatives from the legislature, government agencies, businesses with employees engaged in computer science work, non-profits, informal learning programs, and companies that have computer science education products.

Participants were able to learn from panels, presentations, and table activities. They explored how computer science skills can be learned in formal and informal learning settings, and how those skills can be applied in current and future jobs in Maine. They walked away from the day with a more tangible understanding of what Computer Science is and how it might be used to help industries in Maine achieve their goals, as well as connections to resources and ideas related to teaching and learning Computer Science.

Resources from the event can be found here: http://bit.ly/CS-Day2018resources

Please contact Amanda Nguyen (Amanda.Nguyen@maine.gov) with questions.

Maine DOE Announces Award for Management of Assistive Technology

The Maine Department of Education is pleased to announce that Maine CITE Coordinating Center has been awarded a grant to provide management of assistive technology (AT) services under the federal Assistive Technology Act of 2004 (ATA).

The Maine CITE Coordinating Center has served as the ATA Grant Manager since the federal law was enacted in 1989. Maine CITE oversees a statewide effort to get assistive technology (AT) to people of all ages with disabilities who need it through device demonstrations, device loans and AT reuse. Maine CITE also provides public awareness, information and referral, and training and technical assistance on AT.

Kathy Adams OTL, ATP the Di-

rector of the Maine CITE Coordinating Center said, "we are very pleased to be awarded this grant. AT can be essential in education, employment, community living and telecommunications. We renew our commitment to assisting Maine citizens with disabilities to learn about and get the AT they need and want to lead productive independent lives."

Under this grant, Maine CITE will continue to support the needs of Maine students with print disabilities through the Maine Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) Program as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004. The statewide Maine AEM Program works to improve students' access to AEM and to facilitate the use of AT.

Jan Breton, Director of Special Services Birth – 20 said, "we are very pleased to continue working with Maine CITE which has demonstrated over many years its commitment to expanding and supporting the use of technology to assist people with disabilities."

For details about Assistive Technology (AT) and the Maine Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) Program visit mainecite.org or maine-aem.org.

For information on AT demonstrations and loans visit at4maine.org

DOE Guidance on District Technology Plans

Has the Technology Plan Requirement Changed? Yes, there are three main points here:

1. The federal technology plan requirement for E-rate eligibility no longer exists.
• Districts still need to maintain copies of approved plans and approval letters for the time specified to your district under federal requirements at the time you last submitted a plan.
2. Districts should include their technology plan in their Comprehensive Education Plan.
   • This is not submitted to the Department, however, superintendents certify this is complete on their School Approval Application, which is submitted to the DOE.
3. The MLTI Participation Agreement includes additional guidance.
• Superintendents signed participation agreements when their schools opted into an MLTI solution.
• A sample participation packet can be found at the link below: http://www.maine.gov/doe/mlti/policy/responsibility_sau/index.html
• Two parts are relevant to the new technology plan expectations:
  - "#3. SAU agrees to address how MLTI will support its school and district goals in its Board-approved technology plan."
  - This does not mean that the DOE needs to review or approve your plan.
• "#11. SAU agrees to take part in studies, surveys, etc. related to the MLTI (e.g. Bright Bytes)."
  - This part enables us to have state-wide insight on the impact of MLTI and the use of the technology for better teaching and learning outcomes.

WHAT DOES THIS CHANGE MEAN FOR MY DISTRICT?

• In 2017 – 2018, we've asked districts that receive state support for participation in MLTI and whose current approval expires in June 2018, to share their technology plan with us. This can be accomplished using the short form provid-

ed to districts earlier this year.
• In 2018 – 2019, only the schools that are participating in the MLTI Apple and HP opt-ins (have those solutions or packages) will be asked to provide information to the Department. Districts will be asked to have students and staff complete the BrightBytes survey in the fall of 2018, no later than November 30, 2018, and may be asked a few additional questions by the Department.
• For those districts that want technical support as they review their data or create action plans related to technology use, the Department will still provide support and will be continuing to work with BrightBytes to offer online and in-person learning opportunities.

If you have any questions about this, you can reach out to Amanda Nguyen Digital Learning Specialist for the Maine Department of Education at Amanda.Nguyen@maine.gov or 207-624-6656.

New Department of Education Website

The Department of Education is expecting to transition to a new website this fall. Some of the websites you have bookmarked, including a num-

ber of the MLTI or Learning Through Technology pages, may no longer exist. Please look for updates on the Maine DOE Newsroom (https://mainedoenews.net) or via social media.
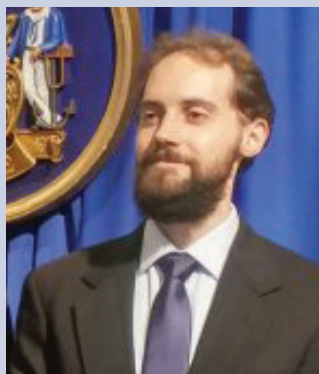
Maine DOE Twitter, Maine DOE Facebook, Email subscriptions

LEARNING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY FALL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Education will be sponsoring and leading a number of professional learning opportunities this fall related to teaching and learning with technology. Information about webinars and in-person sessions will be posted on the Department's new website, emailed out to the ACTEM list, and emailed to our new "DOE-EducationalTechnology" email list. To subscribe to this new email list, please visit this site: https://mailman.informe.org/mailman/listinfo/doe-educational-technology

TYPES OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING:

- Learning from Online Learning: Facilitated by Maine educators, this is a chance to earn some of the more popular badges and certifications related to educational technology in a supported online learning community. Educators will also reflect on what it means to be an online learner and collaborate to create a set of recommendations or best practices for both adult and student online learners of the future.
- BrightBytes Technology and Learning Survey and Action Planning: The team from BrightBytes will host a combination of webinars and in-person meetings for school leaders and teachers to help them use their data to plan for ways to better integrate technology into their classrooms.
- Regional Events: There will be a number of opportunities for educa-

tors to attend in-person workshops in various locations throughout the fall.

More information, including dates and registration, will be available by the end of September. Please contact Amanda Nguyen (Amanda.Nguyen@maine.gov) with questions.

State Finalists Announced for 2019 Maine Teacher of the Year

Three Maine teachers have been announced as State finalists for the 2019 Maine Teacher of the Year. The finalists were chosen from the 2018 Maine County Teachers of the Year honored earlier this year.

The Maine Teacher of the Year program honors outstanding teachers who represent the thousands of excellent educators in Maine. Maine's Teacher of the Year serves as an advocate for the teaching profession, education and students and represents Maine in the national Teacher of the Year program.

State Finalists:
JOSEPH HENNESSEY

2018 Piscataquis County Teacher of the Year, Joseph Hennessey teaches American, World, AP Literature and Composition, and Camden Conference Seminar for grades 11-12 at Piscataquis Community High School (RSU 80/MSAD 4). He has been

teaching for 6 years.

SHANA GOODALL

2018 Penobscot County Teacher of the Year, Shana Goodall teaches Social Studies, World Civilizations, AP Human Geography, and AP World History for grades 9-12 at Orono High School (RSU 26). She has been teaching for 15 years.

CONNIE RUSSELL

2018 Cumberland County Teacher of the Year, Connie Russell is a 2nd grade teacher at Mabel I. Wilson School in Cumberland, North Yarmouth (MSAD 51) and has been teaching for 27 years.

Each educator was nominated by a member of their community for their exemplary service in education, and dedication to their students. They were selected by a distinguished panel of teachers, principals and business community members from a pool of hundreds of other nominated teachers in their communities.

The three teachers are in the running for 2019 Maine Teacher of the Year, an honor awarded each year to one teacher in Maine. In October, Maine's 2019 Teacher of the Year will be selected after a school site visit and final interview.

Maine Teacher of the Year is a program of the Maine Department of Education, administered by Educate Maine. For more information, visit the Maine DOE Website.

Much of the book is about building relationships and shaping culture, and in the introduction, the authors note "...the school leader sets the tone and has the greatest single influence on a school's positive or negative culture." I've often thought the greatest single step we can take toward real education reform is to make school a place where teachers and students want to be every day. The authors devote a chapter (Hack 2) to culture, but the other hacks are related to it. Certainly building relationships (Hack 3), centering school around the children (Hack 6), and helping educators learn from each other (Hack 9) are all steps that will lead to a positive school culture.

I think we often underestimate the effect that leadership (or sometimes lack thereof) has on a school or a district's success. School reformers usually focus on teacher quality, but that's just one small piece of the puzzle. There will always be great teachers and not-so-great teachers, but leaders affect the school as a whole and are responsible for students' overall school experience. The hacks described in this book are steps administrators can take to become the kind of leader folks will work with, rather than around.

Reprinted from: Teaching Teachers by Barbara Greenstone; Thoughts from a technology integrator who has learned a few things about teaching adults who are also her peers. https://barbaragreenstone.org/2018/08/15/hacking-leadership-by-joe-sanfelippo-and-tony-sinanis/

ISTE 2018 – Chicago

Several ACTEM board members attended the ISTE 2018 conference in Chicago this past June. We asked these board members, "What was your favorite take-away from the ISTE 2016 conference in Chicago?"

Deb White, from RSU 26 in Orono eported in her district newsletter about "One Teachers' Summer PD". Highlights included learning with TED ED talks, meeting with Wonder Workshop to talk robots, connecting with Mark Schreiber, DC Founder & Senior Stanford FabLearn Fellow, and chatting with author Andy Weir, eating original Chicago pizza from the world famous Giordano's, sightseeing in Chicago and visiting with former RSU 26 teacher Jim Verrill.

Rachel Guthrie from Southern Maine Community College said that her favorite thing at ISTE was hearing Alan November talk about helping students ask good questions. He demonstrated this by showing a very cool video of Picasso's Guernica, where the viewer moves in and out of the painting in a 3D setting (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jc1Nfx4c5LQ) and he asked educators in the audience to write two questions they might have about the video. Afterward we shared our questions and discussed the difference between open-ended questions and closed ones. Some were asked to reformat their questions, making them open ended. After this 5 minute exercise he showed research that documents an increase in retention in students who do this kind of exercise at the start of every class, having 'lubed' their brains for learning.

As a graphic designer and marketing professional, I also enjoyed seeing all the fun ways that ISTE did their self promotion.

Mike Arsenault from Yarmouth schools reported that his favorite takeaway from Chicago was Richard Culatta's (ISTE CEO) keynote discussing the #digcitcommit initiative. He spoke about the differences between online safety and digital citizenship while relaying the importance of stressing the dos' versus the don'ts' with students around the tenets of digital citizenship. So many times we focus more on online safety than truly developing digital citizens who are taught to:

• make their communities better
• respectfully engage with people who have different beliefs
• shape and change public policy
• assess the validity of online sources of information.

One Teacher's Summer PD

ACTEM sponsored Deb White's trip to ISTE in Chicago in June. Highlights included learning with TED-ED talks, meeting with WonderWorkshop to talk robots, connecting with Mark Schreiber, DC Founder & Senior Stanford FabLearn Fellow, and http://yearinthemaking.com/ to talk MakerSpaces, chatting with author Andy Weir, eating stuffed pizza from the world-famous Giordano's, sightseeing in Chicago, and visiting with former RSU #26 teacher, Jim Verrill!
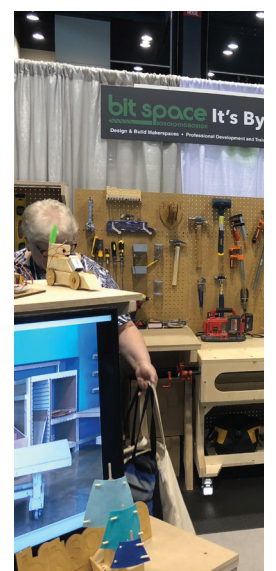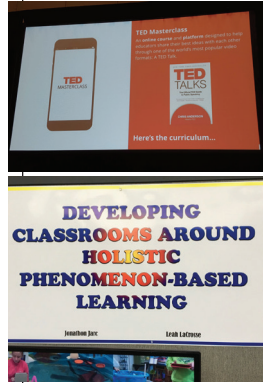
Finally, Andrew Wallace, from South Portland Schools said that he values the opportunity to get hands on with some of the classroom technology that he hopes to use in the upcoming year. "It's one thing to read about technical specifications, it's another to actually try out the technology in the massive exhibit hall."

I also enjoy visiting the various 'Playgrounds' where I can learn about success stories from teachers, librarians and technologists who are innovating with technology. I appreciate not being locked into a long session and could move about freely from idea to idea!"

Have you ever attended a national conference like ISTE? ISTE

2019 will be held in Philadelphia, June 23-26, 2019. ACTEM is planning on chartering a bus to Philadelphia that will offer our members a very reasonably priced option for transportation to the conference. More information coming soon at actem.org and in the next newsletter.
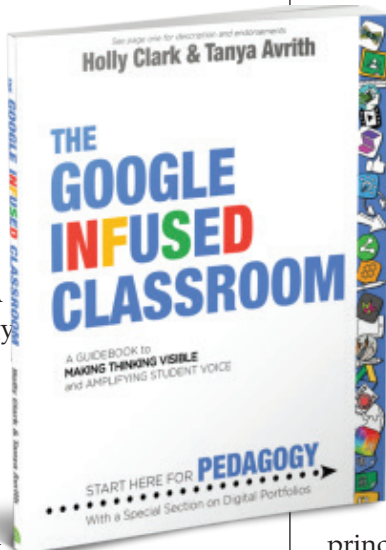
Keynote Books
Get your copy at the ACTEM 2018 fall Conference

THURSDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER: HOLLY CLARK

Holly Clark is an Education Strategist from San Diego, California. She is a Google Certified Innovator, National Board Certified Teacher, and holds an MA in Technology in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She has been working with technology integration and 1:1 environments since the year 2000. Presently she consults with schools internationally on building both the culture and strategy to support and inspire innovative teaching- including powerful technology integration and design thinking protocols. Holly has taught in both independent and public schools and is the co-founder of #CaEdChat. She authors a popular education blog: hollyclark.org and gives keynotes to audiences world wide. You can follow her on twitter @HollyClarkEdu.

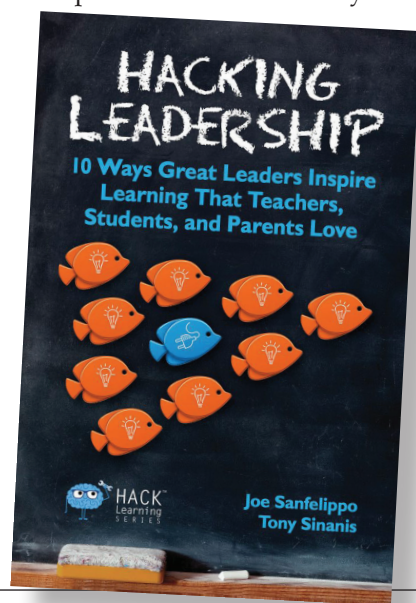Holly is a proud member of the EdTechTeam and head of their publishing division.

In 2017, Holly published her first book The Google Infused Classroom which is available on Amazon.

FRIDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. JOE SANFELIPPO

Dr. Joe Sanfelippo is the Superintendent of the Fall Creek School District in Fall Creek, WI. The Fall Creek School District was named an Innovative District in 2016 and 2017 by the International Center for Leadership in Education. Joe holds a BA in Elementary and Early Childhood Education from St. Norbert College, a MS in Educational Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, a MS in Educational Leadership, and a PhD in Leadership, Learning, and Service from Cardinal Stritch University. Joe is also an adjunct professor in the Educational Leadership Department at Viterbo University. Joe has taught Kindergarten, 2nd Grade, and 5th Grade. He was also a school counselor and high school coach prior to taking on an elementary principal position in 2005. He was selected as 1 of 117 Future Ready Superintendents in 2014 by the

very comfortable on both trips and I couldn't believe how fast we got there! If you have ever experienced the wifi on public transportation, especially when traveling with a group like this, the wifi can get a little overwhelmed. To help with that, we have already talked to our friends at Kajeet, to see if they can improve our bandwidth. If you are not familiar with Kajeet, they are a company that sells cellular hotspots. They have a product specifically designed for school buses, Smartbus, and they have agreed to let us utilize one of those units on this trip.

In addition to the very inexpensive travel, the ACTEM Executive Committee also made a couple of significant changes to our professional development program *(see the articles by Dennis Kunces in this newsletter)*. The change concerning ISTE 2019 is very exciting. ACTEM has decided that anyone who goes to ISTE 2019 will be able to get reimbursed for the full cost of Early Bird registration. Last year the Early Bird registration cost was $550. While the price of ISTE 2019 has not yet been published, whatever it is, ACTEM will refund the total amount, there are a few (very few) restrictions. For more info see Dennis Kunces' article or check the PD section of the ACTEM website.

While you can travel for $50 and have your registration fully reimbursed, veteran conference attendees will tell you the real cost of attending a conference like this is the hotel. With that in mind, I have it on good authority that a couple of people are working on some low-cost housing (Air B & B?). More on this when we have details to report!

All I ask is that you at least consider the possibility of attending ISTE 2019. If you come to ISTE in Philadelphia, I guarantee you will not regret it!

Dennis Crowe

US Department of Education.

Joe has been a featured speaker in multiple states in the areas of Telling Your School Story, Advancing the Use of Social Media for School Leaders, Creating a Culture of Yes, and Personalized Professional Growth for Staff.

Joe is the co-author of the book Hacking Leadership: 10 Ways Great Leaders Inspire Learning That Teachers, Students and Parents Love which is available on Amazon.

Are You Ready for ACTEM 18?

(from cover)

packed with presentations! We have so many workshop sessions that we had a difficult time fitting them all into the schedule. As in the past conferences, the lunch time blocks will offer over eighteen different sessions spread over two days. So, make the most of your day and plan to grab a box lunch and attend a session with like-minded attendees at lunch.

The conference schedule will be coming out online at www.actem.org in early September. Register by September 21, 2018 for the early bird pricing and receive the best conference registration rates.

Leveraging Learning: *the iPad in Elementary Grades*
By LL2018 Planning Committee

Auburn's Leveraging Learning 2018 Conference takes place at the Hilton Garden Inn Riverwatch in Auburn on November 8 & 9. This year's theme, Beyond the Apps 2.0 - Knowledge to Application builds on the work of last year's conference by being both a call for action and a time of empowerment! This year's sessions are designed around effective models of iPad use in the elementary classroom that do two things - support learners in gaining control over content and ask learners to apply what they have learned to accomplish meaningful tasks. All sessions will provide clear, replicable, and effective ways that participants can grow the purposeful use of iPad in their classrooms.

One exciting feature which makes the Leveraging Learning conference stand apart from other conferences is that presenters will explain why the apps featured are being used as well as modeling workflows and pedagogical components of the model of use so that participants will leave each session ready to put the model to effective use in their own classroom. Participants can leave the conference on Friday and begin using their new learning on Monday!

Leveraging Learning showcases the best of what's happening

with iPad in K-6 classrooms. We have presenters from California, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, along with a healthy contingent of "Maineiacs" eager to share the great teaching and learning that's taking place in their classrooms. To learn more about the sessions offered, go to http://institute2018.auburnschl.edu

This year we're happy to have Apple Distinguished Educator Jake Lee joining us for the entire conference. Jake "is a passionate and dedicated early childhood educator who truly values technology integration. He believes technology builds an open minded and entrepreneurial spirit even in our youngest learners. He has been teaching in the early childhood field for over a decade. He has current educational technology work in the areas of coding, blogging, and digital storytelling. He has been a presenter and featured speaker at many national conferences such as ISTE, iPad Summit, and the South by Southwest Education Conference." Jake will be presenting two sessions over the two days, be available for conversation and consultation throughout the two days, and will send us off with a dynamic final presentation on Friday.

Early Bird Registration is open until September 7 for only $325.00, which includes registration, breakfast and lunch on both days, and access to the conference iTunesU Course which contains all conference materials and most presentations. After September 7 the cost goes to $375.00. To register or for more info go to: http://institute2018.auburnschl.edu or send an email to levlearn@auburnschl.edu with questions.

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Y E A R S

Nominate a Colleague for Next Year's ACTEM ACHIEVE Award

Teachers, librarians and technology integrators, college professors, principals and vice principles...special education directors and education technologists...we all have a role to play in the learning process. Have you noticed a colleague that is passionate, enthusiastic and dedicated? The ACTEM Awards Committee is excited to be accepting nominations for the 2019 ACHIEVE Award.

Educators and leaders roles are increasingly blurred, our awards do not distinguish between the two categories. Anyone in the education field PreK-HigherEd is eligible for the ACTEM ACHIEVE Award! ACTEM wants to celebrate and honor those educators that are highly innovative.

ACHIEVE Award winners are professionals who effectively apply available technology now. They move forward utilizing current best practices and cutting edge approaches. They see students as real people by activating student voice and choice in education. They teach through relationships, inspiring, encouraging and nurturing. These professionals also recognize that further change is necessary, but understand that it is a process for all stakeholders. They realize that teacher and student empowerment is the key element to technology integration. ACHIEVE Educators expect success and motivate through awareness and access to information.

Nominate someone today by visiting the ACTEM website at actem. org. Undthe Resources link you'll see the selction for awards. 2017 winners were Jeff Bailey, Alice Barr, and Dan Ryder. Their profiles can be found on the same page, along with the candidate checklist. The winners for 2018 will be announced at this year's conference, October 11th & 12th, be sure to join us to celebrate!

MARVEL is now the Digital Maine Library

A new name, a new logo, a new website and new technologies providing access to both old and new content.

The Maine State Library is pleased to announce the launch of the Digital Maine Library. We are saying goodbye to MARVEL and hello to the Digital Maine Library this weekend. https://library.digitalmaine.org/

Spread the word - and the new web address. Over this holiday weekend, links and forwarders will be employed to point to the new web address. Links and bookmarks that are pointing to the old MARVEL! location will be automatically redirected to the new site by Tuesday morning.

More than 14 years ago, the name "MARVEL!" was given to the online resources in Maine's virtual library. Over the past few years there have been a wide variety of dedicated people who provided input, suggestions and expertise on giving our online resources a new look. We wanted to employ some new technology, utilize the competitive bidding process to get more high quality content at a competitive price and give our re-

The 2018 Honor Roll: EdTech's Must-Read K-12 IT Blogs

By Ricky Ribeiro & Meghan Bogardus Cortez

Maine's Alice Barr made the 2018 List!!!

The authors of the 2018 Honor Roll of EdTech Blogs state; "We scoured the web to find some of the best, brightest and most useful blogs across the modern education ecosystem. Our list of Must-Read K—12 IT Blogs includes a mixture of teachers, instructional technology specialists, IT leaders, administrators and consultants. This diversity of thought and experience should ensure that you're getting a realistic sampling from across the education spectrum. A Must-Read blog for us is one that offers interesting thoughts, unique ideas, useful information and remains regularly updated and active."

The complete list is here: *https://edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2017/03/2017-honor-roll-edtechs-must-read-k-12-it-blogs* Alice's blog **The View from My Window** is available at *http://alicebarr.blogspot.com* The authors write about Alice's blog as follows: "As an instructional technology integrator at Yarmouth High School in Maine, Alice Barr is on the frontlines when it comes to understanding the needs of teachers and challenges that come with classroom technology. Her blog is a reliable one-stop shop curation of news and interesting tidbits in the EdTech realm."

Congratulations ALICE!

Empower Every Learner and Organization to Achieve More!

Explore Windows 10, Office 365, Teams, OneNote Class Notebook and Immersive Reader, Learning Tools, Accessibility tools, Minecraft and more!

What is a Microsoft Immersion Experience?

An immersion experience is a facilitated hands-on session to "Experience the Possible" by test-driving Microsoft devices and solutions through simulated, everyday education scenarios. Separate simulated environments are available for higher education and K-12. The content is specifically designed to be a hands-on in a small audience (up to 25 participants). The scenarios showcase collaboration between students, teachers and administrators and provide for deep examples within a classroom and/or staff setting.

What to Expect…

- No slides, demos or sales pitch
- Custom session based on the interest, priorities and needs of you and your learners
- Time to play a part. Each participant will select the character "persona" to play for the session

- A facilitator to guide you through a live environment in the cloud to explore for yourself "what's possible"
- Fun!

What tWill You Experience?

- Get Engaged in the Classroom: Design engaging lesson plans and effectively connect with students, teachers and administrators.

- Collaborate: Learn about collaborative and social features that facilitate communication, including the ability to follow people and hashtags.

- Experience sharing and coauthoring abilities that make collaboration easier than ever.

- Stay Productive: Discover how students and faculty can remain productive and extend collaboration and learning outside the classroom.

Microsoft Immersion Sessions are a fantastic way for administrators and educators to better understand the technology solutions they have access to, which can lead to process improvements and improve learning outcomes

Microsoft is proud to partner with ACTEM to offer Education Immersion Experiences at the School Regions in Maine! Dates, times and locations below:

- October 12th ACTEM Fall Conference

- November 15th from 9 AM – 12 PM at RSU 26 – Orono. 82 Main St, Orono, ME 04473

- December 7th from 9 AM – 12 PM at RSU 57 – Massabesic High School East Building, 88 West Rd, Waterboro, ME 04087

- March 15th from 9 AM – 12 PM at Maine's Moosetech 2019 Conference

- April 24th ACTEM Spring Conference

- May 10th from 9 AM – 12 PM in Maine's Lewiston area. Exact location TBA

sources the fresh look they deserved. Through our strong partnerships with both Maine InfoNet and the University of Maine, and contributions by Bates, Bowdoin and Colby, the Digital Maine Library enables features and content that might otherwise not be available.

The new website for the Digital Maine Library employs a variety of new technologies, new opportunities and a unique approach to accessing digital content - whether it is a database, online learning tool or other web-based resources. The Digital Maine Library utilizes new geo-location/authentication technologies to help make access easier from home. This technology will continue to improve over time and ensure that Maine citizens have an equal experience using the Digital Maine Library at home as well as in library build-

ings. We are reinforcing with our new tagline for this access - "No matter where you are in Maine, you're at the library."

More about our use of geolocation is available in our document, Why are you asking me to share my location? https://goo.gl/QWFk4d

The new "sift and sort" feature uses a script that helps you find the best online resource for your needs. You can choose Subject, Resource Type or Audience - or a combination. This technology allows you to drill down and eliminate resources you may not need. Each resource has a graphic, a description and tags that match with the Subject, Audience and Resource Type. Tagging provides the ability to create Audience specific pages like this one for Elementary students. https://library.digitalmaine.org/audience/elementary/ View or download a PDF with more information at: https://goo.gl/HPtcfY

An alphabetical index can be ac-

cessed by clicking the A-Z link in the top navigation.

An A-Z list with descriptions is available at: https://library.digitalmaine.org/all-databases/ and this also is provided to patrons using screen readers to access online content.

For the advanced searchers, we will be testing both the Gale Power Search and the EBSCO EDS. We will be asking for your input on that over the next few months. https://library.digitalmaine.org/about/advanced-search/

Training, more information, and handouts are in development, so stay tuned. Thanks to Amy Deneker, Ruby Jones, Debbie Meservey, Jared Leadbetter, Tim Pellett, and Karen Silverman who volunteered to be on the web focus group for all their hard work!

Feel free to provide feedback on our form: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DMLFeedback. This is an ongoing project that we hope to improve where needed.

Adobe Announces Spark with Premium Features...*FREE for Education*

Adobe announced this past spring that Spark for Education with premium features and additional functionality is now available to K-12 and higher education students free of charge. Normally priced at $120 per year and available on the Spark for Education website, Adobe Spark for Education is a fun and frictionless storytelling Creative Cloud application that runs in any web or mobile browser, enabling students to quickly and easily express themselves via graphics, web stories and video to complete their school assignments and showcase digital creativity.

Details on how educators can get Spark for Education with premium

features for free for their school, along with Spark training and professional development complete with a guide to using Spark in the classroom can be found on the Spark for Education website. Additionally, Adobe offers a free platform, the Education Exchange, where educators can access free courses taught by their peers and share teaching materials and curricula.

To get started with Adobe Spark for your school/district contact ACTEM (info@actem.org) to get set up with a VIP account. Once set up Adobe offers resources for help to get started with your deployment.

Here is the link to the deploy-

ment webpage that has guides for the admin console among other helpful pieces: http://edu.adobeeventsonline.com/cc/resources/

Here is a direct link to deploying Spark: https://helpx.adobe.com/enterprise/using/edu-deployment-guide.html

Here is a link to the Adobe Spark Guide for Schools and Educators Guide http://www.actem.org/resources/Documents/AdobeSpark_EduGuide.pdf

ACTEM 2018 will feature a workshop, Adobe Spark for FREE by Rachel Guthrie of Southern Maine Community College - a free design workshop for non-designers: Learn how to create engaging content for social and beyond. Download the free version and let Rachel teach you how to be a Pro!

October 11-12 • ACTEM 2018 Conference, Augusta, ME

October 18-19 • MassCUE and M.A.S.S. 2018 Annual Technology Conference, Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, MA

October 21-22 • CECA CASL 2018 Conference at Foxwoods, Ledyard, CT

November 8-9 • Leveraging Learning 2018 - Auburn, ME

November 8-9 • Vermont Fest 2018, Killington, VT

November 15th -- Microsoft Education Immersion Experience, RSU 26, Orono

November 27-29 • Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference, Manchester, NH

December 7th Microsoft Education Immersion Experience, RSU 57, Massabesic HS, Waldoboro

Upcoming 31 Events

ISTE 2019 PHILADELPHIA

April 1-4, 2019 CoSN 2019, Portland, OR

April 4-6, 2019 Blended & Personalized Learning Conference, Providence RI

April 24, 2019 ACTEM Spring Leadership Conference, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME

June 23-26, 2019 ISTE 2019 Philadelphia, PA

Maine Educators: Become an Apple Teacher *http://www.apple.com/education/teachers/ Google Teacher Certifications - https://edutrainingcenter.withgoogle.com/certification*

MLTI Professional Development Apple Solutions: *http://maine.gov/mlti/events/apple.shtml MLTI Professional Development*
HP Solutions: *http://maine.gov/mlti/events/hp.shtml Tech Sherpas - http://www.techsherpas.org/ Tuesday 3pm #EdChatME - https://twitter.com/hashtag/edchatme Mondays 8:30-9:30pm*

Google Teacher Certifications - https://edutrainingcenter.withgoogle.com/certification

Certified
Google
Educator

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THURSDAY KEYNOTE

HOLLY CLARK, Education Strategist from San Diego, California. Holly is a Google Certified Innovator, National Board Certified Teacher, and holds an MA in Technology in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She consults with schools internationally on building both the culture and strategy to support and inspire innovative teaching — including powerful technology integration and design thinking protocols. Holly is the co-founder of **#CaEdChat**, authors a popular education blog: holly-clark.org and gives keynotes to audiences world wide. You can follow her on twitter @HollyClarkEdu. Holly is a proud member of the EdTechTeam and head of their publishing division. In 2017, Holly published her first book *The Google Infused Classroom* which is available on Amazon.

FRIDAY KEYNOTE

DR. JOE SANFELIPPO, Superintendent of Fall Creek School District, named an Innovative District in 2016 & 17. Joe holds a BA in Elementary and Early Childhood Education from St. Norbert College, a MS in Educational Psychology from the University of Wisconsin, a MS in Education Leadership, and a PhD in Leadership, Learning, and Service from Cardinal Stritch University. Joe is an adjunct professor at Viterbo University, was selected a **Future Ready** Superintendent in 2014 by the DOE, and has been a featured speaker for *Telling Your School Story*, *Advancing the Use of Social Media for School Leaders*, *Creating a Culture of Yes*, and *Personalized Professional Growth for Staff*. Joe is the co-author of the book *Hacking Leadership: 10 Ways Great Leaders Inspire Learning That Teachers, Students and Parents Love*.

OCTOBER 11 & 12
Augusta Civic Center

Before 9/21/18

One Day $130	Two Days $205

Members subtract $20

For more information
www.actem.org