

SEPTEMBER 2019

THE CONNECTED

EDUCATOR

CONNECTING TECHNOLOGY USING EDUCATORS IN MAINE



#ACTEM'19

By Conference Co-chair,
Cheryl Oakes

For most of you it is BACK TO SCHOOL! We hope that your back to school preparations include a stop at ACTEM 2019 in Augusta, ME. On Thursday we are initiating a change in our schedule. Registration time remains the same at 7:00 AM both days. However, on Thursday the first session begins

at 8:30 AM and the keynote, Thomas Murray, will be from 10:55 AM to 12:00 noon. Following the keynote will be several fast paced IGNITE sessions where you can enjoy a bag lunch and be entertained and informed about the latest in technology and learning. At 3:30 to 4:00PM the ACHIEVE AWARDS RECEPTION will occur prior to the Vendor Reception including cash bar in the Exhibit Hall. As you can see, get to ACTEM 2019 early and stay all day long!

On Friday, the opening session and keynote with The Tech Rabbi, Michael Cohen is set for 7:45 AM and the World Famous Closing and Door Prizes will bookend our conference at 3:40 PM.

To take part in all these activities stop by the ACTEM.org website and look for Conference Registration! As you sign up for the conference please consider the bag lunch option where you can continue the learning through the lunchtime on Friday only with sessions about Teaching Passion with Compassion, Google Tools, CUE Robots, Leveraging Tech to Motivate Learners, Women in Ed Tech, and Apple/MLTI sessions! Find a session and enjoy a relaxed lunch discussion with others.

We look forward to continuing the learning with you in Augusta, ME on October 10th and 11th, 2019 **#MaineTheWayLearningShouldBe**. Follow **#ACTEM19** on Twitter for more info on sessions and connect with others who are attending the conference too.

ACTEM 2019 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

The 2019 Conference Program includes:

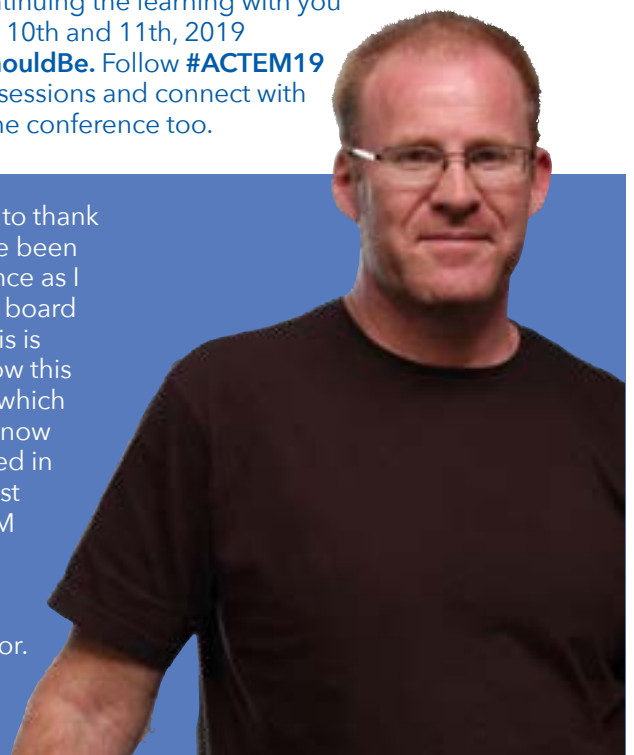
- Two full days of engaging professional development.
- Dynamic Keynote Speakers
- Over 100 workshop sessions
- Over 40 Exhibitors

(Continued on page 2)

President's Message...

The community of ACTEM members has done so much for education in Maine over the past decades, and it is an absolute honor to be given the opportunity to serve this organization for a term as President. This is a healthy and well-run organization, and I am fortunate to be taking the helm with such an excellent group of people working with me, as our mission says "to enhance and influence education in Maine through the

use of technology." I want to thank my predecessors who have been generous with their guidance as I and other members of the board step into our new roles. This is just another example of how this is a community of sharing which strengthens us all. I don't know how I could have succeeded in my current job over the past twelve years or so if ACTEM hadn't connected me to this eclectic, brilliant, and wonderful tribe. Here's hoping I can return the favor.



actem

Association of Computer
Technology Educators of
P.O. BOX 187
GORHAM, ME 04038

Maine

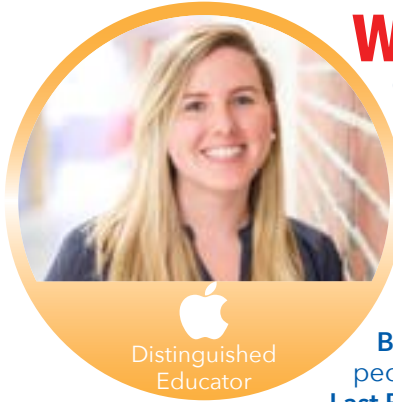
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- Stephanie Cheney** Conference Co-Chair
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- Suzanne Simmons** Tech Integrator Representative
ssimmons@bonnyeagle.org

actem BUSINESS MEETINGS

ACTEM business meeting for 2019-20 will move to THURSDAYS to align with METDA meetings. The ACTEM Business meeting will occur in the mornings from 9:30am- around noon, and METDA meeting will be in the afternoon in room 103 of the Cross Office Building in Augusta, ME. Availability of remote video connection will also be possible for these meetings.

- Thursday, September 19, 2019
- Thursday, December 12, 2019
- Thursday, March 12, 2020
- Thursday, May 21, 2020



Distinguished Educator

WHO'S WHO IN ACTEM?

Compiled by Deb White

Name: Stephanie Weber
Contact Info: sweber@auburnschl.edu
Twitter: @StephWeber207
Current Professional Role: Technology Instructional Coach
Past Professional Experience: Kindergarten Teacher

Best part of belonging to ACTEM: Meeting new people and sharing ideas!

Last Professional Book Read: Sketchnoting in the Classroom by Nicole Carter

Last Fun Book Read: Dry by Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman Current

Favorite Professional Tech Tool: The iPad

Current Favorite Fun Tool: Clips App

Words to Live By: "We are here to put a dent in the universe. Otherwise why else even be here?" -Steve Jobs

ACTEM'19 REGISTRATION OPEN!

THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 2019

9:15 - 10:45 AM Morning workshop sessions

11:00 AM Thursday Keynote - Thomas C. Murray

Tom serves as the Director of Innovation for Future Ready Schools, a project of the Alliance for Excellent Education, located in Washington, D.C. He has worked alongside the US Senate, the White House, the US Department of Education, state departments of education, and school districts throughout the country to implement student-centered, personalized learning while helping to lead Future Ready Schools and Digital Learning Day.



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Noon - Exhibits open

1:00 - 3:15 pm Afternoon workshop sessions

3:25 - 4:00 PM ACHIEVE Award

4:00-5:30 PM - Exhibitor Reception - In the exhibit hall with appetizers and open bar.

BREW CUE

Individual membership is included in the conference registration rates above. Current individual ACTEM members will receive a \$20 discount on conference registration.

FRIDAY, OCT. 11, 2019

7:45 AM

Opening & Friday Keynote - Michael Cohen - The Tech Rabbi
 Michael Cohen, known as The Tech Rabbi, is a designer and technologist turned educator. As a speaker, writer and creativity instigator, he's on a mission to help young people develop the creative confidence they need to become challenge seekers and solution designers. He currently serves as the director of innovation at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles Boys School (YULA), and creator of the Schlesinger STEAM and Entrepreneurship Center.



9:15 AM - 3:30 PM Full variety of workshop sessions

3:30 PM - CLOSING & DOOR PRIZES

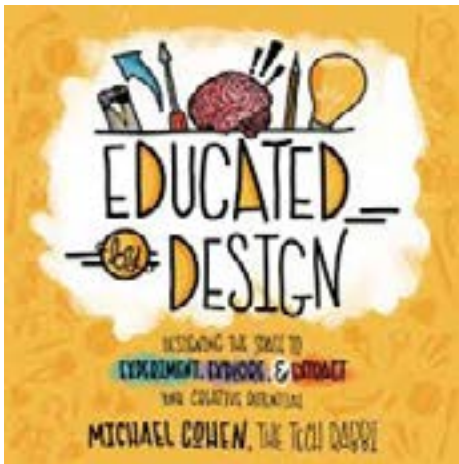
Early-Bird Discount Rate (Before Sept. 21st)!
One-day Pass: \$130
Two-day Pass -- \$205

BOOK REVIEW

EDUCATED BY DESIGN

BY MICHAEL COHEN

Review by Barbara Greenstone



In my work as a Technology Integrator, one of my greatest challenges was helping students and teachers see the potential for creativity that our new and ever-changing technology afforded us. It was just too easy to use our devices simply for record keeping and consuming digitized content. Dr. Ruben Puentedura's SAMR Model helped us understand how technology can transform teaching and learning, but in actual practice most teachers found it difficult to move beyond substitution or augmentation, and opportunities for activating our own and our students' creativity were missed.

Michael Cohen, the Tech Rabbi, addresses the disconnect between creativity and teaching practice in his book *Educated by Design: Designing the Space to Experiment, Explore, & Extract Your Creative Potential*. He makes the argument that we all have the potential for creativity, and he's careful to make clear distinctions between creativity and talent, and between skill and artistry. He illustrates the book with quotes and aphorisms meant to inspire teachers to develop a creative mindset and take the risks necessary to design learning opportunities that could unleash student creativity. He relates examples and anecdotes from his teaching successes and failures, and his last chapter includes activities and ideas that teachers can use to begin constructing their own creativity toolkit.



Cohen devotes a whole chapter to the role of empathy in the creative process, an idea that I found particularly interesting. Most creative process models begin with preparation and/or definition of a problem as the first step, but Cohen suggests that without empathy, proposed solutions to a problem are likely to fail. Although he presents empathy as a first step, he also demonstrates how it's woven through the whole process and how it inspires creativity.

The chapter on collaboration is a must-read for all teachers. Anyone who has ever attempted group projects has probably observed the experience Cohen describes here. Generally when a group of students is assigned a challenge, one or two do all the work while the rest sit back and watch. I learned long ago (the hard way) that randomly assigning students to a group seldom promotes true collaboration. Each individual must feel that they are bringing something valuable to the process. Forming groups where students take on specific roles based on their strengths and interests and where they see a purpose to their work will lead to more successful outcomes.

Maybe our biggest takeaway from this book should be that teachers must be designers. So often we fall into a rut, doing things the same way year after year, often following a canned curriculum using someone else's lesson plans. I have found that the greatest joy of teaching comes from designing a learning opportunity for students that inspires them to think creatively to answer an essential question or solve a real problem. Our challenge is to take the Tech Rabbi's advice and ideas and use them to revise our own teaching practice.

Michael Cohen, the Tech Rabbi, will be the keynote speaker and presenter at the 2019 ACTEM Conference on Friday, October 11, and copies of *Educated by Design* will be available at the ACTEM store.

Big Deal Media saves educators hours of research and thousands of dollars while identifying top-quality resources and OERs for schools and classrooms. It is a content-rich collection of trusted print and electronic publications that offer the information and tools K-12 educators need—all vetted through the prism of the curriculum. It consistently delivers wish lists of resources and funding opportunities, and has done so since 1995.

Big Deal Media publications provide timely, relevant, and reliable resources in a rapidly changing educational environment, created with insight and attention to detail by seasoned educational publishing professionals and practicing K-12 educators.

Check it out at <https://www.bigdealbook.com/> and sign up for their K-12 Technology newsletter.

BIG DEAL MEDIA
Trusted Resources for Educators

David W. Davis writes to thank ACTEM for the ISTE trip

Dear Angela, Tina, Robyn, Ken and Dennis,

I am writing to express my deep appreciation for the opportunity to attend ISTE19. I realize what a privilege I was just given, and I would not have been able to attend such a conference without the support I received from all of you—and many others, namely the ACTEM board, ACTEM sponsors, the Glenburn School Board. There is no doubt that the ISTE19 experience changes everything for those in technology education. In five days I was affirmed in some technology beliefs and practices, encouraged to think of things from a different perspective/paradigm, and challenged to think in this way: “It’s about the learning, not the technology. Use the technology to transform the learning by enabling both student and teacher to do what they cannot do without it.”

I have been thinking of a short way to express what I experienced, this is what I came-up with: OH, MY . . . Really? REALLY! . . . You can? YOU CAN!

Biggest takeaway, and something we all know but somehow keep forgetting: Relationships are EVERYTHING—with students, with colleagues and within your professional network.

Some highlights . . . My time with Ken was invaluable. It would be hard to document the many conversations, and the varying ways of communication, we had regarding how we can best serve the Glenburn School community as the technology team. Certainly many positive outcomes will become evident this summer as we prepare for the coming school year. In a nutshell: Ken is awesome to work with.

Imagine . . . the convention center—larger than four Bangor Malls stacked on top of each other; 20,000 attendees milling about; and anything technology-related readily available to check-out and try hands-on. But more than that . . . the ability to speak to the engineers of the software and hardware we all use every day, and

to give them feedback and make requests for them to consider.

The vendor area was AWESOME. I was able to speak with Jared Vanscorder, the head engineer for the Tinkercad project, expressing to him how intuitive his software is for our Glenburn students as well as to make a plea that he and his team consider a way for Tinkercad to export .gcode files that will print on our FlashForge Finder 3D printers from Chromebooks without having to convert the .stl file externally. He listened and thanked me. I was able to weigh the pros and cons of Pixie vs. Wixie—a budget request I made this year—with Denise MacDevette, the representative from Tech4Learning, and to express how one-time purchases vs. yearly subscriptions affect the small school’s budget as well as overcoming the challenge of using the software on multiple platforms throughout the grade levels—iPads, Chromebooks and MacBook Airs and how to utilize either Pixie or Wixie on them all.

The workshops were just plainly incredible. The only advantage of ISTE19 over our ACTEM conferences is simply the volume of choice. I was able to learn from Apple; Google; and colleagues from around the country. I took in tips and tricks with Google Apps from Google Educators and company representatives; “Everyone Can Create” with an emphasis on higher-order thinking skills from Apple experts; the nuts and bolts of using technology to differentiate from colleagues around the country; experience the power of video in the NASA portable dome; and hear about the best apps and software recommendations for the educational environment by Common Sense Media.

There were many opportunities for impromptu conversations at the table displays, side presentations, or standing in line or sitting next to colleagues from around the country that have the same questions, or are seeking the

same solutions. Deep and engaging conversations took place on the ACTEM bus—I didn’t necessarily have much to contribute, but I certainly listened and learned. These connections were powerful.

I have come away with a vision for my classroom as a result of this conference. I want to theme my year around the 50th Anniversary of the lunar landing, and call it: Return to the Moon and Beyond.

Finally, in the down time learning still took place . . . Ken and I viewed the Liberty Bell; stood in the very hall where the Founders debated, framed and birthed the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution; paused with reverent respect at the gravesites of Benjamin Franklin and Betsy Ross; roamed Valley Forge, while taking-in Washington’s Headquarters; experienced the rich and beautiful diversity of the Philadelphian Melting Pot in the ISTE Conference itself, Chinatown and at the Delaware riverside. We were able to gain the benefits of logging 30 walking miles, and relaxing as we dined behind the outfield of Citizens Bank Park at Harry the K’s Broadcast Bar & Grille.

So again, thank you! And yet, thank you doesn’t seem like enough for the privilege and experience of ISTE19.

Sincerely, David W. Davis, Glenburn School Technology Integrator

P.S. Here is a trailer to a video I saw at the Nearpod booth that visually describes what I experienced at ISTE19: <http://www.ijustgotengaged.com/> (click Watch trailer). The full video is going to be released online just before the coming school year, and you will need tissues when you watch it. Check out the song at the bottom of the website!

ACTEM Institutional Membership = FREE Conference Registration

DID YOU KNOW...

With a current ACTEM institutional membership, your district receives a free registration to the annual fall conference for one of your school or district administrators.

Administrators that would qualify include Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Special Education

Directors, Curriculum Director, Principals and Assistant Principals.

The intent of this free conference registration for administrators is to get them to our conference, hear our keynotes and to see the many things that are possible with the integration of learning and technology. Our hope is this free conference registration will assist you in gaining ad-

ministrative support for educational technology at the local level.

In 2017 only 17 administrators took advantage of the free registration and in 2018 the number was 19. Let’s see if we can break a record for our 2019 conference.

For information on how to get this free registration, please contact glanoie@actem.org.

A record number of Maine Educators attend ISTE conference in Philly

Fifty Maine educators are bringing new ideas to the classroom after attending the ISTE Conference & Expo, a globally recognized conference focused on educational technology. On June 23-26, 2019, education folks from Kittery to Fort Kent hopped on a chartered bus headed for Philadelphia to attend the annual conference. All of these teachers, tech Integrators and IT professionals who traveled together are members of Maine's ISTE affiliate, ACTEM, the only ISTE affiliate that gives their members this kind of benefit.

ISTE is home to a passionate community of global educators who believe in the power of technology to transform teaching and learning, accelerate innovation and solve tough problems in education.

The ISTE Conference & Expo is recognized globally as the most comprehensive educational technology conference in the world. The annual event attracts over 18,000 attendees and industry representatives, including teachers, technology coordinators, administrators, library media specialists, teacher educators and policymakers.

Early registration for the ISTE conference is \$550, and this cost was paid for by ACTEM for those



members who applied for Professional Development reimbursement. ACTEM also paid for a chartered bus to take 50 members, charging them only \$50 each for the round trip ride, a tremendous savings considering the price of a round trip flight from Portland to Philadelphia. In total ACTEM will have spent \$27,000 on this Professional Development for their members. This tremendous benefit to members is a change from the past years, in which PD reimbursement is typically capped at \$400, but this year the executive committee raised the limit to cover the registration cost. At the board retreat in July 2019, they made the decision to continue the offer for next year as long as the registration costs remain under \$600.

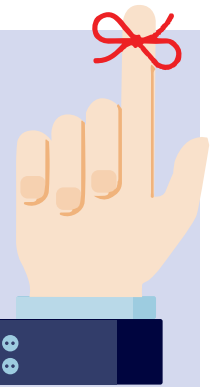
ACTEM is a non-profit that supports its membership by providing relevant professional development opportunities and resources, by aiding schools with state and local education technology initiatives, and by functioning as a purchasing consortium.

Professional development reimbursement may be in the form of a conference, workshop, seminar, university course, online course or combination thereof. ACTEM will reimburse individuals for course and registration fees associated with the professional development activity. Course materials, lab fees, travel, hotel, meals, and other similar costs are not reimbursed. Reimbursement is limited to one approved activity per ACTEM membership year. Professional development activities sponsored by ACTEM are not eligible for reimbursement (the ACTEM conference, Mini-Conference or ACTEM sponsored workshops).

Only individual ACTEM members, who at the start of their professional development activity have held an ACTEM membership for at least 180 days, may apply for reimbursement. Institutional members are not eligible. Individual memberships are \$20 per year, a pretty good deal, considering this kind of reimbursement, just remember to join 180 days before you apply for reimbursement!

For more information visit: <http://www.actem.org/ACTEM-PD>

JOIN ACTEM TODAY!



ACTEM has a fixed membership year from July 1st-June 30th annually, memberships are up for renewal as of July 1, 2019.

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 for Professional Development reimbursement up to \$400
- Access to OverDrive eBook & Audio Book PD library
- 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.

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://www.actem.org/join>

Leveraging Learning: iPad in the Elementary Classroom Igniting Creativity! November 7 & 8, 2019



Preparation for another school year is done and the year is underway. Now the focus shifts to helping teachers with their on-going professional development. Auburn's Leveraging Learning: iPad in the Elementary Classroom conference can help! Leveraging Learning is the only technology rich conference which places its emphasis on grades K-6. Every session is targeted to elementary level educators to provide them with an immersive experience where they explore and practice new skills. Attendees leave sessions with classroom-ready ideas that can be used to enrich their teaching and the student learning experiences immediately.

All breakout sessions are hands-on, developed by teachers for teachers. Presenters are also conference participants, so opportunities to extend the conversations and the learnings extend throughout the two day conference.

This year's theme, **Igniting Creativity**, has inspired conference planners to shake things up a bit. We will begin on Thursday with Falmouth High School student John Wahlig. John is a senior with an extensive background in both working with and teaching software develop-

ment. As a sophomore, he became a member of Apple's coveted Worldwide Developers Conference Scholar class in recognition for his work pioneering the iPad as a device to help students with Down syndrome learn in a more effective and engaging way. John also founded Falmouth Girls Code, an organization dedicated to introducing elementary school girls to programming and helping to close the gender gap in technology. Most recently, John served as a United States Senate Page, and is currently working on a software product to help bridge the American political divide. In his session, John will highlight what he's learned about the intersection of technology and education throughout his experiences in both fields. John will discuss the importance of technology in regard to Maine's and America's future with an emphasis on the iPad as a device that can be used to bring programming education to a wider audience than ever before.

We're also thrilled to have Apple Distinguished Educator and author Kristin Ziemke joining us for two breakout sessions on Thursday and for Friday's opening Keynote address. Kristin is an urban school educator and the author of *Amplify: Digital Teaching and Learning in the K-6 Classroom*. Recognized as an international expert in literacy, inquiry and technology, Kristin leads school teams to develop curriculum that is student-centered, personalized and authentic. Working in Chicago schools for nearly

two decades, Kristin currently serves as a resident teacher and learning innovation specialist for the Big Shoulders Fund. Acknowledging the challenges education faces today, Kristin maintains the firm belief that we can change the future through children. She dedicates her research and writing to developing engaged and empowered students that empathize, understand and care about the world. Interspersed are numerous sessions designed to ignite your creativity! Everyone will leave the LL19 with renewed energy and tools that they can use in their classroom on Monday.

Leveraging Learning: iPad in the Elementary Classroom takes place at the Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch in Auburn, ME on November 7 & 8.

Registration Cost:

- Early Bird until Sept. 10 - \$325
- After Sept. 11, 2019 - \$375
- NEW!!! \$275. per person for teams of three or more PLUS an administration can register for FREE! No time limits for team pricing!
- Single Day - \$200

Think about the staff in your building or district. Who would benefit from attending? What can they bring back to share? How many can you register? Act now!

For more information about the conference and to submit your registration go to: <http://bit.ly/LL19home>

Let's Chat about eSPORTS

By Will Backman

Interested in eSports for your school? Recognizing that there are more questions than answers for this growing activity, ACTEM members have begun to have monthly conference calls to collaborate and share ideas. We've had participation from schools, colleges, and vendors in these calls.

The current schedule is the second Wednesday of the month at 2:30pm, using Google Hangouts (which also supports a traditional dial-in phone number). Connection details are posted to the ACTEM email list.

Who's Who in ACTEM?



Name: **Vincent Vanier**

Contact Info:

Email: vince@madawaskaschools.org

Social Media:

Twitter: [@vvan15](https://twitter.com/vvan15)

Current Professional Role:

Technology Coordinator, Madawaska School Dept.

Past Professional Experience:

Madawaska MHS 7-12 Math, Science, and Technology

Best part of belonging to ACTEM:

Networking with greater minds than my own

Last Professional Book Read:

Learning Transformed by Thomas Murray

Last Fun Book Read:

Pedro by Pedro Martinez and Michael Silverman

Current Favorite Professional Tech Tool:

JAMF Pro Tools or WiFi Analyzer

Current Favorite Fun Tool:

Words with Friends 2

Words to Live By:

If you do something you love, you'll never work a day in your life!

Three Maine Educators Recognized as Apple Distinguished Educators Class of 2019

By Jim Moulton, Apple National Education Development Executive

As stated on the Apple Distinguished Educator web page, "In 1994, Apple created the Apple Distinguished Educators (ADE) program to recognize K-12 and higher-education pioneers who are using Apple technology to transform teaching and learning. These are the educators who are looking to change the world. They are active leaders from around the world helping other educators rethink what's possible with iPad and Mac to make learning deeply personal for every student."

Three exceptional Maine educators have been recognized as Apple Distinguished Educators in the Class of 2019 and they had the opportunity to attend the ADE Institute in Bethesda, MD in July. While there, they connected with amazing educators from across the Americas. Meet the new ADEs below, and connect with them through Twitter!

IAN MCKENZIE

Technology Integration Teacher
Camden Rockport Middle School
Twitter: @mckenziecrms

I have been the Technology Integration teacher at Camden-Rockport Middle School for the past 6 years. Working with 5-8th grade students, I've taught video production, photography, graphic design, coding, app development, and digital media literacy. I am truly honored and excited to join the Apple Distinguished Educator program. This is a worldwide community of engaged, curious and supportive professionals, and their energy and enthusiasm for teaching and learning with technology is infectious. Furthermore, the level of support and access from Apple for this community was overwhelming. Being able to talk to the senior product managers, who sincerely wanted the feedback of the people in the trenches, was a great experience. The connections to great educators, both locally and globally, are going to push my own practice for years to come and I hope that I can push others, in return. I absolutely encourage anyone with examples of their work and a story to share to apply next round.



JOHANNA PRINCE

Principal
Kingfield Elementary School
Twitter: @johannaprince

I am a school principal in MSAD 58 at Kingfield Elementary School, we have students from PreK-grade 8, and digital tools are an amazing way for us to connect to the world and celebrate learning. Becoming an ADE has been a wonderful honor; attend-



ing the ADE Institute sparked many great ideas for how we leverage our technology to engage students both in their home community, and with a wider audience. During the institute I was able to connect with school leaders to hear how they are modeling these ideas in professional learning opportunities. I'm already redesigning our professional learning time to connect, engage and bring the same spark back to teachers, students and families in my district, and in Maine.

STEPHANIE WEBER

Technology Instructional Coach
Auburn School Department
Twitter: @StephWeber207

I am a Technology Instructional Coach for the Auburn School Department. I love the opportunity to help teachers bring creativity to their classrooms with iPad and MacBook. Becoming an Apple Distinguished Educator is an experience that I will



never forget! Being welcomed into the ADE community is being welcomed into a family. Being an ADE allows access and collaboration with incredible educators worldwide. The amount of encouragement and collaboration from the ADE community is something that you can not find anywhere else. Being an ADE means being supported by amazing educators who will motivate and help spark your creativity! I'm honored to be a member of the ADE Class of 2019!



ACTEM SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY GROUPS

ACTEM would like to buy you lunch! If you host a regional (or local) gathering related to instructional technology, you can apply to receive a reimbursement of up to \$10 per participant for lunch. It is our way of helping to encourage connections between our members and others in education. If interested, please contact Gary Lanoie (director@actem.org) for details and requirements. This reimbursement is limited to two gatherings per regional group per year.

VENDOR PARTNER OFFERINGS

The following vendors have a partnership with ACTEM and offer their products or services at discounts for Maine Schools. **Contact vendors directly when ordering:**

BrainPOP | ACTEM Member Schools & Districts can subscribe to BrainPOP and Save Up to 20%.w

CDW-G | CDWG offers discount pricing & FREE shipping on orders to ACTEM Institutional members.

Connection | Connection is pleased to partner with ACTEM and extend discounted pricing on technology products. Connection has a special purchasing portal for ACTEM institutional members.

Portal Link: www.govconnection.com/actem

Eduporium | Our partnership with Eduporium offers members extra discounts on all their products. An online portal provides a link to the many educational tools, customize tech bundles and activities for students.

Portal Link: <https://www.eduporium.com/actem>

Explore Learning | All Maine Schools receive a 10% discount on all Gizmos, Reflex and Science4Us orders. Contact Brandon Nash at 866-882-4141 x357 or brandon.nash@explorelarning.com

Impero | Impero is a cross-platform software solution, combining a suite of features into one tool for a school's network management, classroom management and online safety needs.

Lightspeed Technologies | Districts with ACTEM Institutional Membership are eligible for discounts of 22% off Lightspeed brand classroom audio technology.

Neverware | With Cloudready, you can get the speed, simplicity, and security of Chromebooks on nearly any PC or Mac, up to 13 years old. Contact Sean Terry at sterry@neverware.com or 646-880-3597 to get started.

Newsela | ACTEM Member Schools & Districts can subscribe to Newsela and Save between 5-25% on Newsela PRO, Powerwords, and Collections!

Teach Wonder | ACTEM has partnered with Wonder Workshop to help bring affordable training and resources to Maine's dedicated educators.

TEQ Online PD | ACTEM member schools & districts can subscribe to TEQ PD Online and save 25% on a \$99 per teacher subscription. Contact Christian Roberts at 877-455-9369 x3165 or email christianroberts@teq.com

Vocabulary Spelling City | A game-based website and app that can supplement your core literacy curriculum, saves time streamlines data improves performance.

actem PURCHASING CONSORTIUM FOR MAINE SCHOOLS

Maine Schools receive discounted educational pricing on the products and services listed here for ACTEM institutional members. The purchasing Consortium offers significant price savings on popular software titles from Adobe, Microsoft, Sophos and many other vendors. ACTEM looks to partner with vendors that can offer better pricing for Maine schools and also offer something in return to assist us with our mission. Contact the ACTEM office for these offerings:

ACTEM OFFERINGS

Microsoft | ACTEM has agreements with Microsoft for Select Plus (perpetual) and Microsoft EES - Enrollment for Educational Solutions (subscription) licensing.

Select Plus - Districts register under ACTEM's agreement and are able to purchase software at educational volume license pricing.

Enrollment for Educational Solutions (EES) is subscription licensing based on a people count (FTE's) in a school or district ACTEM offers pricing at the 3,000 FTE level for all schools.

Adobe | ACTEM offers Maine Schools and staff a limited number of perpetual (CLP) along with Adobe Creative Cloud (VIP) licensing.

Adobe's Cumulative Licensing Program (CLP) offers perpetual licensing for Acrobat Professional, PhotoShop Elements and Premiere Elements.

Adobe's Value Incentive Plan (VIP) is a subscription licensing program that offers a single app, all apps and site licensing options.

Sophos | Security software and hardware, providing endpoint, encryption, email, web, mobile and network security as well as Unified Threat Management products.

Filemaker | FileMaker Pro is an easy-to-use cross-platform relational database software application.

Deep Freeze | Software that preserves your computer configuration. Any changes – either malicious or unintentional – are reversed on reboot.

Kaspersky | Antivirus & Internet security software offers premium protection against viruses, malware, spam & other threats for your home or business.

LanSchool | Classroom management software that is used by schools to monitor students' activity in a digital classroom.

Parallels | Software for Mac that allows you to seamlessly run both Windows and MacOS applications side-by-side without rebooting.

Rosetta Stone | An online subscription platform to learn a foreign language. ACTEM consolidates a group purchase to allow better pricing for all Maine schools.

Kajeet | Purchase via ACTEM and receive 5% off the Kajeet Education Broadband solution (includes hardware, wireless services, filters and management portal).

MacBook Batteries & Power Adapters | Educational pricing on aftermarket batteries & power adapters for MLTI white Macbooks.

Memory & SSD Drives | ACTEM has partnered with Data Memory Systems to offer discounted pricing on memory and SSD drives for MLTI white Macbooks.

MacBook Shells & Cases | ACTEM offers discounted pricing on protective cases/shells from Max Cases & Griffin Technology.

Cyber Acoustics | ACTEM has partnered with Cyber Acoustics to offer special pricing on headsets for iPads.

CONTACT US for quotes or more information: ACTEM Executive Director, PO Box 187, Gorham, ME 04038
Email: director@actem.org | Phone: 207-222-4353, (Toll Free) 866-99-ACTEM | Fax: 207-222-2057
Check the ACTEM website for more information: <http://www.actem.org/PURCHASING>

COSN 2019 DRIVING K-12 INNOVATION: TECH ENABLERS REPORT

CoSN (the Consortium for School Networking) continues its commitment to sharing high-quality trend reports that support the use of emerging technology in K-12 education to transform learning through the new Driving K-12 Innovation series. The Driving K-12 Innovation annual series of publications explores Hurdles, Accelerators and Tech Enablers to creating a systemic, digital ecosystem—where individual learners can fully realize their potential in engaging, personalized and connected learning environments.

CoSN is pleased to release the final of three publications in the Driving K-12 <https://www.cosn.org/k12innovation> series. This publication focuses on Tech Enablers. Tech Enablers are tools that support smoother leaps over the hurdles and expansive changes in global K-12 education. The top five Tech Enablers advancing teaching and learning innovation are below, arranged in order of soonest to furthest from being adopted by school worldwide, at scale, according to the Advisory Board.

Mobile Devices - Hand-held or wearable devices connected to the internet, such as smartphones and quantified-self sensor technologies, enable access to knowledge and creative activities anytime, anywhere.

Blended Learning - A mix of face-to-face instruction and online learning reflects how people operate in the real world. Blended learning, also called hybrid learning, can provide a more personalized learning experience for students.

Cloud Infrastructure - A virtual infrastructure delivered or accessed via a network or the internet enables schools to move hardware and software services away from physical locations. Shifting to cloud services makes teaching and learning resources more readily available in any location.

Extended Reality - XR encompasses augmented, mixed and virtual reality—a collection of technologies that enhance the physical world with interactive digital imagery and graph-

ics. Educators are beginning to use these technologies to help students learn complex content and to provide experiences otherwise impossible due to funding, geography or physical challenges.

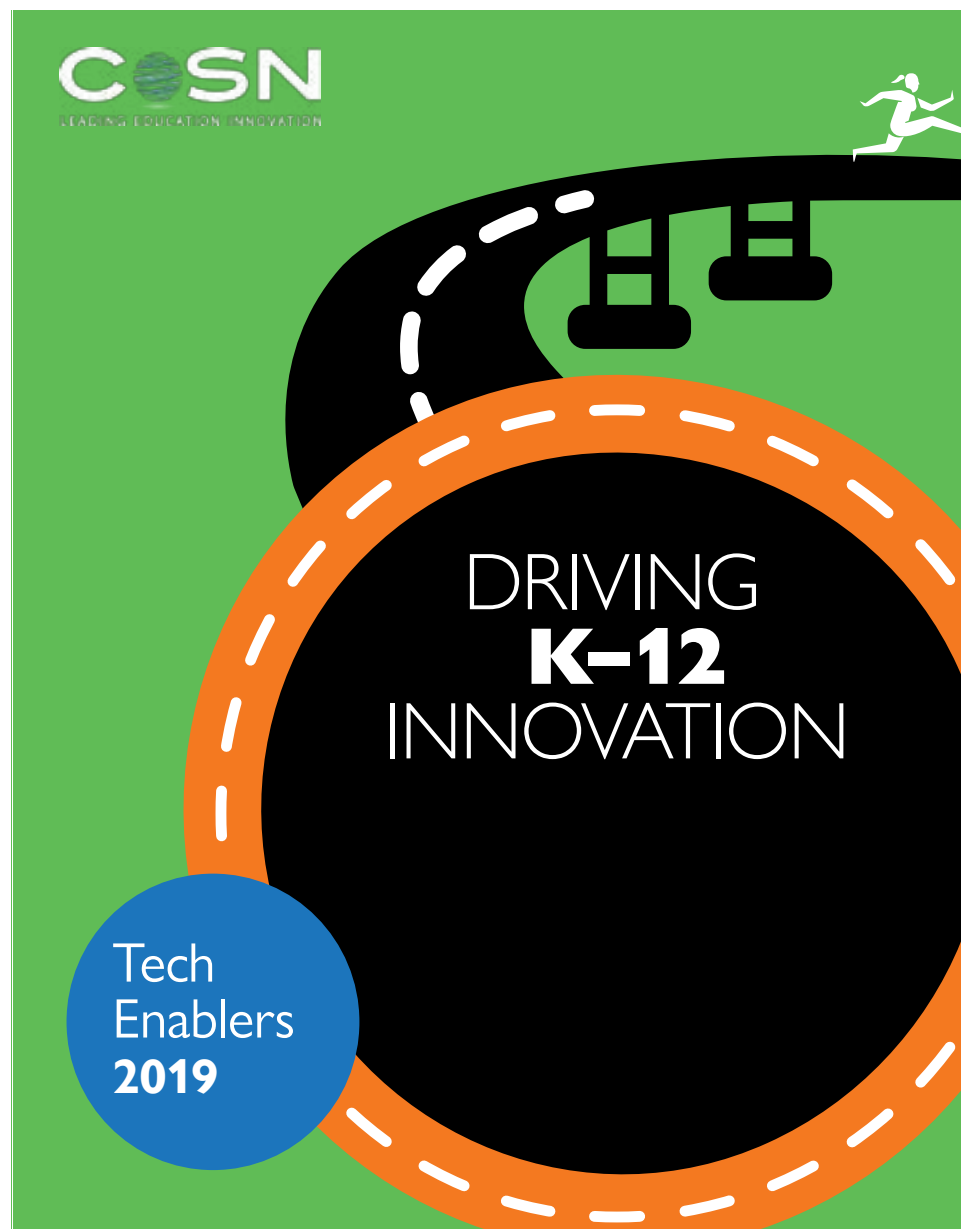
Analytics and Adaptive Technologies - Technologies that measure, analyze, predict and customize student learning and other factors in student success could help educators individualize and adjust learning experiences for individual learners, build on student assets and offer targeted support to address student needs.

The Driving K-12 Innovation publications Tech Enablers 2019 is now available on CoSN website at: <http://bit.ly/CoSN-TechEnablers>

You can download the full report at the following website <https://www.cosn.org/k12innovation>

ABOUT COSN

CoSN is the premier professional association for school system technology leaders. CoSN provides thought leadership resources, community best practices and advocacy tools to help leaders succeed in the digital transformation. CoSN represents over 13 million students in school districts nationwide and continues to grow as a powerful and influential voice in K-12 education. [cosn.org](https://www.cosn.org)





12(more) FABULOUS EDTECH BLOGS TO FOLLOW

By Eric Curts | [@ericcurts](http://ControlAltAchieve.com)

On the 12th day of Tech-Mas my true love gave to me... **12 Best Blogs.** *Note: This post is part of my "12 Days of Tech-Mas" series for 2017. You can see all of the posts for each day as they get released in the main post here: "12 Days of Tech-Mas 2017".*

About a year ago I put up a post about "50 Fabulous EdTech Blogs to Follow" where I shared a list of many of my favorite blogs to get educational technology ideas, tools, and inspiration. At that time, I mentioned that the list was certainly far from complete.

Since that time I have continued to add many more sites to my list. To be able to stay on top of so many blogs, I use Feedly to pull all of the posts together so I can visit one single location to see everything that is new. For more details on how to use Feedly, see my earlier post on the topic.

So I thought it was time to update the list with 12 more excellent EdTech blogs, which you will find listed and linked in the post below.

Some of the blogs are very well known, while others have a smaller following. Some generate new posts every few days, while others only add new content a few times per month. The one shared characteristic of all of these blogs is I have found them to be valuable and have learned from each one. To keep things simple, the list is alphabetized.

And just like last time, please leave comments to let me know of other valuable educational technology blogs that you are aware of. I am always looking for new sources of technology integration ideas.

RECOMMENDED EDTECH BLOGS

Note: See my earlier post with a list of 50 EdTech blogs here: <http://www.controlaltachieve.com/2017/02/50-ed-tech-blogs.html>

1) EdTech by Christine Pinto

- By - Christine Pinto (@PintoBeanz11)
- Blog Website - <http://christinepinto.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

2) Jake Miller's Blog

- By - Jake Miller (@JakeMillerTech)
- Blog Website - <http://jakemiller.net/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

3) Learn Moore Stuff

- By - Laura Moore (@LearnMooreStuff)
- Blog Website - <http://mooreti.edublogs.org/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

4) Learning in Hand

- By - Tony Vincent (@tonyvincent)
- Blog Website - <https://learninginhand.com/blog/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

5) Meredith Akers' Blog

- By - Meredith Akers (@meredithakers)
- Blog Website - <https://meredithakers.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

6) More Than a Tech

- By - Mike Daugherty (@MoreThanATech)
- Blog Website - <https://morethanatech.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

7) Sustainable Teaching

- By - Tom Mullaney (@TomEMullaney)
- Blog Website - <https://tommullaney.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

8) Teacher Reboot Camp

- By - Shelly Sanchez Terrell (@ShellTerrell)
- Blog Website - <http://teacherrebootcamp.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

9) TechFairies

- By - Michele Osinski (@CheleOh) and Rosalinda Jaimes (@apajaimes)
- Blog Website - <http://www.techfairies.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

10) Time to Talk Tech

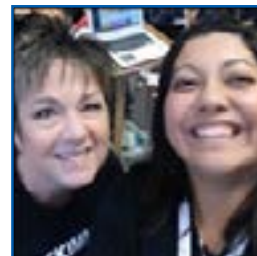
- By - Brad Dale (@bradjdale)
- Blog Website - <http://www.timetotalktech.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

11) Virtual Giff

- By - Jen Giffen (@VirtualGiff)
- Blog Website - <http://virtualgiff.blogspot.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link

12) Wicked EdTech

- By - Steve Wick (@WickedEdTech)
- Blog Website - <http://recharge-learning.blogspot.com/>
- RSS Feed - click for link



Post by Eric Curts. Bring me to your school, organization, or conference with over 50 PD sessions to choose from. Connect with me on Twitter at twitter.com/ericcurts and on Google+ at plus.google.com/+EricCurts1

Maine App Challenge 2019 Winners

Tyler Technologies Inc. recently announced the winners of the 2019 Maine App Challenge, a contest that invites students to develop a mobile application and create a video to showcase their design. The winner will receive a combined \$10,000 in scholarships and were announced at Tyler's office in Yarmouth this past June.

A Tyler spokeswoman stated that 32 students participated in the contest, and created a total of 30 apps.

"We are excited to catch a glimpse of Maine's future through these innovative student designs," Chris Hepburn, president of Tyler's ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) & Schools Division, said in a news release. He added: "The Maine App Challenge continues to encourage today's high school students and introduce them to a future in technology, and we're proud to support their continued education through scholarships."

First place and a scholarship prize of \$6,000 went to Michael Guertler of Yarmouth High School, a returning winner from the 2018 Maine App Challenge. He created a camera app called TIMR that relies on voice commands to take pictures.

Second place and \$3,000 in scholarship money was awarded to Avery Gosselin of the Maine Central Institute, who came up with an app he calls the Room of Requirement. The virtual room contains donated goods intended for donation to those in need, and allows classmates to request items from the room while maintaining their privacy.

Third place and \$1,000 scholarship funds were awarded to Aidan Blum Levine of Deering High School for Winditions, an app where Mainers can check on and report trail conditions. He has created flyers and posted them at various trails around Portland to promote the app, which currently has more than 300 posts.

For the second year, Tyler also awarded a \$500 check to the Maine high school with the most teams or individuals submitting an eligible entry. This year's winner is Biddeford Regional Center of Technology.

The Maine App Challenge was developed in partnership with Educate Maine's Project>Login to encourage the next generation of professionals to pursue future careers in STEM-related disciplines.



Free Computer Training & Certifications!

Have you ever wanted to start a career in a computer field, but didn't have the skills to convince an employer to hire you? Are you interested in an opportunity to learn valuable fundamental computer skills and get certified for FREE?

CMCC has received funding through the Harold Alford Foundation to provide FREE COMPUTER TRAINING! The classes offered through the Center for Workforce & Professional Development are noncredit.

By incorporating computer technical skills, along with job-ready skills, you can set yourself up for success! Upon completion of the training, you could achieve two internationally recognized certifications, adding a dimension to your resume that gets noticed.

PARTICIPANTS MUST:

- have an interest in a computer career;
- have the ability to attend class 8 hours/week (two 4-hour sessions; see schedule below);
- have access to the Internet and be able to do online homework for approximately 10 hours/week;
- agree to report the results of certification testing and employment outcomes.

The first cohort occurred this August with additional ones beginning in Oct. 2019, Feb. 2020 and April 2020. For more information and online registration go to the following link: <https://cmconnect.cmcc.edu/ICS/Training/>



Edge Headphones and Headsets

The Brenthaven Edge Rugged Headphones and Headsets are designed for student testing and assessments and are built tough enough to withstand the rigors of the K-12 environment. They are loaded with K-12 friendly features including a 3.5mm headphone jack, a five foot long durable, braided cord, a twistable headband, durable ear pads that easily wipe clean, and a flexible, break-away tip adapter. The Edge Headset includes an in-line, uni-directional microphone. Edge Headphones and Headsets are drop tested to withstand falls up to six feet. *The Edge Headphones and Headsets can be procured through Apple under the following part numbers:*

BRENTHAVEN EDGE RUGGED HEADPHONES - HMUW2LL/A

BRENTHAVEN EDGE RUGGED HEADSETS - HMVU2LL/A

Contact **Ryan Hall** for more info or to request a sample:

Direct: (206)-805-0863 • **Mobile:** (859) 512-4184

Email: RyanH@Brenthavenhq.com



ACTEM OVERDRIVE PD LIBRARY

By Mike Arsenault

If you're looking for professional reading at any possible time ACTEM has you covered with its OverDrive library. ACTEM announced this library of eBooks and audiobooks at our annual fall conference this past October as a new individual member benefit. In our first year, ACTEM has cultivated a library of just under 100 different books and is committed to adding more titles to our library each year. To access the library visit:

<https://soraapp.com/library/actemme>

All you need to login to your account is the email address that is associated with your ACTEM membership. Your membership allows you to borrow up to 2 books at a time for up to 3 weeks. Our collection includes books from many of our previous keynote speakers including: Joe Sanfelipo, Jennie Magiera, Carl Hooker, and Rushton Hurley. ACTEM is also offering unlimited borrowing for our keynote speakers, Tom Murray and Michael Cohen, this fall between October 1st and November 15th.

This summer many new titles have been added to the collection from Ed Tech Team Press. Checking out a book is easy and great to do on the fly. I checked out a new addition to our collection this summer, Tech Request by Emily Davis and Brad Currie, in the airport on my way to the ISTE Conference. It was a great read about tech coaching that I enjoyed my way to and from Philadelphia!

Check out our collection and start your year off with some great reading! If you have any books to suggest that we add to the collection please let me know directly. We have a great collection with authors such as Eric Sheninger, Alice Keeler, Kasey Bell, George Couros, Starr Sackstein, Jennifer Gonzalez, Liz Kolb, and many more!



CYBER ROBOTICS CODING

COMPETITION



Learning to code can be an intimidating challenge to anyone. It must seem especially daunting to students - and their educators - in an education system struggling to prepare them for the future where technology and jobs changes so fast.

The Cyber Robotics Coding Competition [CRCC] is an online competition event for middle schools to promote STEM and Coding using a gamified platform with virtual robot simulation. By engaging students in the competitive and fun environment, they get to experience technology, robotic automation, software

development and engineering topics in an un-intimidating and easy to use format.

CRCC is cloud-based, allowing teachers and students to access the competition wherever they have an Internet connection, in school or at home; there is no need to buy, maintain or store expensive hardware. This online coding tournament requires no prior coding or robotics knowledge from educators or students. CRCC allows teachers to

easily introduce coding into classes and clubs in an engaging competition type format.

The 2019 CRCC kicks off with a Teacher orientation webinar and two optional training webinars in September, ramps up for student teams from October 7th through mid-November, and culminates with a regional, in-person competition in December at UNH Durham, NH.

CRCC is powered by the CoderZ Learning Environment and has only a modest registration fee to get full access for your class or your entire school. The registration for your classroom or club is just \$250 or for all teachers and students in your school, only \$550.

This year the competition will also include a new School Finals that will allow each school to run their own internal event at the end of the season! [Watch this video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxTzDhurg5I&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxTzDhurg5I&feature=youtu.be) to get a better idea about the event. Join the next Cyber Robotics Coding Competition (CRCC) starting October 14th 2019. [Click here for more details https://crcc.io/signup/2019-registration/](https://crcc.io/signup/2019-registration/). May the code be with you!



newsela

Newsela Certification Workshop 10/29/19
ACTEM Office 230 Main Street, Unit #3, Gorham, ME

The team is looking forward to hosting our Newsela Certified Educator Workshop in October at the ACTEM office in Gorham, ME. This workshop will review the basics of Newsela and work towards designing meaningful classroom applications for immediate implementation in your classroom.

Two FREE sessions will be offered on Oct. 29th at the ACTEM office to allow as many people as possible to participate. Session 1 will run from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM and session 2 will go from 1:00-5:00 PM.

Newsela Certified Educators are innovative educators and school leaders. Our NCE program recognizes their creative classroom applications of Newsela instructional content and connects NCEs with an exclusive community to learn and refine best practices. Before the event, here are a few logistics to set you up for success.

What: Newsela Certified Educator is a training program designed to help educators become Newsela experts and informed enthusiasts. In this workshop, we'll review applications of Newsela features and then you'll put this knowledge to work by designing your own instructional text set.

When: October 29, 2019

Where: ACTEM Office, 230 Main Street, Unit #3, Gorham, ME 04038

Why: After the workshop, you will showcase your knowledge and be able to turnkey implementation across your Maine schools.

You can preview a sample agenda here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dExgoxkXqDJVvF1JnSY5_UDYmA9pB2OdP8x45Uvx4Pk/edit.

If you are new to Newsela, we recommend creating your own teacher account before the workshop. You can do so by following this link: <https://newsela.com/join/#/teach-or-read>. If you already have an account, we will make sure you have PRO access.

Before the event, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or are no longer able to attend. **Please register for the workshop here.** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSch1Tbg7R8MX8bbi9ZLbOxAhX4gvBw-f3FOqkvk61urqQYQIA/viewform>



EDUCATE MAINE AND MMSA TRAIN 33 TEACHERS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Angela Oechsle, Educate Maine, Project>Login Program Manager

33 middle school and high school teachers arrived in Biddeford for Code.org's Computer Science Professional Learning program on the campus of the University of New England. Our facilitators introduced them to the Computer Science Discoveries and Computer Science Principles curriculum. After participating in this week-long summer workshop, this cohort of teachers now have what they need to implement the courses in their schools during the next



school year. On-going support and in-person professional development will continue throughout the academic year. Thank you to UNE for their partnership in sponsoring this event.

The Regional Partners for Code.org in Maine are Educate Maine and the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance.

Maine DOE Newsroom September

Anticipated Professional Development Opportunity: Integrating Technology in Mathematics Classrooms

The Maine Department of Education anticipates sponsoring a 2-part series, offered in three locations, that will focus on supporting teachers in developing and implementing purposeful integration of technology in the 6-12 mathematics classroom to effectively impact student engagement, learning, and understanding.

A certified Desmos presenter will be facilitating the sessions this school year. Participants will be expected to implement their learning and return with evidence of implementation.

During these anticipated sessions participants will:

- Experience the impact of purposeful integration of technology in the mathematics classroom
- Explore the Desmos resources
- Learn how to navigate and use the teacher account
- Understand how using Desmos supports student engagement and learning
- Apply these understandings using a developed implementation plan

Participants will be provided contact hours at end of series upon completion of survey in addition to coffee, lunch, and workshop materials.

Please check the Department Newsroom later this fall for more information or reach out to Michele Mailhot, Mathematics Specialist at Maine DOE (Michele.Mailhot@maine.gov).

Connect with the Maine Department of Education!

The Department of Education has been featuring success stories and educator profiles from across the state and has many professional learning opportunities to support schools this year. You can view them on the DOE Newsroom: <https://mainedoeneews.net/>. To stay connected, you can follow us on Twitter: ME Department of Education (@mdoenews) or Facebook: Maine Department of Education (@MaineDepartmentofEducation1). We also encourage you subscribe to the DOE Newsroom by visiting <http://bit.ly/MaineDOEsubscribe> and to search for events on our professional learning calendar at: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/calendar/>

Apple MLTI 2016 Cohort Opportunities

For schools that are a part of the 2016 MLTI-Apple Cohort, there will once again be technology updates provided in the fall. More information will be posted on the DOE website as it is available. As a start of school year reminder, educators are encouraged to take advantage of the professional learning offered by Apple. Sessions will be posted on the DOE website and schools can work directly with an Apple Professional Learning Specialist to have support tailored to their needs. We encourage you to get those requests in early by using this form: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/ltp/pd/request>

MLTI 2020 Student Conference

The Department is beginning to plan the 17th Annual MLTI Student Conference, which will be held on Thursday, May 21st, 2020 at

the University of Maine in Orono (anticipated location). Because many schools and students preferred to register for sessions ahead of time, we will be asking for proposals this fall. We will also be looking for educators to help plan and lead parts of the event. Be on the look out for those invitations from the DOE! Additionally, several schools have asked about transportation to the event and the maximum number of attendees per school. We encourage you to start planning now for sharing buses amongst districts or to consider creative fundraising ideas. We also encourage you consider how students will be invited to attend the conference if you are a school that typically has more than 40 students who would like to attend (projects throughout the year, grade level, etc.). If you have questions or are interested in presenting or helping to plan the event, please reach out to Amanda.Nguyen@maine.gov.

DOE Think Tanks

Earlier this summer, the Department hosted several Think Tanks to gather input from stakeholders on a variety of topics, including the future of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI). A summary of those meetings can be found here: <http://bit.ly/MaineDOEthinktankstory>. The Department appreciates the feedback and has posted the notes from each of the meetings here for others to review: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/thinktanks>.

The process of gathering ideas will continue throughout the fall, including another Think Tank to be held in Winter Harbor on September 30th. Registration can be found here: <http://bit.ly/MaineDOEthinktank930invite>. For answers to questions or more information about the MLTI related Think Tanks, please reach out to Beth Lambert, Coordinator of Secondary Education and Integrated Instruction (Beth.Lambert@maine.gov).



Maine State Computer Science Plan Being Drafted

Educators from across the state gathered for two days to serve as consultants and writers as the Department of Education continues the work of creating a State Plan for Computer Science Instruction. The process they engaged in, as well as their notes, can be found here: <http://bit.ly/MaineDOECSaug19summary>

Additionally, the draft of the State Plan will be shared widely by the Department in late August so that other educators and stakeholders can provide feedback. Comments will be due to the Department by 5pm on Wednesday, September 11th. Educators who have previously been involved in the writing process will gather again on Friday, September 20th to make final recommendations and edits. The Department, in response to Maine Resolves 2019, Chapter 78, will share the plan with the Legislature in January 2020.

For more information about the development of the Computer Science State Plan, please contact Beth Lambert, Coordinator of Secondary Education and Integrated Instruction (Beth.Lambert@maine.gov).

Additionally, the Department is collecting profiles of Computer Science Educators – their success stories and advice for new teachers in particular! If you or your school are interested in being featured on our website, please reach out to Amanda.Nguyen@maine.gov

Welcoming an Elementary Digital Learning Specialist

The Department of Education is excited to announce that there will be more support for elementary educators (PreK-5) as they develop instructional strategies that leverage technology for learning. We anticipate introducing the field to a new Digital

Learning Specialist early this fall and hope you will have the opportunity to meet this person at upcoming events!

MoMEntum Project Resources

After a two-day event in August to conclude the Department of Education's three year MoMEntum pilot, educators from nine schools are heading back to their classrooms ready to implement strategies for high-quality literacy instruction that included technology integration. The pilot project was designed to improve the literacy achievement of students in kindergarten through grade three in schools across the state. Teachers in the pilot schools engaged in ongoing professional learning, delivered by trained literacy and technology integration specialists, to strengthen literacy instruction, including the use of iPad technology provided by Apple, Inc. Ensuring that young learners build strong proficiency with early literacy skills is one of the most vital missions of K-3 education. Reading, writing, listening and speaking are all critical abilities for our future citizens and require a strong foundation. Other schools are encouraged to visit the Department website to view resources used by pilot schools and to reach out to educators who participated in the pilot who could share some of what they've learned with others. <https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/MoMEntum>



EDUCATE MAINE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

After a thorough review of a talented applicant pool, the Board of Directors is thrilled to announce that Dr. Jason Judd was appointed the Executive Director of Educate Maine.

Jason brings an innovative mindset and proven track record to this position. He has an accomplished academic record earning his BS, MS, and Ed.D in education. Jason worked as an educator at Maine Central Institute (MCI) for over 12 years beginning as a counselor and classroom teacher and leaving MCI as the Dean of Academics.

He joined Educate Maine as the Project Login Program Director in 2016 and quickly grew the program to the nationally recognized initiative it is today. Under Jason's leadership, Project Login greatly expanded programming in K-12 schools, increased engagement with higher education institutions, built an impressive employer partner list, and made possible the training of hundreds of K-12 teachers to teach computer science in Maine schools. Jason rose through the ranks and became the Deputy Executive Director, and spearheaded the organization's recent strategic planning initiative.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Jason Judd as the new Executive Director of Educate Maine. We are excited about the future and his leadership.



Professional Development Opportunities

October 10-11 actem 2019 Education Technology Conference, Civic Center, Augusta, ME

October 21-22, 2019 CASL/CECA 2019 Conference Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT

October 23-24 MassCUE 2019 Technology Conference Gillette Stadium, Foxborough MA

November 7-8-- Leverage Learning: iPad in the Elementary Classroom – Igniting Creativity, Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn Riverwatch, Auburn, ME

November 14-15-- VermontFest Conference, Killington Grand Hotel, Killington VT

November 18-19- Ed TEch Teacher Innovation in Education Boston,

Dearborn STEM Academy, Boston MA

December 3-4 Christa McAuliffe 2019 Technology Conference, DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown,

January 14-17 2020 FETC - Future of Education Technology Conference, Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami, FL

March 16-18, 2020, Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) Conference, Washington Hilton, Washington DC

May 6, 2020, ACTEM Spring Leadership Conference, Holiday Inn By The Bay, Portland, ME

June 28 - July 1, 2020, ISTE 2020 Conference, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA

Maine Educators Become an Apple Teacher - <http://www.apple.com/education/teachers>

MLTI Professional Development

Apple Solutions: <http://maine.gov/mlti/events/apple.shtml>

HP Solution: <http://maine.gov/mlti/events/hp.shtml>

Tech Sherpas <https://sites.google.com/site/techsherpas/> Tuesday 3pm

#EdChatME <https://twitter.com/hashtag/edchatme> Mondays 8:30-9:30pm

ACTEM OverDrive PD Library <http://actem.lib.overdrive.com>

Google Teacher Certifications <https://edutrainingcenter.withgoogle.com/certification>

Professional Development eBooks & audiobooks

available now from ACTEM's collection



Read, learn, succeed.

