NETWORKING 101

WEST VIRGINIA NETWORK (WVNET)

Barbour County School Celebrating Technology Integration

By Alex Hines, Lewis, Gilmer, Barbour and Randolph County Reporter

http://www.wboy.com/story/28482964/barbour-county-school-celebrating-technology-integration

Kids were excited at Mount Vernon Elementary School in Barbour County Friday morning as they celebrated the school's partnership with WVNET, a program that's put tablets into the hands of third and fourth graders there that they use regularly in their education.

"It's been really fun. If we have snow days, we do it on that, but if you don't have Internet, the tablets don't even have to have Internet to do it," said fourth grader Makensi Bennett.

It's part of what staff call a flipped classroom. Instead of learning new concepts at school, kids become familiar with the basics at home, and refine their knowledge in school. And those tablets keep them connected to their lessons.

"The ones that have Internet are emailing me constantly, back and forth. They want to make sure what they've done is OK, they send me PowerPoints, they send me attachments, they send me videos. But the ones that don't have internet can just use their tablets, they're so excited to have a tablet for one thing," said MVES Principal Tammy Tucker.

WVNET is a project of the Higher Education Policy Commission, who is working to extend the caching service to reach out to other schools, something they said Mount Vernon has been helpful in promoting.

"Use this with their students, they embraced the technology, they're actually being with a champion and out talking to other schools about the benefits of the caching services and of URcast Network," said WVNET's Booker Walton.

And Tucker said it's not technology for its own sake. She's seen a difference in all the kids' learning.

"They're excited about learning. The students that struggle are not struggling as much anymore or at all because they already have watched videos that introduce the skill before I introduce it," Tucker said.

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WV Higher Education Technology Conference 2015
Waterfront Place Hotel & Morgantown Event Center
Morgantown, West Virginia
October 26-27, 2015

Dr. Michael Adelman

General Speaker

The WVHETC 2015 Conference Committee announces *Dr. Michael Adelman (pictured) will serve as the General Speaker at this year's conference.* Dr. Adelman is the 6th President of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and previously served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at WVSOM.

Prior to his appointment at WVSOM, he was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM). Dr. Adelman graduated from the Des Moines College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery followed by a residency in Proctology. He holds a degree from Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine and completed a residency in Podiatric Surgery. He maintained a private practice prior to pursuing an academic medicines career and received his law degree from the University of Toledo in 2004.

Dr. Adelman was in the first cohort of the AOA/OU-COM Health Policy Fellowship and served as the Chair of the Institute for National Health Policy and Research from 1996-1999.

He lectures nationally on leadership, medical education issues as well as hospital and government regulation. He also has more than forty years experience as a professional entertainer in magic and ventriloquism.

Special Note: Immediately following the general session, WVHETC will have an all attendee reception with Dr. Adelman entertaining with magic and ventriloquism. Please check the website wvconference.com for updates and information about the "Call for Proposals."

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WVHETC 2015

Call for Proposals

West Virginia Higher Education Technology Conference will bring together Higher Education, State Agencies and K12 for a common purpose: to embrace new ideas, develop new insights, and design new approaches to help move education forward in the State. The **WVHETC 2015 Call for Proposals** offers presenters an opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise with colleagues throughout the State.

We invite you to contribute to this year's theme **"Technology in Education: Revealing the Magic"** by submitting a proposal for an engaging presentation designed to share your unique insights in navigating change, achieving greater transparency and driving efficiencies. Show how those innovations engage institutions at all levels to advance education.

Although all presentation topics will be considered, the list below offers suggestions within broader topics. Please consider these suggestions for concurrent sessions or the poster session on Tuesday morning, October 26, 2015. You may submit multiple proposals on different topics. *(Poster sessions are not open to exhibitors.)*

Big Data	**Innovative Technologies**
Posters	**Career and Professional Development**
Public Policy and Legislation	**E-Learning/Distance Learning/Mobile Learning**
Security/Network Management/Disaster Recovery	**Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)**
Student Success	**WVOASIS – Finance/Human Resources Project**
Web Development	**"Green" Computing Practices and Technology**

Please plan for a session length of 40 minutes, with another 5 to 10 minutes to answer questions. To submit a proposal, use the **Call for Proposals Submission Form** at wvhetc.com. All proposals must be submitted no later than June 1, 2015. The conference program committee will review all submissions and contact everyone who is selected to present a session.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference and invite you to **SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSALS NOW**! We are building a fantastic program that covers a broad spectrum of topics that will help push Higher Education in West Virginia into the horizon of tomorrow.
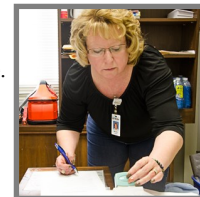
FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the saying goes, to everything there is a season. For four years, WVNET has been in a time of change and growth. Recently, with the state being in a tough budget situation, the changes have slowed down a bit. It has been time to consolidate and perfect the things we do. For this, we are blessed with Marcie Layman. Marcie undertook to become our training officer in addition to her many other duties.

Marcie has done a terrific job finding out from everyone who works at WVNET what their jobs require. She then seeks out training opportunities that allow them to stay ahead of the knowledge curve in their field. A little over a year ago, she discovered Lynda.com, one of the best online training sites in the world. We tried it out and it has been an unqualified success. Lynda offers state-of-the-art training in many areas of technology relevant to the work we do at WVNET. Our employees have taken hundreds of their classes online.

In addition, Marcie makes certain that we all keep our technology certifications up to date. This means that our staff stays current in their fields and are able to assist our schools with the most up-to-date information about the products we provide and support. Training and certification is maybe not the most exciting thing to read about, but it is vitally important to us and to those we serve. Thanks are due to Marcie and to all of our dedicated employees for putting in the time that helps us all do our jobs better.

Marcie Layman

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY
And this month's winner is...

The weather is starting to warm, and thoughts are starting to turn towards spring, vacations and other fun activities. We here at WVNET are doing the same, but with the ever mindful thought that we are always here when you need us.

As you likely know by now, each month WVNET recognizes a customer who took the time to fill out our Customer Service Survey to tell us how we are doing. We thank everyone who takes that extra time to give us advice, kudos, or criticisms that can improve our service.

This month we would like to congratulate our winner, Stella McCann, a state employee working at Mildred Mitchell Bateman Hospital. Stella called into our Network Operations Center around 3:50am one morning looking to have her state account unlocked. Her call was answered by Operator James Dubose, who quickly resolved her issue, to which she replied that James was, *"Very professional and friendly,"* at 3:50am no less. This is an excellent time to remind everyone that WVNET has someone in house 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. If you call, someone will answer the phone, and it will be someone in a position to help you with your problem.

As always, at the end of every month, we will draw a winner and contact them by email and share items of our appreciation. Please complete our survey by looking within the incident email of any interaction that you have had with us. All comments are taken seriously and help to improve what we do on a daily basis. Thank you, Stella, and thanks again to all our customers who continue to shape and improve WVNET. *(Guest article by Booker Walton, III, Customer Resource Specialist, pictured.)*

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News

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APPLICATIONS CORNER
By Dana Keith

Welcome to "Applications Corner!" This monthly article will provide focus on new topics each month where the WVNET Applications group is working to *enhance education through technology*. The feature this week is Ellucian Banner.

The Applications Group hosts Banner for 11 institutions, providing updates to Banner on request, daily backup of data, and functional support of Banner operations.   The Applications functional support team consults with users of Banner Financial Aid, Accounts Receivable, General, Finance and Student.   WVNET Applications technical support staff ensure operation of Oracle databases, Banner upgrades and security and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Banner is used by every public higher education institution in West Virginia. It allows institutions to manage students from matriculation and course registration to financial aid application and awarding, student billing and payment, and graduation; and includes modules for institutional finance and payroll. Banner is a complex product made up of inter-working operational systems, each designed to handle one of the above–required functions. West Virginia institutions generally have people logged into Banner from morning till night with active concurrent users averaging 450 at any point during the day.

WVNET supports Banner on an IBM Power System with Oracle databases, Oracle Weblogic Middleware and Self-service providing the power to manage the needs of faculty, staff and students at 11 institutions.   This sharing of resources ensures efficiency of operation and great availability of computing resources. The Applications Team is here to provide the services you need to help your students succeed. *(Guest article by Dana Keith, Manager of Applications/Datawarehouse)*

WVDE APRIL 2015 TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

The West Virginia Department of Education congratulates *South Charleston High School, Kanawha County,* for being the April 2015 Technology Showcase. See related video here: **http://wvde.state.wv.us/technology/showcase/**