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# Newsletter

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## Hanau Model School Partnership Parent/Community Workshop

A technology workshop for parents and community members was recently held in the Hanau High School computer Lab. The workshop was taught by Kevin McGillivray, Mike Houser and Oren Eddie with assistance from the Hanau Middle School media specialist, Dee Harrison-Youngs and Argonner parent representative to the Hanau Implementation Team (HIT), Valerie O'Connor.



Dr. Mike Houser is working with parents.

Photo: Dr. Gene Knudsen

The workshop consisted of 18 contact hours in the Model Schools tool-kit software. We covered the Microsoft tools of Word and PowerPoint, the elementary math software - The Cruncher and The Graph Club, Internet browsing with Netscape, email using CCMail, and the new Windows NT operation system.

This workshop was the first of three that will be offered to parents during the school year. Each workshop will be offered through the school parent newsletters and will have a limited enrollment of 24. The openings for the workshops are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

All workshop participants received a certificate of their workshop attendance. They were also asked to volunteer at

their child's school to help teachers in the labs and classrooms.

The next Hanau Model Schools Technology Workshop for Parents will be held in February. Announcements of the workshop and applications will be sent home to parents in mid-January. Parents who were denied entrance to this workshop because of space, will be considered first for the Feb. workshop.

*Submitted by Kevin McGillivray. Kevin is the Education Technologist for the Model School Project.  
 Kevin\_McGillivray@ccmail.odedodea.edu*

### Extending the Calendar

George Vanderheyden, teacher at Hanau High School, is using the web to inform

parents, students, and the community about the classroom curriculum. He posts a calendar of the class itinerary. The itinerary includes the assignments, objectives, and test dates. This procedure provides current and accurate information for the students to plan and meet classroom requirements.

*George is a teacher at Hanau High School. You can access this page [www.hana-hs.odedodea.edu](http://www.hana-hs.odedodea.edu)*

### AlphaSmart

In the first quarter Hanau American Middle School (HAMS) seventh grade students had the opportunity to work on the AlphaSmart Boards. Each day the students come to English class they have to copy the Quote of the Day from the backboard and explain what it means to

them. It's our routine and a great way to get the kids "into" English... predicting, interpreting, showing through examples, etc. What made the two weeks we had the AlphaSmarts such a treat is that the kids could simply not wait to get their mitts on these things! Clearly, they



really enjoy typing but the novelty of the AlphaSmarts was also a good hook to get them "into" writing. They couldn't type enough! "Can't we please have a little longer to 'write'...uh, 'TYPE'?" I wonder if they caught on to the fact that they were actually enjoying writing! The sound of nearly thirty students eagerly typing meaningful words and thoughts thrilled me! Students had their own file coded according to the period number. Unfortunately, there were some losses of work probably due to students accessing the incorrect file from the prior class. The good news is that I now know how to set passwords, which should reduce future glitches. One last thing, the most special part of all was to watch the kids watch the computer monitor as their ideas from the AlphaSmarts were downloaded onto the computer and transformed into a masterpiece in many cases. When we return from the Winter Break I intend to work on these handy things a bit more. I'll bet the students will be delighted!

*Submitted by Karyn Hughes. Karyn teaches English at the Hanau Middle School. Karyn\_Hughes@ccmail.odedodea.edu*

### Afternoon Delight

As part of the Hanau Model Schools Partnership to promote community access to technology, Hanau Middle School Media Center is currently open until 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. The focus is to provide an opportunity for parents and students to work

together, whether it be on class assigned projects, exploring the World Wide Web, or using digital cameras and multimedia programs to communicate with separated family members. Hanau Middle School has twelve computer stations connected to the Internet, two creation stations connected to digital cameras and a color scanner for multimedia presentations or pictorial letters. Kid Pix, HyperStudio, and Amazing Writing Machine are only a few of the software programs provided by TERC. Other software programs include Microsoft Office, PhotoShop Deluxe and Print Shop Deluxe.

*Submitted by Dee Harrison-Youngs. Dee is the Information Media Specialist at Hanau Middle School. Debra\_Harrison-Youngs@ccmail.odedodea.edu*

### In Search of Mars

During the month of October, Lori Bradford and the staff of Hanau Middle School developed a cross curriculum



program on the study of Mars. The program was created so that the students could explore the reasoning on how man overcomes gravity and travel into space. The program captured the attention of all the Hanau Middle School students.

For the project, the teachers wanted to maximize the use of technology. The teachers used the Internet, Infocus Projector, videos and multimedia.

The eight grade students used the Internet to study and developed a scavenger hunt. The developers had to use their computer skills to find information on mars. After they completed the scavenger hunt, the seventh grade class used the Internet to find the solutions.

For a closing project, all classes researched information, created space themes, and decorated their doors.

*Lori\_Bradford@ccmail.odedodea.edu*

### Hanau High's "PANTHER BYTES"

Because of lessons learned last year and the difficulty in working with a publisher in the States, the new yearbook staff has decided to change the format of the yearbook. We want to bring the Hanau High School Yearbook into the 21st century. Welcome to the era of Connections: WWW.Panther.com and Panther Bytes.

This year we will be producing a picture book of class photos (WWW.Panther.com) and a CD-ROM or videotape (Panther Bytes). The picture book will have 32 pages of class photos, class officers, candid, and autograph space. (The senior section will be in color.)

WWW.Panther.com is on sale now during Nutrition Break and Lunch for \$20.00. After the Christmas holiday, the yearbook staff will publish more information about the CD-ROM and videotape.

We hope to be able to offer both choices to the students.

The reasons for the format change are not just based on technology infusion and frustration with the publisher. We want to offer the students a **complete** year. By doing the CD-ROM and video tape, we will be able to include Prom and Graduation. Another motivating factor is money. By producing the CD-

ROM and videotape here at the school, we save the students money. For \$20.00 the students can purchase the picture book and for about \$10.00 they'll be able to purchase a CD-ROM or videotape. The total yearbook price will be less than the \$35.00 at the start of last year (and definitely less than the \$50.00 to buy a '96-'97 book now). So help the yearbook staff leap forward with the old picture book format and the new CD-ROM or videotape format. Buy your WWW.Panther.com now!

*Submitted by Cristian Allen. Cristian teaches English and math at Hanau High School. Cristian\_Allen@cmail.odedodea.edu*

## TERC Visit

In November, Cathy Miles Grant, TERC Elementary Math Specialist, came to Hanau to work with teachers at Argonner and Sportfield Elementary Schools. Cathy was invited into the classrooms to co-teaching with many of the teachers. She used a part of the technology tool kit, Cruncher, Graph Club and Excel. Cathy also used these tools to facilitate the teachers' workshop in the Sportfield Elementary School computer lab.

*Submitted by Oren Eddie*

## Coming in 1998

Jan 12 – 16 Sue Doubler, TERC,  
Scientist - Science\MBL  
Grades K-8

Feb 2 – 6 Phil Bigler, Social  
Studies Consultant

Feb 23 –27 Bruce Payne, NASA  
and JPL, Educational Consultant -  
Science

Mar 6 Educators' Day –  
Hessen District

Mar 9 – 12 Bernajean Porter,  
Education Technology Planners, Inc.  
Consultant - Language Arts,  
Inspiration

May 15 Hanau Model  
Schools Workshop and Celebration

## *Kids Speak*

Hi, I am going to tell you about a computer technology called Netscape Navigator Gold. Netscape is an Internet browser. There are many ways you can use it to help you find topics and information on the Internet. A few of the things that we have been using Netscape for are: 1. Doing hurricane hunts, where we learn about hurricanes, track them, and make predictions about where they will go. 2. We have also been following the NASA space projects such as the recent Space Shuttle Missions, project ACE which is going to study Mars, and project Cassini which will study Saturn.

That is all for right now. We will have more about computer technology in our classroom in another newsletter.

*By Jawann Wills - Room 301 - Grade 5 - Sportfield School*

## *Focus on the Classroom: What are we doing with computers in school?*

Well, that question can be easily answered. Here are some of the things we do in school with computers. We learn about famous people in the world and their inventions from CD ROM programs, search for information on the internet about N.A.S.A space missions and hurricanes, have lessons in math using the Graph Club, do writing projects, and create reports on HyperStudio.

We do most of our computer work in cooperative learning groups. We have to work with each other as we learn and decide on ways to do things. We are always doing fun and interesting things on the computer.

*By Marquita Muse - Room 301 Grade 5 - Sportfield School*

*Dick Evanson, Fifth Grade Teacher, Sportfield Elementary School submitted Kids Speak. Dick\_Evanson@cmail.odedodea.edu*

## **Hessen District Principals View Hanau Technology Innovations**

The Hanau Schools Complex was host to the October Hessen District Principals' Meeting. Forty-five of the district's administrators attended the meeting. The

day began with a meeting at Sportfield Elementary School. Kevin McGillivray, Educational Technologist for Model Schools gave a presentation on the successes of the Model Schools Project: development, planning, implementation, leadership, and professional development.

## Technology and Art at Argonner Elementary School

The students at Argonner Elementary School are learning to work with a variety of “Images” making programs in art classes. We have a rotating schedule that enables me to have every child from first grade through fifth grade in a “Computer Art” class once every three weeks. I, also use the computer lab whenever the classroom teachers’ schedules allow me to.

In my classes I have concentrated on teaching the students to use programs like *Kid Pix* and *Children’s Writing Center*. Once the students understand the basic concepts of working with these two programs they are able to work independently with little or no technical support from the classroom teachers. My goal is to have the children become so familiar with the basics of the programs available to them that they can learn to be “Advanced Users.” Later, I will be introducing students to ways of manipulating graphics and moving them between programs. I would like the students at Argonner Elementary to be able to expand the graphics in any program they are working in and not be bound by what the programmer provided as clip art, etc.

The technology available to us at Argonner Elementary allows us to expand on and enhance various areas of the curriculum. “Writing Across the Curriculum” and support for MathLand and the Social Studies programs have benefited from the infusion of technology into the classroom. The students are active and willing learners and are excited about their work.

In Young Authors’ Club, an organization of student writers, we use *Children’s Writing Center*. As sponsors of this organization, Dr. Debra Knudsen, Sheryl Frink and I work to encourage creativity. The students use *Children’s Writing Center* to write in their journals and to write their stories. If computers are not immediately available to the students, the students input their stories into an AlphaSmart keyboard. I download the articles into the computer at a later time.

*Submitted by Ken Guill. Ken is the art teacher at Argonner Elementary School. Ken\_Guill@cmail.odedodea.edu*

The principals were divided into groups and given tours of the four Model Schools: Argonner Elementary School, Springfield Elementary School, Hanau Middle School, and Hanau High School.

During the tours, tour leaders lead the groups through the schools, where they gave briefings on the infrastructure of the technology. The teachers and students briefed and displayed methods on technology being integrated into the curriculum.

gather data for technology initiatives that are being integrated in schools throughout the Hessen District. The principals’ visit was a great success.

*Submitted by Oren Eddie.*

### Hanau Model Schools Partnership

The Hanau Model Schools Partnership is a joint venture between TERC, an educational research institution in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the Hanna Community Schools Complex. This project, which is in its third year of existence, was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation. The outstanding success of this project is due to the cooperation and dedicated efforts between TERC and the Hanau Implementation Team (HIT). The HIT meets monthly to develop, plan, and implement strategies to ensure continuity.

The HIT members consist of representatives: students’ parents, principals, FRS, district superintendent office, and educational/administrative technology computer representatives.

*Submitted by Oren Eddie*

A retreat was conducted in the afternoon. The retreat was held at the Villa Stokkum. Elizabeth McNamara, TERC Model Schools Projector Director, Cathy Miles Grant, TERC Professional Development and Elementary Math Specialist, and Kevin McGillivray were the presenters. The presentation provided information and a focus for the principals to brainstorm in group sessions. The administrators were able to

### Hanau Model Schools Newsletter

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