

College Comment

Technology Education Collegiate Association

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Message from the President

Hello TECA! Welcome back. I am really looking forward to this year. The officer team worked very hard over the summer to improve this year. We attended the TECA Leadership Conference in conjunction with TSA Nationals in Orlando, FL at the end of June. We accomplished a lot and I'm so excited to share the changes with you. We will be piloting a robotics competition at the ITEA Conference in Louisville, KY. There will be more

information about the competition in the coming issues of The College Comment. The officer team will also bring more information to your regional competition. We will do our best to keep you informed, but feel free to contact any member of the officer team with any questions or concerns you may have. I can't wait to see what this year holds for TECA! Good luck with your new year of school!



President – Hannah Burdette
hannahmarie5387@hotmail.com

Upcoming Regional Conferences

Regional conferences are coming soon, and we hope that you all will attend your conference. It's important to attend your regional conference because you can learn so much. As teachers we need to open up our eyes to different situations, opinions, and people in order to understand all of our students equally. Also, regionals provide a great learning experience in our professional development. Regional conferences will be held in the following locations:

Midwest Regional	October 24 th – 25 th	Peoria, IL
West Regional	November 6 th – 7 th	Denver, CO
East Regional	November 9 th – 11 th	Virginia Beach, VA
Southwest Regional	November 20 th – 21 st	Pittsburg, KS

There will be a national officer at each regional, so we can see everyone in action.

Things to remember:

- Make sure to attend your regional conference
- Nominate yourself or others for TECA Officer positions
- TECA National's are March 26th – 28th 2008



Secretary – Matt Gardner
mtgardn1@marauder.millersville.edu

Recap from the TECA Leadership Conference

This June the TECA officers traveled to Orlando, Florida to the TECA leadership Conference and the National TSA convention. While at the conference, the officer team worked hard and accomplished a great deal in order to make TECA a better organization. The first and most notable thing the team accomplished is the addition of a robotics competition. The officer team voted to adopt this competition in order to add a different aspect of technology education, as well as add a competition that would be fun and competitive. Details about

this event will be published in the TECA competition book in the future.

The TECA officer team also adopted a new budget for the 2008-2009 year, worked on improving the college comment. The officer team also appointed a committee in order to look into funding for various TECA events.

While down in Orlando, the officer team also helped judge TSA competitions, help with the DuPont Leadership Academy, and spread the word to TSA students of what TECA is, and try to foster an interest in becoming

a technology educator.

Overall, the trip was a great success, and the officer team was able to get many things accomplished. The officer team will be making stops at all of the regional's, and will have their fall planning meeting at the Four State Regional Technology Conference in Kansas.



“Several of my professors have used YouTube as a teaching tool.”

The YouTube Classroom

Before August 2005 the world had a few websites to post videos on. None were widely known and they were not user friendly. So if you wanted to look up a clip from your favorite TV show you had to wait till it came on TV again and watch the whole thing. Then in early 2005 Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Jawed Karim, then employees of PayPal came together and bought YouTube. In the months that followed they developed their product and in August they released the site to the public. Within months the sites popularity began to expand. According to comScore By January 2006, it had surpassed Yahoo video search which was the most used video hotspot on the internet at the time. It has continued to explode in popularity since then. But enough of the history lesson.

Today YouTube is one of several annoyances that teachers must face when allowing students to use the internet in the class room. Students with a little free time, or not enough supervision can completely fall off track and loose interest in the purpose of the lesson. Also, that YouTube does not view the content of the videos posted means that students can run in to disturbing and age restricted content. In fact, it is getting where schools are blocking YouTube as a whole.

However YouTube in the classroom is not all bad. Several of my professors have used YouTube as a teaching tool. Videos can be used to help as a visual aid to expand the learning experience. A Biology class can use a video demonstrating how do dissect a frog to better explain

the process before letting the students "dig in." I myself use YouTube to find guitar lessons. Another use of YouTube is to post videos for a production class. I know of several teachers that use YouTube as a method of submitting videos from video creation classes.

You all have your own conclusions to this, however in this writers opinion, YouTube isn't a good live in class tool. Mainly because of the potential for abuse and that videos aren't screened before they are available to the general public. If a teacher wants to use a video there are several free ways to download the videos from the site. A quick Google search should tell you how.



Vice President - Stephan Brumbaugh
stephanbrumbaugh@yahoo.com

Benefits to Becoming a Member of TECA?

As a future technology educator, you are always looking for new ways to grow professionally and succeed in the classroom. A great way to accomplish this goal is to become involved in your local and state TECA chapters, as well as to be an active ITEA member. By becoming an active member in those organizations you will not only build professional skills needed in the classroom, but will create long lasting friendships with students from other universities.

Recently, I had interviewed Tim Defelice a former member of the TECA organization and recent graduate from California University of Pennsylvania. During the interview, I asked him several questions related to the benefits of being a TECA member and why he enjoyed being involved in the TECA organization. He had commented during the interview that while attending California University of Pennsylvania he had become an active member of the TECA and ITEA organizations and is now currently a successful first year teacher at Rising Sun High School in northern Maryland.

Q: How do you feel the TECA organization helped you grow

professionally as an educator?

A: "As a member of TECA, I learned how to present myself in a professional setting that allowed me to bridge the gap between a student to a professional teacher. I not only gained professional connections that gave me numerous employment opportunities, but I learned how to present my self in an educational setting."

Q: What was something you learned through the TECA organization that helped you prepare to teach in your own classroom?

A: "The biggest thing that I had learned from the TECA organization that helped me in my own classroom was how to act in a professional manner. I also have leaned to use and adapt TECA based competition problems that I had faced during the years I had competed to a curriculum that I can use in my own classroom."

Q: What is the greatest benefit of becoming a member of TECA?

A: "I think the one of the greatest benefits of being a member of TECA is the experiences of going to professional conferences across the country and participating in each competition. Each

experience allowed me to meet people from all areas of the country and to see what is out there in the world."

Q: What was your most memorable moment of being a member of TECA?

A: "I would say the most memorable moment of TECA was at the ITEA conference held in Salt Lake City this past spring. During the conference I had competed on our university's Problem Solving team and our team received first place in the competition. That one achievement taught me a variety of skills such as: time management, stress management, and problem solving skills that I can use every day in the classroom."

All in all, being involved in ITEA and TECA on a local, state, and national level holds many advantages for future teachers. Not only will it help you in the classroom teaching, but it looks great on a resume, which can help you get that perfect job. If you are not currently and ITEA or TECA member, please sign up as soon as possible and begin to benefit from all the great opportunities that both organizations offer.



President Elect – George Lavelle
LAV5908@cup.edu



**ROBOTICS COMPETITION
COMING TO A NATIONAL
CONFERENCE NEAR YOU!!!!!!**

2009



More Information Coming Soon

Do you want to be a part of the
International TECA Officer Team?

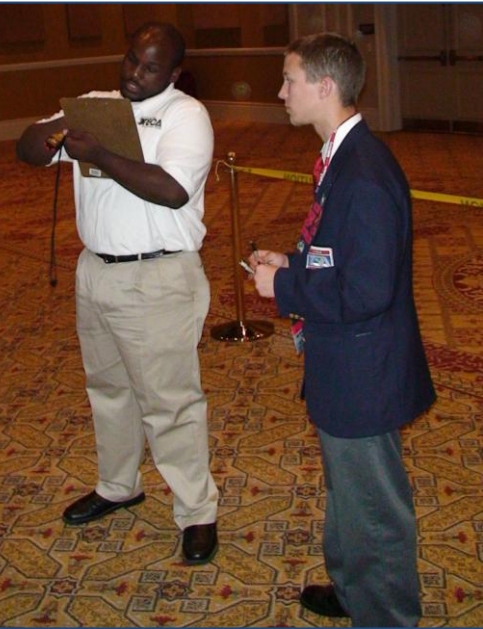
If so nominations are coming up for
Vice President, Secretary, Reporter
and President Elect.

Send your
nominations to
amklenke@ckt.net



Sights from the TECA Leadership Conference and TSA Nationals

Orlando, FL
June 28th – July 2nd





Andy Klenke
amklenke@ckt.net

Advisor's Corner

Welcome back to school advisors and students. This year will be an exciting time for TECA as the officers have been working very hard this past year to move TECA into the future. I can tell you that it has been a pleasure serving as your advisor this past year and look forward to this year with great anticipation.

This will be a year of many new things, beginning with the Presidential election. No matter the outcome, we will have a first, with the election of either the first African-American president or the first woman vice-president. I encourage you to exercise your rights and vote in this historic event. We as educators always preach that we should be informed consumers and in this case, it is no different. Before you vote, be sure to understand what each candidate represents, what they are bringing to the table which will affect your lives personally. Don't get hyped up on political slogans or rhetoric speeches. What matters most is the nuts and bolts (sounds more technological) of what they are planning to do during their term in office. A few examples might include what they are planning for education, what the plan for taxes is, foreign/military policy, their energy plan, or environmental issues. Be informed and make a research based decision, as it could affect you on a very personal level. I can tell you that if you do not vote, you can blame no one but yourself and have no basis for critique. You have a voice and you have a vote, exercise it!

On the agenda for this year are several things. First, there will be officer representation at all regional

competitions, which is exciting. I hope each of you take time to talk to the officers as they are your elected representatives and therefore have the best ability to address concerns or take comments. We are planning on having four regional events this year beginning with the Midwest Regional in Peoria, Illinois near the end of October. The West Regional will be in Colorado in the middle of the month followed by the East Regional in Virginia. The regional events will conclude with the Southwest Regional which will be Thursday and Friday before Thanksgiving in Pittsburg, Kansas. Specific dates can be found near the end of this College Comment issue. The officers have exciting news which they will be presenting at each of the conferences. TECA is about to embark on a new journey and we invite all of you to venture into new territory along with us.

Over the past year I have encouraged the officers to promote change. Be that change agent! Lead by example and take the role of their elected duties seriously, yet at the same time, have fun. Believe it or not, all of you are the future face of our parent organization, the future presidents of ITEA, like Dr. Litowitz or regional directors such as Mike Fitzgerald from Indiana, Steve Meyer from Wisconsin, Scott Werner from Pennsylvania or Patrick McDonald from Utah. You are the future state supervisors, council directors and state organization officers. You might not realize the impact you can have as a leader at the local, state, regional and national level. You are needed, not only as valued members of

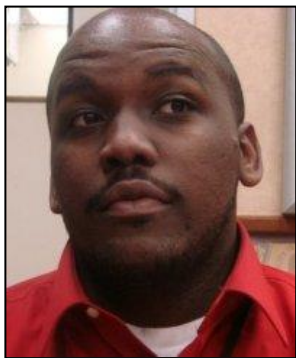
TECA, but future members and officers of ITEA. Do not live in a vacuum where you end up teaching; instead, begin this year to develop professional attributes that you can build on in the future, whether you are an incoming freshman or senior getting ready to enter the workforce. Service organizations such as ITEA rely on volunteers to carry out the mission of the organization and believe me, we will need and rely on you.

Mr. Rod Thompson is currently the advisor elect for TECA and will be the new advisor beginning in March. He is excited about the year ahead and has been helping me this year with conferences and meetings which is very appreciated. If you haven't considered running for a national TECA office, now is the time to do so. All we ask is that you come to the officer team ready to work and move TECA forward. More information about the elections is in the College Comment so be sure to check the dates of when nominations are due, the requirements and when elections are held.

The ITEA conference in Louisville, Kentucky will be here sooner than you think. I look forward to seeing each of you at some point in the year, either at a regional competition or at nationals. Be sure to say hi, give ideas, concerns, or just chat. I want to wish all you the best during the upcoming year and remember, get involved.



Preparing Teachers to Teach Technology.



Reporter – Al McArthur
asmcarth@ncsu.edu