



NWOET

SCANNER NEWS

Northwest Ohio Educational Technology **Bowling Green**

January 2017

Who Needs Microsoft Word?

Your students might – if college bound!

While Google is the preferred tool for most K-12 schools, many universities are expecting their students to complete assignments using Word and Excel.

Ohio universities including Toledo, Bowling Green, The Ohio State, Ohio U, as well as Defiance, Terra, Findlay and many more are asking incoming freshmen to use the online version of Microsoft tools known as Office 365.

So what's the solution?

Provide your college-bound students an opportunity to create at least a few writing assignments using Microsoft Office. Initial set-up of your (free) Office 365 for Education account is surprisingly easy, and about 2 hours of instruction may be sufficient to give most college-bound students the skills they need to transition from "Docs" to "Word".

Demonstrations of other tools they might encounter – like Outlook email and Excel – can help prepare them for the transition to these 'new' learning and life-skill tools.

NWOET can help! Our Microsoft-certified trainers can help your staff prepare their students with the tools which will help improve their chance of a successful college career. Call for a free consultation or to schedule a workshop in your district.



Assignments Online: Your BEST Tech Tool!

No doubt about it – putting homework assignments online improves student performance!

We are often asked what is the most effective tool to use to help students meet learning objectives as we prepare them for their future. SMART Boards™, Google for Education, Office 365, iPads and Chrome-books often lead the list – and these can all be effective tools.

The single most effective strategy is to base your technology planning and resources on use of FREE online tools to post homework such as Google Classroom, Edmodo, and Schoology.

Posting homework online does not require students to actually complete their homework online, although that does come later in the integration timeline.

Assignments posted to the web improve student learning!

BUILDING YOUR TECH TOOLBOX

Thursday, March 2, 9-3, at NWOET

Conference Early Bird Special \$99/person until Jan. 29!

Featured Strands Include:

Tools for Learning

Homework Online Works!
Improving Parent Communication
Word for the College-Bound

Improving Test Scores

Quick Method: Creating Online Tests
Practice A.I.R. Online Test Skills
ACT Tips – Raise Scores 10% or More!

Improving Instruction

Gaming – It's More Than Just Fun and Games
Flipping your Class
Reading Online → Learning Success

Tech Coordinators / Leadership

Google vs Office 365 – or BOTH ?
Understanding Office 365 Install & Pricing Options
Office 365 - Features Compared
What's New @ Google

Registration

(includes a 5-hour PD certificate)

Early Bird Special: \$99/person

Register by Jan. 28

Registration: \$129/person

Register after Jan. 28

BRING YOUR STAFF!

Groups of 10 or more:
\$59 per person through Feb. 16

FREE for the Advisory Member from NWOET Comp. Schools!

Registration: 8:15-9:00 a.m.
Lunch will be provided.

For More Information

Call 800-966-9638
Email nwoet@nwoet.org
Visit www.nwoet.org

Do You Help Students Practice These Life-Long Skills ?

- Writing on a laptop
- Read emails CAREFULLY
- Understand graphs and images
- Understand test-taking strategies

See "What Students NEEDS to Learn" on page 4.

2017 NWOET Professional Development

Schedule any of these workshops **IN YOUR DISTRICT!**

Phone: 800-966-9638

Email: nwoet@nwoet.org

Web: www.nwoet.org/coursework/prof_dev.asp

You are encouraged to bring your own device whenever possible.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

(unless otherwise noted)

Location/Time

NWOET Tech Lab, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Or in your district for up to 20 teachers!

Cost

NWOET Comp. Member: \$129
NWOET Basic Members: \$159
Non-Members: \$259

Contact Hours

5 contact hours

To Register

Call 1-800-966-9638

Web:

<http://nwoet.org/coursework>

Making the Chrome Browser More Awesome Wed., Mar. 22

Make the Chrome browser even more powerful by installing extensions & 3rd party apps that can help assist the classroom teacher to develop new tools into daily classroom practice. Save time, engage the students, increase classroom collaboration and excitement.

Mastering G Suite Console Setup Bring this training to YOUR site!

Learn about the powerful features that GAFE can give for almost total control over what students – and teachers – can access with this productivity suite. For school's technology support staff (not for teachers).

MICROSOFT PD

Build a Collaborative Classroom AND Increase Productivity

Thu., Mar. 16

Want to go paperless? Looking for a way to revolutionize your teaching and learning? Experience Microsoft OneNote, a free tool that takes digital notebooks to the extreme and keeps everything together on all of your devices. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptop, have the OneNote desktop app installed, and have an Office 365 account.

The Face-off: Office365 and G Suite Tue., Mar. 16

In a head-to-head comparison of these two leading productivity suites, strong points and challenges of both will be explored including why some area schools are using both systems.

Hot Tools for Innovative Educators Wed., Mar. 29

Join us for the Microsoft Innovative Educator class to learn more about Microsoft's hottest tools and resources to empower your students to achieve more! We'll dive into the new Microsoft Classroom in Office 365 for Education and get the opportunity to explore tools such as OneNote Class Notebooks, Docs.com, Office Forms, Sway, and Office Mix, Skype

in the Classroom and the online Microsoft Educator Community.

Skimming the Cloud: Office 365 Wed., Feb. 22; Thu., Apr. 6

Office365 for Education provides staff, faculty, and students at your school with free email, online document editing and storage, IM, and web conferencing. Participants must bring their own tablet or laptop and have an Office 365 account.

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

ACT & SAT: Getting Our Kids Ready Wed., Mar. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Bellevue High School, Bellevue, OH
FREE! (1 contact hour)

A quick look at what is changing in the both the SAT and ACT, followed by strategies and resources to help students prepare (focus on ACT). Session will start with a talk followed by a review of free resources students can use to prepare for the SAT and ACT. For administrators, guidance counselors, teachers, parents, and students.

College Success – Avoid Wasting Time AND \$\$\$

Wed., Mar. 8, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Bellevue High School, Bellevue, OH
FREE! (1 contact hour)

A review of common mistakes and practical tips to help students – and their parents – get ready for 2 and 4 year college success. These two sessions are open to administrators, guidance counselors, teachers, parents, and students.

Using Online Assessments to Prepare for Online Testing & ACT/SAT

Thu., Feb. 2

Use of online assessments (i.e. Google Forms, Socrative, etc.) makes it easier than ever to transform paper tests to online versions that support over 80% of the question formats seen on the online tests, ACT and SAT. We'll cover the advanced features of these online assessments and spend hands-on time creating assessments you can use in your classroom the next day.

GOOGLE PD

Chromebook 101 for Teachers

Thu., Jan. 26; Fri., Feb. 24; Tue., April 4

Learn why this device is so popular, strategies for using the Chromebook in the classroom, and a few drawbacks and a few workarounds. Included will be popular online tools and websites that offer productivity, instruction, edutainment and more for students.

Get Productive with G Suite: Formally Known as Google Apps for Education

Thu., Jan. 19; Tue., Mar. 7

We'll take it from the beginning for those new to the Google Apps world. We'll conquer Docs, Slides, Sheets, Forms, and much more over day-long training.

Jumping On Board with Google Classroom

Fri., Jan. 27; Thu., Mar. 9

Google Classroom can help improve student performance, while preparing students for online testing – even before you are 1:1! Learn how to set-up YOUR Classroom. For teachers in all grades and subjects.



TOOLS FOR LEARNING PD

Computer Science Comes Alive: Code.org **Fri., May 12** **FREE!**

Code.org® is a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities so every student in every school has the opportunity to learn computer science, just like biology, chemistry or algebra. Code.org organizes the annual Hour of Code campaign which has engaged 10% of all students in the world, and provides the leading curriculum for K-12 computer science in school districts in the US. Register at <https://studio.code.org/pd/workshops/1270/enroll>.

Increase Productivity with iPad's iLife/iWork Suite of Apps **Thu., Feb. 9**

Discover strategies for using the iWork Suite: Pages, Number, and Keynote on the iPad. These apps that once had a combined cost of \$29.97, now can be installed free on new iPads since 2013. We'll also have the time for practice with the iLife Suite for iOS (iPad/iPhone) of iPhoto, iMovie, and Garageband, which is also now free with the purchase of a new iOS device.

Reading Online → Learning Success

Bring this training to YOUR site.

In this training, topics addressed will include the importance of close reading instruction

within Ohio's Learning Standards, the successful integration of text complexity and the role of student motivation within reading instruction. We'll also include strategies to help students improve their skills when reading online digital content.

Making a Difference with Tablets **Thu., Feb. 9**

Explore the iPad and learn how to use the many built-in apps daily in the classroom as well as those for classroom management and instruction.

More Than Fun & Games **Mon. Mar. 27**

Discover the power of learning through games. Engagement and motivation will transform your students and your learning environment with this method of instruction.

Success with 1:1 **Fri., Feb. 10**

One of the biggest shifts we expect to see in 2017 is that almost all 1:1 districts – and those moving to 1:1 – will be sending devices home with their students. The more time students have the device, the more they are used – and more time-on-task = student growth!

Take the Dread Out of Research **Wed., Apr. 5**

We'll explore strategies to help guide your students through the research process with the use of free online tools including the Research4Success online course, rubrics, citation builders, and use of INFOhio's ISearch as an alternative to Google searching.

Tech Planning for District Leaders **Bring this training to YOUR site!**

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) - take a 3 to 5 year look at what you will be doing with technology in your district. We will take a look at trends in technology use – not only at K-12, but also in colleges and industry, and help you develop YOUR 3 to 5 year plan.

100% ONLINE INSTRUCTION

Success In Six

Jan. 23-Feb. 17 (registration deadline Jan. 20)

Mar. 13-Apr. 7 (registration deadline Mar. 10)

\$159 for all educators

18 contact hrs., 1 sem. hr. grad. credit for additional cost



Success in Six is a self-paced online learning program that shows you ways to use digital resources to support 1:1, blended learning, personalized learning, differentiation, and a host of other student needs. Call NWOET at 800-966-9638 to register. Go to <http://success.infohio.org>. Note: One can receive contact hour certificate after completion of each module at NO CHARGE. See more details on page 4.



February 14-16, 2017
Greater Columbus Convention Center
<http://oetc.ohio.gov/>

The Ohio Educational Technology Conference (OETC) is the premier P-20 state educational technology conference. Each year, more than 4,000 educational technology professionals and enthusiasts come together to explore the forefront of P-20 learning and innovation in Ohio.

Designed to cultivate partnerships, promote collaboration, deliver high-quality information, and make technology accessible and enjoyable for educators, the OETC is the must-attend conference of the year for P-20 teachers, curriculum and technology coordinators, administrators, higher education professors and administrators, and everyone who is interested in learning more about what's happening in technology today.

For three full days, attendees can learn what's new and look towards the future by exploring new technologies, trying them out in a interactive atmosphere, and learning how to integrate them into the learning environment. All of the hand-on and interactive learning and new technology aside, OETC is also the single best place for educators and innovators to network with their peers, share their ideas, and have a great time.

Be sure to visit the NWOET Booth for 10% off NWOET professional development for use through June 2017!



2017 Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King Day: Jan. 16, 2017

Presidents' Day: Feb. 20, 2017

Spring Break: Apr. 14-18, 2017

NWOET Hours

Open to the public Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Be sure to follow us on **twitter.** **Be sure to like us on facebook.**

Get Parents Involved!

Email your assignments home – it works!

Parents can keep track of their children's progress through daily email summaries available to teachers using Google Classroom, Schoology or similar programs to post homework assignments online.

These friendly reminders of due dates make it easy for parents to keep track of their children's homework responsibilities – and even alert parents when an assignment is late or missing. And it only takes about one minute per parent to set up!

Students whose teachers post homework assignments online are more likely to complete the work on time. And, when all class 'handouts' are available online both students and teachers spend LESS TIME getting ready to work and more time learning.

When you post your assignments in Google Classroom, each afternoon parents can receive an email reminder.

To learn more about how this new, FREE tool works, contact NWOET. Comprehensive members can receive a 30-minute preview of this great resource in a session designed for leadership teams or teachers at no cost. A full hands-on workshop takes about an hour.



Welcome to Success in Six!

Success in Six is a self-paced online learning program that shows you ways to use digital resources to support 1:1, blended learning, personalized learning, differentiation, and a host of other student needs. It is offered at no charge to any Ohio educator – teachers, librarians, tech coordinators, administrators – from INFOhio (<http://success.infohio.org>), Ohio's PreK-12 digital library. Each module contains an overview to bring you up to speed on the topic, guides you to sites and tools to explore more deeply and ends with activities to practice new skills.

You can complete one or all of the modules in any order:

- Develop Your Research Toolbox
- Learn to Search Effectively
- Discover High Quality STEAM Resources
- Engage Your Students with Reading Resources
- Find Free Content for Your Blended Classroom
- Explore INFOhio's Differentiation Tools

Complete a module and take a quiz to receive a certificate for three contact hours. As an additional option, NWOET is providing Success in Six for one semester hour graduate credit. Contact NWOET at nwoet@nwoet.org for more information.

Editorial by Roger Minier

What Students NEED To Learn

Life skills – academic and practical – that are critical for students to be self-supporting and fulfilled as adults surely must be the focus of what we teach.

But are they?

As one example, a growing body of evidence shows less than 15% of college graduates use algebra on the job – yet it is required for admission at almost every university. And while as a teacher you may have no control over college admissions, you DO have control over the tools and methods used to teach concepts in YOUR class.

Do you help students practice these life-long skills?

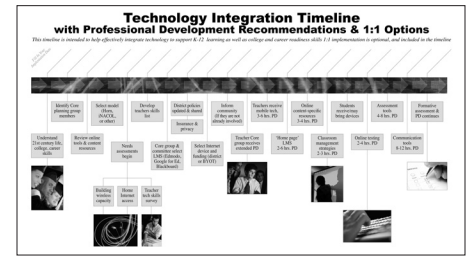
- Writing on a laptop
- Read emails carefully
- Understand graphs and images
- Understand test-taking strategies
- Improve, then re-submit work

Do your parents know

- When assignments are due?
- What assignments were missed?
- Questions to ask their child?
- Why your subject is important?

GET INVOLVED in the next standards revision for YOUR content area! And Contact NWOET for help on these and other life-skill development problems facing YOUR students. *P.S. Research shows math IS vital to success of almost all students. 10% will need algebra and calculus, while some may need statistics and other career-specific skills and financial literacy.*

Improve School-To-Home Communication



Help meet school improvement goals with NWOET's District Technology Review

Improve:

- School-to-home communication
- Homework completion rate
- Test success (A.I.R. and ACT)
- Progress for sub-group populations

Let NWOET's Google-trained and Microsoft-Certified instructors be your 1:1 device experts.

This inclusive program, conducted in your district, connects strategic teaching methods with accomplished trainers embracing the district goals, teacher needs and current district technology in order to design and implement the perfect professional development plan. Once developed, professional development will be provided to your district, followed by an evaluation of the plan.

Sign up for **80 hours** of NWOET professional development in your district to be used **over the next 2 years** and receive this review FREE – a \$2,500 value. Comprehensive members receive the 80 hours AND review for only \$8,500 (\$9,750 all other districts).



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