

## Take a Look INSIDE:

### NETA 2015—*On The Move*

Can you find yourself in these pictures from the conference in April?

See page..... **4**

### Nebraska’s Fall Ed Tech Conference—Oct. 7-8, 2015

The Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA) and NETA are excited to partner again to provide a comprehensive and informative educational technology conference in Kearney. Registration is now open!

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### Recipe for a Technology Infused Lesson

The right ingredients along with following directions can result in a delicious mix of student engagement, enhanced learning, saved time, and most of all—enjoyment!

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### Meet the New Kind of PD: edcamp

Learn how this new model of PD empowers participants to drive their own learning. Nebraska hosts several edcamps each year.

See page..... **17**

### Contests! Are They Your Golden Ticket to the NETA Conference?

The NETA Contest Committee has wiped the slate clean with a totally new model for their popular contests. Find out how these contests for students and educators can be your Golden Ticket to attending the NETA 2016 conference in April.

Information starts on page..... **18**



## Message from the President

*Josh Allen, Lewis Central Community Schools*

# Let’s Not Do It That Way

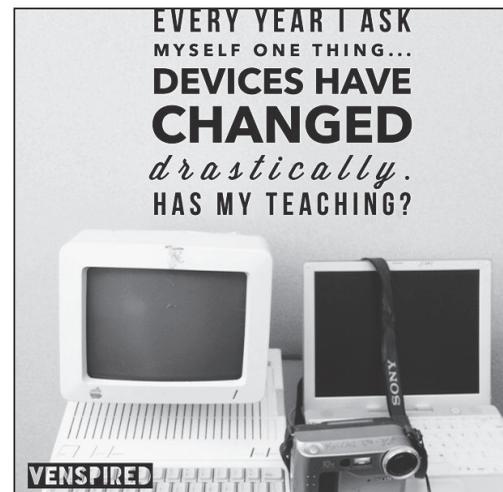
**RAISE YOUR HAND** if you have ever fallen down the rabbit hole that YouTube creates? Yep, me too. You can put your hands down. Thank you for participating.

This summer my family and I took a vacation to Colorado. Along with the typical family vacation stops—Pike’s Peak, Garden of the Gods, Hammond’s Candy Factory, etc.,—we went hiking around Red Rocks Amphitheater, one of the premier outdoor music venues in the nation. We didn’t get to see a concert, but thanks to some YouTube searching, we found a good sampling of recordings to satisfy our curiosity. But then I couldn’t pull myself away from the related videos! One video leads to another, until it’s way past my bedtime.

A hidden gem that I’ve now watched a couple times is a late 1970’s/ early ‘80’s Waylon Jennings concert. I love all kinds of music, but non-mainstream country has long been one of my favorites. One of the concert clips is Waylon closing with “Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way?” In the song, Waylon is skeptical of those that keep telling him that the path he is on is how Hank Williams became a success in the music industry.

As often happens, my worlds of music and education collided. A day after being re-introduced to the Waylon Jennings song, questioning if past legends really did things the same way he was being told to, the fabulous Krissy Venosdale (Twitter: @venspired) posted the image on the right.

*(Continued on page 14)*



**NETA Newsletter**

Published four times yearly.  
Contributions are welcome.

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If you can share a success story related to technology in the classroom, or a software solution review, we'd love to print it in a future newsletter.

Contact Julie Moore, phone (402) 540-1904 or e-mail [executivedirector@netasite.org](mailto:executivedirector@netasite.org) with a short summary to see if your story can be included in a future issue! ❖



NETA is an affiliate of ISTE—The International Society for Technology in Education.

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Jackie Ediger  
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## Message from the President Elect

# Series Launch!

## Five Great Things I Learned This Week

AS THE PROFESSIONAL Development Director at ESU 9, and someone who loves seeing how new tech tools can help us better teach, better learn and make our work more efficient, I am thrilled when I am able to pick up new ideas, tips and tricks through my social media feeds each day. This article is the first in a series meant to connect you with great online resources, help you maximize your time for personal and professional growth, introduce you to new tools and help you get more out of your social media feeds. Each article will feature what I've recently learned from one social media tool. Up first? Facebook pages.

### Learning In Hand

Just before falling asleep recently, I scanned through my Facebook feed and noticed a live Periscope video playing through Tony Vincent's *Learning in Hand* page. Periscope is a fairly new tool that allows live video broadcasting from mobile devices. I happened on to the live feed where I joined Tony and other participants to learn about Tone, a new Chrome extension that allows you to share web site addresses via sound to a room full of people with phones or laptops or even via a Google hangout. In a follow-up chat, Tony also shared that he is using KatchMe to archive his Periscope broadcasts since they expire after 24 hours on the Periscope channel.

### Free Technology For Teachers

When I hear about new technology tools, I want to know right away how to actually put them to use. Richard Byrnes has been a featured speaker at past NETA conferences, and does a great job sharing the newest edtech tools through his blogs and fan page. Recently I learned about Sketchalot and Stoodle, two free online whiteboard tools that can be used from almost any device. Follow his fan page and check out the post on Sketchalot and Skoodle! I also loved reading about Seesaw, a tool to make it easier to share student projects created on iPads.

### Letting Students Use Cell Phones to Learn

As we explore how to best maximize technology resources to help students learn, many schools are exploring how to harness the power of the phones most students have in their pockets (whether they are allowed in school or not!). Recently, the page featured a post by Lisa Nielsen from her Innovative Educator blog about how teachers can use cell phones to support students who struggle with writing. Let's help students put those phones to good use!

### ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education)

NETA is an affiliate of ISTE and many of our members attend the national ISTE conference each summer. But you don't need to leave the state to learn from your connection to ISTE! A recent post

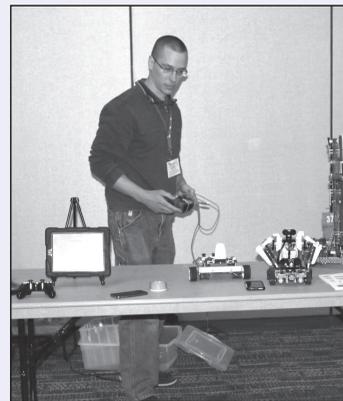
on their page shared "8 apps to get organized in the classroom." While several of the apps mentioned are ones that I use almost daily, Class Manager, Class Timetable and iResponse are new to me and worth exploring all from the comfort of my patio beside the fire pit.

### Love, Teach.

Love, Teach is written by an anonymous English teacher "at a Title I school in a large city." I find the posts to provide fresh perspectives on issues impacting educators everywhere. This summer, Love, Teach helped me learn about the Project Semicolon, which "...is dedicated to presenting hope and love to those who struggle with depression, self-injury, and suicide. In the way that a semicolon means a sentence isn't over, The Semicolon Project encourages people to recognize that their story isn't over; the idea that you are the author of your story, and you are choosing to continue." I also appreciated the vulnerability shared by the page author in her post Project Semicolon and Three Myths We Should Bust. Every day, we see students and teachers carrying heavy loads of stress, at times accompanied with anxiety and depression. Sharing stories helps people grow and live healthier lives. ❖



# NETA 2015 Photo Gallery



# NETA 2015 Photo Gallery



## Reviews from the ISTE 2015 Experience!



*Matt Lee,  
Westside  
Community  
Schools*

### ISTE Takeaways 2015

*Inspiring. Invigorating. Refreshing.* Those three adjectives are just a few of the words I would use to describe this year's ISTE conference in Philadelphia. In my opinion, this year's conference was the best ISTE has been in a long time. Why was it so good? It wasn't just the fact that when 20,000 educators get together great discussions are bound to happen, nor was it the thought provoking keynotes. For me, the best part was a conference-wide focus on students learning, students creating and teachers sharing.

**Soledad O'Brien** kicked off the conference by starting her keynote with the opening line, "technology for technology's sake is a complete waste." This sentiment was followed by many rich examples of how when technology is applied appropriately and for the right reasons it can be

transformative. O'Brien runs a foundation called the Star Fish Scholars that works to empower young people to be successful in college and find fulfilling careers. Part of the program has been to travel to local businesses to explore career choices. Because of limited resources, students were only able to explore a finite number of career choices. However, because of technology such as virtual reality (Google Cardboard) and video conferencing those barriers can be removed. O'Brien demonstrated on stage how a student can take a virtual tour of a veterinarian's office and see what a typical work day would be like using nothing but cardboard glasses and a smart phone. This technology allows the experience to be scaled to many more students than typically would have access. You can read more about her foundation by checking out: <http://starfishscholars.org>

One of my favorite breakout sessions was by **Kenneth Shelton** who talked about Visual Story Telling and Visual Literacy. In this session, Shelton made the case for treating visual literacy the same way we teach other forms of literacy—reading literacy, financial literacy etc. Story telling is

baked into our DNA as humans and we respond to stories and images better than we respond to print. Shelton argued that story telling and visual literacy will be essential skills for students as they graduate and enter the workforce. See Shelton's work at: <http://kennethshelton.net>

One emerging technology that caught my interest was **iBeacons**. iBeacon is Apple's term for low powered Bluetooth transmitters that can interact with student tablets and smart phones. Each of these beacons transmits a signal that can only be picked up by a device at close range. These beacons have the power to become a transformative tool in the future classroom. Imagine not having to spend class time taking attendance; iBeacons can automate that process. Also, imagine that a student needs additional resources for review, or that you have set up a gallery walk as a project. With iBeacons, the students could simply walk up to a poster on the wall, and the appropriate documents, videos or audio could automatically pop up on their iPad without any interaction by you or them. Cool!

*(Reviews from ISTE 2015 Experiences continued on the next page)*

### Midwest States Reception at ISTE

NETA sponsored a reception along with ICE-IL (Illinois), ITEC (Iowa), MACUL (Michigan), METC (Missouri), and REMC (Michigan) at the 2015 ISTE Conference in Philadelphia, PA. Appreciation goes to JourneyEd.com for helping to sponsor the event. Over 400 conference participants attended the event at the Field House and enjoyed networking and catching up with friends throughout Nebraska and beyond.

Please plan to join us June 26–29, 2016 at the ISTE Conference, to be held in Denver, CO! ❖



(*ISTE Experience, continued*)



*Darci Lindgren,  
Lindsay Holy  
Family School*

### 3D Printing Roundtable

One item I had on my ISTE bucket list this year was to learn as much as I could about 3D printers. My principal had been impressed by 3D printing prospects at NETA, and is planning on bringing some into our school as soon as possible.

**Abbie Brown**, from East Carolina University, hosted a 3D printing research paper discussion. This was the first time I'd attended a research paper discussion, and the format was very unique. The room had several round tables set up, with an author presenting his/her research at each table. It was similar to NETA poster sessions, but without posters. The room wasn't too full, except for the 3D printing topic table. Many other tables' chairs had been moved, with three layers of active participants surrounding the circular table.

Mr. Brown's research paper was titled, "3D Printing: A Curricular Hierarchy of Activities." It focused on three levels of curriculum when teaching with 3D printers available. The first level of lessons was to simply get the computers and software to successfully print a 3D model. Unfortunately, many schools are only using 3D printers to this level. Find a cool already-created image, and print it to the new printer.

The second level involved implementing a design experiment. The students create a new model and transform it to the 3D media. Some ideas that look good on paper, or on screen can't be successfully created.

The highest level is to implement an engineering test using your model. Push its limits. How long can I make the middle before it can't stand? How tall can I make the legs and it can still hold weight? This brings in trial and error and higher level thinking.

After Mr. Brown's curriculum description, the conversation shifted to more general 3D questions. Many other attendees had experience and were able to contribute very useful information. Carmene Carbone shared his experience with reasonably priced Printrbot models. Some students could actually build themselves, and produce decent results. For budgeting, schools need to plan on a large portion for print media, and not just budget for the printer. The plastic is not cheap!

The difference in two kinds of print media was also discussed. PLA print media is like water bottles—more flexible and has softer colors. ABS print media is like the bright colored, hard plastic that makes Legos. One school is researching how to melt down previously non-recyclable bottle lids to create their own print media. Many teachers expressed the need for a device to melt down failed prints to be able to re-use the wasted media. NASA is experimenting with printing with food to make astronaut meals more enjoyable (no more liquid meals?).

Finally, deployment planning was detailed. Any 3D printer requires good ventilation. They emit a strong burning plastic odor, so an open window may not be enough. The location needs to be well supervised due to the high temperatures involved. Students should not operate the printer alone. Since all images should be mediated before printing, all attendees advised 3D printers not be networked (even though some can be). Some schools have had problems with students trying to

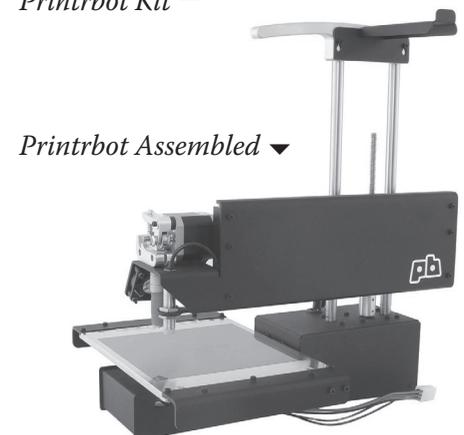
print operational firearms. Every image that a student wants to print needs to be reviewed and approved before being uploaded into the computer attached to the 3D printer.

Room supervisors must never leave a 3D printer running unattended. The print process is usually very slow, and you need to work your schedule to NOT leave it printing after hours. An extreme mess and much wasted media can result from failed prints. (They do happen!) Another result can be a plugged orifice. The media can get 'stuck' and the printer can stop working. Luckily, there are some helpful YouTube videos showing how you can fix some of these problems.

After this session, I was able to go and look through several working 3D printers in the vendor area. I also attended other sessions that shared 3D printing software. (See <http://future-talk.net>) I did not come back to Nebraska with a printer, but I did return ready to make a more informed decision about deployment and use of said printer when we do bring one home. ❖



*Printrbot Kit* ▲



*Printrbot Assembled* ▼

## ISTE Teacher Trek 2015 Reports

These articles have been submitted by the 2015 winners of the ISTE Teacher Trek Contest. Teachers received \$1800 towards their expenses to attend the national conference in Philadelphia, PA. See page 20 for details on this year's contest.

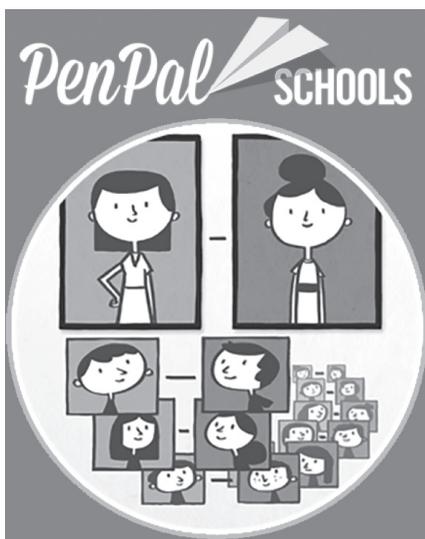


### Sarah Elger Aurora Public Schools

For a technology lovin' social studies teacher like me, my experience at ISTE 2015 in Philadelphia was incredible! My focus was GlobalEd. I was searching for new ways to explore the world without leaving the classroom.

**PenPal Schools** was the best thing I took from ISTE this year. I have been searching for a way to have global pen pals, but was concerned about tracking student progress. PenPal Schools is a free service that matches each student with a global pen pal AND guides the students through a curriculum-based three or six week course. Students just log in once a week for 20–30 minutes to complete each assignment. Weekly assignments include a short video, reading, and discussion questions that encourage critical reading and writing skills to help engage meaningful conversation. Teachers can review student work and join students' conversations with their pen pals. Teachers at ISTE who have utilized this service stated they never have an issue getting students to complete their PenPal assignments.

Google for Education demonstrated an awesome virtual reality experience for the classroom that is relatively inexpensive. Google Cardboard/Expeditions allows students to climb El Capitan in Yosemite or tour the Eiffel Tower right from the classroom. With some cardboard and a smartphone, your students can travel halfway



around the world. My fellow ISTE Trek winner, Brenda Klawonn, and I are excited to present on this technology at the Nebraska Fall Ed Tech Conference in October. Thank you again to NETA for this amazing adventure.

### Brenda Klawonn Aurora Public Schools

I went to the ISTE conference and focused on three areas of interest: chrome extensions, gamification, and augmented reality. I came home with three ideas that have me fired up and ready to incorporate into my classroom.

My second session into the conference was "Gamification: Instructional Scaffolding to Empower Learner Autonomy, Critical Thinking and Collaboration" led by Philip Vinogradov. He showed me how easy gamification in my classroom could be. I had been looking at Minecraft, creating my own website

game and apps, but in this session I learned to think about gamification differently.

While I still think that Minecraft and "video" type games have a purpose in teaching lessons, Mr. Vinogradov showed me that a pair of dice, post-it notes, and a Google doc can add a game element as well. His game with these simple tools did just what the title of the session said. We were placed in groups and told to roll the dice. He gave us a question to think about and our job was to come up with the same number of answers that equaled the number on the dice. Someone in our group recorded our answers in a shared Google doc. When it was time to share our answers to the whole group we then rolled one die and the group with the highest number got to share one of their answers. In a matter of minutes we had used critical thinking to come up with answers, we had collaborated to get the desired number of answers and we had fun and were engaged in the learning. This is the type of gamification that can be easily adapted into my classroom and I can't wait to try it with my students.

Augmented reality was another area that I was interested in and I was introduced to its possibilities at the ISTE conference. Both Soledad O'Brien's keynote address and Mr. Vinogradov's website led me to the new world of Google Cardboard. Remember the Viewfinders when you were a kid? Now take that

*(continued on the next page)*

*(ISTE Teacher Treks, continued)*  
concept of cardboard viewing glasses and a smartphone with the Cardboard app and you can take your students on a virtual fieldtrip (pictured at right).

A teacher with an iPad can give their students access to places like the Eiffel Tower or a national park. The students place the smartphones in the cardboard viewing glasses and then by moving their head around they can examine these places in 3D. This is still a very new application that we will see more information about later this fall, but I plan to figure out a way to apply it in my classroom as quickly as possible. This idea wasn't my only brush with augmented reality.

On the last day of the conference I took part in the session, "Walking the Augmented Reality Line, Philly Style!" Our leader, James Kapptie, took us to three places in historic Philadelphia where we could see how the Aurasma app worked. At our first stop in the Independence Hall visitor center thirty attendees stood before a painting and used the Aurasma app to gain access to a video pertaining to the scene in the picture. We also learned the dos and don'ts of using the app in outdoor places at the next two stops.

After the last stop outside of Betsy Ross' house, Mr. Kapptie quickly showed us how we could make our own Aurasma hotspots. As I saw how easy it was to make these augmented reality hotspots with the app, my mind turned to how I was going to use this in my classroom. My students could easily create something to add to a poster, wall, or door throughout the school and it wasn't a complicated process that could take days to complete. Making the augmented reality was short, easy and painless.



In my ever-changing role as an educator these ideas from ISTE will help me provide collaborative and relevant experiences for my students.

### **Matt Rosenau** **Norris Middle School**

Thanks to NETA, I had the opportunity this summer to attend the 2015 ISTE Conference in Philadelphia. The four-day spectacle, attended by over 20,000 educators, was a reminder for this small-town teacher that there are thousands upon thousands of educators all over the world who are passionate about innovation and student success. At the ISTE conference, it's easy to feel over-whelmed by

so many up-and-coming, fantastic technologies. But I found that when I looked close, innovation is everywhere. While my dreams are awash with visions of virtual reality, programming, and 3D printing, I'm also planning for a LEGO poetry center, which will occupy space on my bookshelves.

ISTE's message is that any innovation that opens a door for a student is an innovation worth pursuing, and to that end my biggest take-away is not some piece of technology, but an idea. The idea that I should be connected, reflecting, and sharing. Questioning and answering. Giving and taking. This summer I finally created that blog I've put off for too long, and so far I've stuck to my goal of updating it weekly. I now participate in ed chats on Twitter, and my network continues to grow. Through that, my learning and growth moves beyond a one-time event and is on the path toward sustained, daily renewal. Thank you to NETA's ISTE Teacher Trek contest for this opportunity! ❖

## *Save the Date!*

**NETA Spring Conference**  
**April 21-22, 2016**

## *Embrace Your Passion*

**CenturyLink Center Omaha**  
<http://netasite.org>

## New Board Member

FAREWELL—Bob Goeman and Evi Wusk left the NETA Board. Evi served on the NETA board helping with the Contest Committee, Programming Committee and Conversation Strand. Bob Goeman has served on the NETA Board for many years holding the positions of President Elect, President, Past President, and Co-Exhibitor Coordinator. Bob was an active participant on the Finance Committee, Logistics Committee and helped with many areas of conference support. Thank you Evi and Bob for your contributions to the NETA Board. We wish you success in your future endeavors!



We would like to welcome Stephanie Dannehl as a new Director on the NETA board. Stephanie had the next highest number of votes from the NETA Board election last winter, so we asked Stephanie to join the board to fill Evi Wusk's open position.

Stephanie attended the July retreat and has been actively participating on NETA committees. Stephanie Dannehl is the tech integration specialist and school librarian for Bertrand Community School. We look forward to working with you, Stephanie! ❖

## CenturyLink Teachers and Technology Grants

**What about the grants?**



**CenturyLink®**

Your link to what's next™

If you are looking for the grant information for the CenturyLink Teachers and Technology grants, those are not being published at this time. CenturyLink is investigating funding options for the 2016 grants, but arrangements have not been finalized.

If CenturyLink Teachers and Technology grants are going to be available, we will publish the information in a newsletter, post the application forms on our web site, and notify you through our monthly NewsGrams sent to all NETA members.

### Questions?

Please address any questions to Dr. Lynne Herr, NETA Contest Chair, at [lynne.herr@netasite.org](mailto:lynne.herr@netasite.org). ❖



*The NETA Board of Directors met in July in Omaha for their annual planning retreat.*

# Nebraska Fall Ed Tech Conference

THE NEBRASKA Council of School Administrators (NCSA) and the Nebraska Educational Technology Association (NETA) are excited to partner to provide a comprehensive and informative conference on technologies available and utilized in Nebraska schools. Today's students are actively engaged in using technology. They are early adopters of new technology and appear to be light-years ahead of the rest of the adult world. We challenge school leaders to understand and to successfully integrate technology to develop 21st century schools.

NETA's membership asked for an additional conference farther west in the state. We listened, and hope you will join us at the Nebraska Fall Ed Tech Conference, October 7–8, 2015 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney.

## Conference Schedule at a Glance:

### Wednesday, October 7th

#### Pre-Conference Workshops: 1:30–4:30 p.m. (registration required)

- Become a Graphite Certified Educator
- Building Story Maps with ArcGIS
- Get Organized & Explore Our World with Google
- Get Your Students Creating, Not Consuming Content
- Google Tools for Data Collection, Analysis, & Reporting



- Project Based Learning (PBL) with iPads
- Teaching in a Digital World: Marzano + Technology
- Technology and Adolescent Literacy
- Twitter for School Administrators

**Tech Coordinators meet all day Wednesday, October 7, at ESU 10.**  
(See more information in the article on page 22.)

### Thursday, October 8th

8:00–9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Keynote
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Break (Visit Exhibitors)
9:30–10:15 a.m.	Session 1
10:30–11:15 a.m.	Session 2
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30–1:15 p.m.	Session 3
1:30–2:15 p.m.	Session 4
2:30–3:15 p.m.	Session 5
3:30–4:15 p.m.	Session 6

## Registration Costs:

- Pre-Conference Workshops: \$50 per workshop
- Conference Registration: \$125 (includes Thursday lunch)
- Group Registration: \$10 off each registration for groups registering six or more paid on the same check, credit card or PO.

Registration is limited to the first 800 people. Please plan to register a team of individuals for group planning or yourself to continue learning how to successfully integrate technology into your school and classrooms.

A link to the full conference schedule, including session and workshop descriptions, is now available! For more information and to register, visit <http://www.fall.netasite.org> ❖



### Thursday's Keynote

**Joe Mazza,  
Ed.D.**

Dr. Mazza is the Leadership Innovation Manager at the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education, teaching within the Mid-Career Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (@MCDPEL)  
[www.leadlearner.com/about/](http://www.leadlearner.com/about/)

## NETA'S TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM

### FINAL REPORTS FROM 2014 WINNERS



#### **Douglas Bertelsen** **Gretna High School**

##### **Making the Future: Using a 3D Printer in High School to Engage Learners**

The 3D printer provided by the grant has been increasing in exposure and usage during the second semester of the school year. Students have utilized Autodesk Inventor to design an air brake for a rocket to control the altitude and flight time of the Team America Rocketry Challenge. The team of eight students performed well enough to be invited to the finals in Washington D.C. this past May. The team placed 12th out of almost 700 teams and was recognized for their presentation on the technology and usage of the 3D printed parts in their design.

Inroads have been made with the photography and art departments; several of the photography students used Adobe Photoshop to convert their images to gray scale and then processed the images with Cura to make lithophanes. These rectangles of plastic use thickness of plastic to block varying amounts of light, thereby creating different shades on the plastic. In essence, you can print an object that displays the image when held up to light. One of the art teachers expressed interest in

using something similar next year in a watercolor project.

My presentation at the 2015 NETA conference was very well received, both in the poster session and the makerspace that I was invited to participate in. Of interest to many teachers was the cross-curriculum direction that we are advocating with 3D printing used as an engaging tool for creativity.

#### **Becky Hall** **Bennet Elementary**

##### **iPad Mini Project**

The goal of the iPad Mini Project was to expand the use of technology in our reading curriculum. We did that and more! We used Scribble Press to create a class book about what students want to be when they grow up and uploaded it to iBooks for their families to read. That project was an extension of our reading story "Who Works Here" focusing on community workers.

We use QR codes in our reading center rotations. The codes take students to YouTube videos we made providing instruction for reading practice book pages and grammar book pages. Expanding the use of QR codes we added a code to our opening wall that takes students to the weather channel and the forecast for the day in Bennet, NE. We also used Chatterpix and had students share facts they learned about Alexander Graham Bell, a biography from our reading series. We created QR codes for these Chatterpix videos

and hung them in the library windows at school for other students to scan so they could also learn about Alexander Graham Bell.

The use of technology in the classroom has allowed me to give students an opportunity to actively share what they have learned with each other, their families and me. Thank you NETA for the money to buy iPad minis. The grant was a springboard for finding creative ways to bring technology into our classroom.

#### **Amanda Hansen** **Tekamah Herman Schools**

##### **TIGERS (Technology Integration for Growth, Engagement, and Response for Students)**

The technology grant I was awarded permitted my school to purchase a Mimio Teach and Mimio pad, software and document camera. Mimio technology provides students with activities throughout each day, beginning with a morning meeting. I've also created daily reading lessons in Mimio Notebook to teach reading and phonics skills. The Mimio pad allows me to be mobile, while still being able to manipulate the Mimio lessons. The document camera has been successful among struggling students. The document camera allows me to place a worksheet on the Mimio so we are able to work on a subject together, which helps the students follow along with ease. I utilize the camera for science lessons, among other things, to show artifacts and items up close.

*(Continued on the next page)*

*(Final Grant Reports, continued)*  
Students also use the Mimio by participating in academic “games” within a lesson. My class contributes to these activities either as a whole, or in smaller groups. Students participate by using the pen to drag items and pictures, or to write words within the activity. My first graders are always excited to use the Mimio! Their willingness to participate in lessons and activities is much greater than before. I clearly see they’re engaged and actively learning when using the Mimio. It has made our learning fun and interactive!

A professional goal for next year is to enhance my own lessons with more innovative activities. I also plan to teach my coworkers the many ways Mimio enriches classroom learning. I’m excited to continue growing with this project!

### **Steve McCarville** **Holy Name School**

#### **Cultural Awareness through Technology**

With the purchase of 30 ASUS Memo Pad HD tablets, the students began a journey of cultural awareness. The Holy Name students interviewed community members representing seven different cultures. In developing questions, interviewing, and preparing a video, the students increased their awareness of other cultures.

The tablets were used throughout the project beginning with research on countries/cultures of interviewees. They videoed their interviewing techniques with the tablets and reviewed the videos to perfect interviewing skills. During the interview, the tablets captured the audio, video and artifacts. The students then learned about video

editing and developed a visual summary of all the interviews.

The final video was shared with the community in person and on YouTube. When surveyed, the students were excited to share what they learned and to suggest more speakers for next year.

### **Katie Stone** **Boone Central**

#### **Using iPads for Research Papers**

My grant was using iPads for Research Papers. In my third grade classroom this year each student was assigned a president for the topic of a research report.

To get my students started I made a Google Doc outlining all the important information the student was to find on their president such as childhood, adulthood, presidency and interesting facts and shared it with each student. Each category went further into depth like where and when the president was born, parents names and school attended. By using this outline in Google Docs the kids were able to fill in the information that they found and it really guided their research.

When it came time to write reports the students wrote longer reports than any other students in the past. After the reports were written the students were to make a digital poster of their president. Through the app Pic Collage students were able to design a custom poster and insert pictures of their president and a few facts about the president. After the report and pic collage were finished the students presented their reports and I mirrored their Pic Collage from the iPad to the interactive board for the other

students to see. I felt that using iPads for research was a complete success.

### **Kelly Thielen** **Kiewit Middle School**

#### **Promoting Reading Through Technology**

Our grant project promoting reading through technology was a great success. After securing district approval for use of Aurasma and creating objectives, guidelines and templates, we were able to begin. I enlisted the help of two seventh grade teachers to help recruit students for the projects. Students then created short video book reviews. The students did an awesome job.

We displayed the trigger images (book covers) in acrylic frames and started showing students how to access the book reviews. They were a big hit! The students were constantly coming to the desk for iPads to check out the latest reviews. Next year, I will work with the HAL teacher to involve even more students in the actual creation of the video book reviews. We are also going to do some reviews with QR codes rather than using Aurasma for variety’s sake. Students will be able to access them using a QR Code reader app we installed on the iPads.

In addition to our project, the iPads were also used by teachers in the classroom. Those teachers were using software such as Plickers, Kahoot, GarageBand, iMovie, PicPlayPost and more. They were also utilized for taking video and photos for class projects. It was very nice to have devices that students could use if they did not have their own devices for these interactive technology experiences. ❖

*(Passion, continued from page 1)*  
I was struck by how completely opposite these two works of art were. While Waylon longs to be on the same path as Hank, Krissy points out that too many tools have changed in education for us to keep doing things the same way.

### Teach like Hank Williams?

For the past (almost) thirty years, NETA has strived to not just bring you the latest in technology integration, but provide you with speakers and resources of the greatest ways to USE the tools at your disposal. Not everyone's school or district is the same, but as technology progresses, instruction should be progressing too. Unfortunately, I think too many teachers still teach

like Hank Williams would have if he were a teacher (wow...Hank Williams as a teacher...that's a scary thought). Technology hadn't taken hold of society in the late 1970's like it has today. At that time, it may have still been acceptable for Waylon to take the same path as Hank had 25–30 years earlier.

### Resources transformational

Since the 1990's, however, technology has taken over society and opened us up to so many new opportunities to connect and innovate that doing things the same way they were in the 1950's is only acceptable in a handful of careers (I cannot think of any, but never say never). Innovation in education is becoming more affordable. Not

only are the tools to learn becoming less expensive, finding other educators to learn from, even if they are on the opposite side of the globe, is now at our fingertips. Social media and video sharing sites like YouTube provide free resources from which educators can learn what they want, when they want. This can transform classroom instruction in such a way that kids cannot wait to get to school.

We hope that the resources NETA provides are also pieces of the puzzle that help you and your staff transform the educational experiences of your students into something that Hank and Waylon would want to emulate. ❖

## Embrace Your Passion

### Request for Sessions for the NETA 2016 Spring Conference

NETA IS LOOKING FOR members and friends who are willing to share their classroom, school or district technology experiences with others from across the region by making a presentation at the NETA spring conference, April 21–22, 2016. Presenters who can address uses of technology in any discipline and at any educational level are encouraged to submit a presentation. Sessions are lecture/demonstration, BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), or poster/playground sessions and last for 45 minutes.

#### Poster/playground sessions

A poster/playground session allows many presenters to set up in one large session area with poster boards, new technology for participants to try, or other resources. It is possible to bring a computer for the session if it is stated ahead of time on the proposal. Participants stroll through the gallery in an informal manner while presenters show projects and answer questions.

#### Presenter guidelines

Lead presenters pay a significantly reduced rate and are expected to provide ample handouts or Web/email access to their information after the conference. A co-presenter may assist in the session. A co-presenter must, however, register for the conference as a regular attendee. A limit of three presenters per session will be printed in the program. Students are allowed to assist in a presentation as guests of the conference (limit of four, and must be supervised at all times).

Questions should be directed to Jackie Ediger, President Elect/Conference Chair, by email at [jackie.ediger@netasite.org](mailto:jackie.ediger@netasite.org)

#### Mark Your Calendar—Submission Deadline!

Sessions may only be submitted online, and must be entered by the **November 13, 2015 deadline**. No emailed sessions will be accepted. Click the link at the NETA home page at <http://netasite.org> to submit. The online session submission site is open now! ❖



Tina Sauser,  
Boone Central  
Schools

## Recipe for a Technology Infused Lesson



### Ingredients

**Curriculum**—(Always remember this should be your main focus throughout the entire recipe).

**Technology Tools**—Dig deep in those cupboards to find different tools out there. You may also want to elicit help from others in your school or others via social media.

**Resources**—Ask for help from other people that have utilized these tools in their classrooms. YouTube is also a great resource for “How To” videos!

**Lesson Plan**—Utilize the plans you have already made. Remember, you are just spicing it up a little.

**Time**—Not that you have to set a timer or anything, but once you have created one of these lessons, you will get better and better and take up less and less of your time.

### Directions

1. Begin by choosing an area of curriculum that may not be the most exciting to teach. With the curriculum as the focus, start to gather as many different technology tools you can find to mix in with the curriculum.

2. Once you have gathered a group of technology tools, start to write out your lesson plan. As you are writing your lesson plan, slowly begin to season the lesson with technology tools that fit with what you are trying to teach. You are looking for parts and pieces that can be digitized or made utilizing technology. For instance, if you want to begin the lesson by finding out what students already know about the topic, you could use Kahoot, or Quizizz for a quick quiz or you could use something like TodaysMeet to have students tell what they already know about the topic. During the lesson, you may want to have kids collaborate or work via Google Docs and/or Google Classroom to hand in their assignments. At the end of the lesson, why not have students choose how they want to present their knowledge allowing them to choose the technology tool they want to use. Students could be given a rubric to follow so they know what guidelines you require, but then it would be their choice on how to meet those guidelines.

3. Now that you have given your students a taste test of this technology infused lesson, get their feedback. Ask them what they liked and didn't like about the lesson and why (You could use a Google Forms to gather your feedback).

Once you have added these technology tools to your first lesson, begin slowly mixing those tools into other lessons and activities to help spice them up a little. The result will be a delicious mix of student engagement, enhanced learning, saved time, and most of all enjoyment.

### Nutrition Information

#### 100% student engagement

\*The technology infused lesson must begin and continually focus on the curriculum you are trying to teach. The technology is just a tool to assist you in reaching the goal of providing students with the information. ❖



*Craig Badura,  
Aurora Public  
Schools*

LET'S FLASH BACK to the Spring of 2000. I was just finishing up my first year of teaching and was on top of the world. I made it. I survived! I was looking forward to spending the summer with my wife Jennifer, and our first born child Caleb just enjoying life.

The only thing holding me back was my end of the year "check out" meeting with my Principal, the late Gary Monter. I didn't think much about it. I had done fairly well on my formal evaluation, and also received some very positive feedback from the walk-through observations that took place in my classroom throughout the school year.

## The Most Important Question an Administrator Ever Asked Me

The time had come. It was my turn to check out. I entered the office, sat down and after some small talk on how I thought the year went, Principal Monter asked me the following question:

*"What are you planning on changing next year?"*

I was dumbfounded. I didn't expect that question. I didn't know what to say. After all, I had received nothing but great feedback on my evaluation. Why would I have to change anything that I had previously done? I thought my first year was great.

I stammered to come up with an answer. I can't remember what I actually said, its not really that important, but that question has had

a profound impact on me throughout my 15 years in education.

### **I now know the answer.**

As educators, we must be willing to continually change to best fit the needs of our students. As Mr. Monter said, "that's where the good stuff happens."

Even today I find myself continually trying to change what I do from year to year in the classroom. Not getting stuck in the rut. Not taking the easy road. Yes, it's easy to do the same thing year in and year out. Is that what's really best for our students?

So, with the new year, let me ask you...

*"What are you planning on changing THIS year?"* ❖

## NETA Free Membership

At the NETA Annual meeting this past April, the NETA membership voted overwhelmingly to move to a Free (\$0) Membership Fee, a membership program similar to several other ISTE Affiliates. Please encourage your educator colleagues to become members of NETA.

Some information to share with them: NETA membership is open to anyone who has an interest in administrative, educational, and instructional use of technology and who subscribe to the basic tenets of NETA as proclaimed in the NETA bylaws. They may join or review the NETA bylaws by visiting [www.netasite.org](http://www.netasite.org).

Individuals who attend NETA's annual spring conference will receive all membership benefits, including a printed newsletter. Members not attending NETA's annual spring conference have the opportunity to subscribe to the print newsletter for \$35 per year. ❖



*Kristina Peters,  
Nebraska  
Department  
of Education*

## Meet the New Kind of PD:

# edcamp

IMAGINE SHOWING UP for a day of professional development, only to discover there is no schedule of pre-selected sessions and you are told that you get to determine your learning for the day. Would you nervously laugh and try to run? Or, would you begin thinking about questions you have or expertise you could share, to benefit others?

### Meet Edcamp

If you typically experience PD being presented to or at you, this would be a whole new experience for you. Meet Edcamp. A new kind of PD. Edcamp follows the unconference model where the people that show up are the right people, the sessions that happen are the right sessions, and the time spent is the right time. It is participant-driven PD—the kind that you’ve always wanted.

### Did you say fun?

Edcamps thrive on conversations, not presentations. The learning is driven by topics and questions that we have as educators. There is often conversation, debate, show and tell, hands-on learning, brainstorming, and fun. Woah! Did she just say fun in regards to PD? Yes, yes I did. Professional learning is fun when you have choice and voice. Did I mention that you help determine the sessions?

Still not sure? Have no fear, there are Edcamps happening right here in Nebraska, with more being added each year. The Edcamp

Foundation and NETA both proudly support the Nebraska Edcamps taking place throughout the year. For the most current list of upcoming events, visit: <http://edcamp.wikispaces.com> Take a chance and give one a try!

### Give it a try!

What if I want to do something like this in my own district? Propose having this style of professional learning with your building staff to start, and invite your district-level leadership. The Edcamp Foundation has wonderful supports in place for those wanting to try an Edcamp in their community or an Edcamp-style event for their districts. We also have Edcamp organizers right here in Nebraska that would love to help get you started, answer any questions, and maybe even attend!

It’s time for a new kind of PD that empowers participants to drive their own learning. Edcamps can make that happen.

### Nebraska Edcamps:

- The September 12, 2015 EdcampCentralNE (Grand Island) **cancelled** due to a scheduling conflict, to be rescheduled for the Fall of 2016. Craig Badura or Heather Callihan [craig.badura@netasite.org](mailto:craig.badura@netasite.org)
- November 14, 2015 EdcampKearney: Kris Kampovitz, Kandi Stelling, and Jess Ritonya <http://goo.gl/Zaq3dF>
- March 19, 2016 EdcampOmaha: Josh Allen and Kristina Peters [kristina.peters@netasite.org](mailto:kristina.peters@netasite.org)
- June, 2016 EdcampArchOmaha: Barb Gilman, Mike Mansour, Jim Homan, Sarah Hood, Teri Preston, and Linda Sweeting
- August, 2016 Edcamp100thMeridian (Cozad): Dave Evertson and Patty Wolfe [patty.wolfe@netasite.org](mailto:patty.wolfe@netasite.org) ❖

100th Meridian EdCamp 2015 Schedule				
	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14	Room 17
8:30-9:20 am	Registration/Networking/Breakfast/Coffee Coffee & Rolls provided by Cozad Development Center			
Session 1 9:30 - 10:20	Flipping & Blended Classrooms	Professional Development Ideas	Video Media Production	Standards Based Grading
Session 2 10:30-11:20	Twitter for Teachers	STEAM/Maker Spaces	#TYIW (Goal Setting)	Cross Curricular Collaboration
11:30-12:50	Lunch/Group Picture Lunch provided by Cozad Community Health Systems			
Session 3 1:00-1:50	Staff Culture	PBL (Project Based Learning)	Digital Portfolios	Sucks and Rocks
Session 4 2:00-2:50	LMS (Canva, Schoology, Google Classroom, etc.)	Math Intervention (Elementary)	Gamification	Building Relationships
3:00-3:30	Wrap Up—Door Prizes!—Thank our Sponsors!			

*This schedule was developed by edcamp participants in Cozad on August 4.*



Lynne Herr,  
ESU 6, NETA  
Contest Chair

# CONTESTS!

## Are They Your Golden Ticket to the NETA Conference?

**ARE YOU TIRED** of opening boxes of Wonka Bars hoping to find a golden ticket to attend the spring NETA conference without paying a registration fee or costs for your substitute teacher?

**ARE YOU LEADING** your students to do outstanding work with technology tools in the classroom?

**ARE YOU DOING** great work with technology tools that you want to share with others? NETA contests are for YOU!

### Clean slate

Every summer at the NETA planning retreat, the Board Contest Committee reviews all of the contests as we do our best to offer opportunities for students and teachers to showcase their work and promote it as classroom models to teachers across the state. This year, the Committee started from a blank slate in an effort to make our contests more teacher and student friendly, as well as more inclusive of all Nebraska educators.

Rather than offer contests with specific themes teachers need to fit their projects into, we've done away with specific contests to allow you to enter work you're already doing with students as part of your curriculum. If you're doing great technology-infused

work with students, then we have a contest for you!

### New Structure

Our new student contest structure is divided solely by media type: audio, video, interactive media and still images. Yet we also carried forward our popular teacher contests that allow teachers to win trips to the annual ISTE conference (in Denver next summer), earn grants for purchasing classroom technology, and be recognized as leaders in your local district and the region.

### Digital submission system

And last but not least, we are implementing a new digital submission system this year.

No more signatures in blue ink or racing off to the post office to meet the postmark deadline! Our contest submission window will open November 1 and close February 1 at midnight. Start thinking about your projects to enter now and log on to <http://netasite.org> on November 1 to get started with your entries!

### Questions?

Please email your questions to the Contest Chair, Lynne Herr ([lynne.herr@netasite.org](mailto:lynne.herr@netasite.org)). We know there are a lot of changes and will post any questions and answers in our new Frequently Asked Questions page in the Contests section of the NETA website. ❖



# NETA Student Contests

## Eligibility

Student contests are open to Midwestern PK–12 students and pre-service teachers. All PK–12 student entries must include principal's consent and contact information.

## Contest Divisions

Each contest category will be judged by divisions.

- Grades PK–4
- Grades 5–8
- Grades 9–12
- Independent K–12 Student Entry
- Pre-service Teacher

## Contest Categories

### Still Images:

This category allows students to showcase their work in the area of still images. Students will submit completed products such as, digital images, photographs, logos, graphic design, and infographics that were created as part of a classroom project.

### Video:

This category allows students to showcase their work in the area of video. Students may submit completed non-interactive video projects. Examples of projects that could fall into this category include but are not limited to: newscasts, movies, video podcasts, and animations.

### Audio:

This category allows students to showcase their work in the area of audio. Students will submit completed audio products such as podcasts, radio shows and original music/poetry.



### Interactive Media:

This category allows students to showcase their work in the area of interactive media. As defined by wikipedia, interactive media normally refers to products and services on digital computer-based systems which respond to the user's actions by presenting content such as text, graphics, animation, video, audio, games, etc. Examples of interactive media that may be submitted to this category include interactive eBooks, websites created by the student, apps developed by the student, and more.

### Judging and Awards

Contest entries will be judged on criteria that include connection to curriculum, originality, creativity, quality of product and innovative use of technology. Up to three awards per category per age division will be given. The winning students are strongly encouraged to attend the 2016 NETA spring

conference along with their teacher to present a poster session about their project and to be recognized for their achievement.

The winning teacher will receive a non-transferable, complimentary conference registration and the teacher's school district will be reimbursed the actual cost for the substitutes for both days.

### Announcing winners

All entrants should refer to the NETA website (<http://netasite.org>) on or after March 1, 2016 for contest results. We request that teacher entrants do not register for the conference until winners are announced. Application materials will not be returned to entrants.

All submitted projects may be distributed freely by NETA. Educators submitting entries need to follow all of their district's policies regarding the distribution of student work. The online submission form must be completed in full.

Awards will be mailed out to the teachers' school districts following the NETA spring conference. All entries must be submitted online.

### Submission Deadline:

The 2015–16 Contest submission window will be **November 1, 2015 –February 1, 2016**. All entries must be submitted through the contest submission system accessed via the NETA website (<http://netasite.org>). ❖

# NETA Educator Contests

## Eligibility

NETA Educator contests are open to public and private educators in the Midwest, with preference given to Nebraska educators. In addition to any prizes specific to a particular contest, winning educators will receive a non-transferable, complimentary 2016 spring NETA conference registration and if a substitute is required, the winner's school district will be reimbursed the actual cost for the substitute for both days of conference attendance.

## Description of Educator Contest Categories

### NETA Technology Grants



Classroom grants to support innovative technology use in the classroom will be awarded with a maximum of \$1500 each. Each recipient will receive their award check at the NETA spring conference. Materials purchased with NETA grant money will belong to the recipient's school district. A mid-term progress report is due by December 1, 2016, and a final report of less than 250 words that describes the activities, tools and student impact is due June 1, 2017.

Grant recipients will be required to present their project at the 2017 NETA spring conference as a poster/playground session, where handouts and information about the project will be shared with other NETA educators. Grants are to be awarded for original projects only and are not to sustain previous grant projects. The number of awards may vary depending upon

the quantity and quality of entries. Teachers may submit different applications over time. 2015 grant winners are not eligible to apply for this contest.

### ISTE Trek Conference Scholarship



Up to four trips to the 2016 ISTE Conference in Denver, CO, will be awarded with a maximum of \$1800 to pay for conference registration, coach class airfare, hotel, local transportation and meals. Entrants should use creative technology skills to submit a contest entry video explaining how you use technology to enhance student learning and how attending ISTE 2016 would strengthen what you already do or allow you to do something new. What are you hoping to learn or gain by attending sessions at ISTE 2016? Videos must be less than 90 seconds in length and will be entered via the online submission system. The winners will write a follow-up NETA newsletter article by July 15, 2016, explaining what projects or plans will be implemented in their classroom based upon what was learned through ISTE 2016 attendance. 2015 ISTE Trek winners are not eligible for this contest.

### Excellence in Leading With Technology Award



The purpose of the Nebraska Excellence in Leading with Technology Award is to recognize and honor an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in implementing technology



to improve teaching, learning or administration. This contest is open to Nebraska PK–12 public and private school administrators and technology coordinators whose primary job role does not include teaching students. All entries must include the superintendent's consent for contest entry and superintendent's contact information. If a superintendent is submitting his/her own application, the President of the local Board of Education may be used.

The winner will be awarded \$600 for professional activities (which could include conference reimbursement, tuition, or subscriptions—to be spent by April 30, 2017). The winner will also be invited to be a special guest at a Wednesday evening dinner with the NETA Board of Directors where they will be asked to give short remarks about their work with instructional technology.

Winners will be determined by a panel of Directors from the NETA Board based on the following guidelines, determining the extent to which the nominee:

- positively impacts technology use in teaching, learning and administration ; locally, regionally, or statewide.

*(continued on the next page)*

(Contests, continued)

- involves the local community in their work or has facilitated partnerships with business and/or other organizations to advance the use of technology in teaching and learning.
- integrates deliberate planning in an effort to improve education through the use of technology.
- works tirelessly to improve the quality of education and/or work experience in their own school.
- contributes to the profession by presenting at professional conferences, seminars and/or workshops or publishing articles in print or through electronic media.
- reflects the mission and purpose of NETA.

### Excellence in Teaching With Technology Award



The purpose of the Nebraska Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award is to recognize and honor an individual

teacher who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in implementing technology to improve PK-12 teaching and learning. This contest is open to Nebraska public and private school educators whose primary job role is classroom teaching directly with students. The winner will be awarded \$600 for professional activities (which could include conference reimbursement, tuition, or subscriptions—to be spent by April 30, 2017).

The winner will also be invited to be a special guest at a Wednesday evening dinner with the NETA Board of Directors where they will be asked to give short remarks about their work with leading technology initiatives.

Winners will be determined by a panel of Directors from the NETA Board based on the following guidelines, determining the extent to which the nominee:

- positively impacts technology use in teaching and learning; locally, regionally, or statewide.
- involves the local community in their work or has facilitated partnerships with business and/or other organizations to advance the use of technology in teaching and learning.
- integrates deliberate planning in an effort to improve education through the use of technology.
- works tirelessly to improve the quality of education and/or work experience in their own school.
- contributes to the profession by presenting at professional conferences, seminars and/or workshops or publishing articles in print or through electronic media.
- reflects the mission and purpose of NETA.

### Submission Deadline:

The 2015–16 Contest submission window will be **November 1, 2015 – February 1, 2016**. All entries must be submitted through the contest submission system accessed via the NETA website (<http://netasite.org>).

### Judging and Awards

Contest entries will be judged on criteria that include connection to curriculum, originality, creativity, quality of product and innovative use of technology. The winners are strongly encouraged to attend the NETA spring conference to present a poster session about their project and to be recognized for their achievement.

The winning teacher will receive a non-transferable, complimentary conference registration and the teacher's school district will be reimbursed the actual cost for the substitutes for both days.

### Announcing winners

All entrants should refer to the NETA website (<http://netasite.org>) on or after March 1, 2016 for contest results. We request that teacher entrants do not register for the conference until winners are announced. Application materials will not be returned to entrants.

All submitted projects may be distributed freely by NETA. Educators submitting entries need to follow all of their district's policies regarding the distribution of personal work. All fields in the online submission form must be completed.

Awards will be mailed out to the teachers' school districts following the NETA spring conference. All entries must be submitted online through the contest submission system accessed via the NETA website (<http://netasite.org>). ❖

## Tech Coordinators and Mobile Learning Community

THE TECH COORDINATORS and MOBILE LEARNING COMMUNITY groups are supported by NETA as part of efforts to encourage statewide technology initiatives.

### Tech Coordinators

The Tech Coordinators Meeting will be Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at ESU 10 in Kearney. We plan to work in partnership with other state organizations to offer an infrastructure planning workshop during the day and the traditional technology coordinators meeting in the afternoon/evening. Watch the listserv and website for more information.

Do you provide technical support for your district? The agendas for

meetings focus on technology coordinator duties that are largely platform independent.

This group also has a listserv. You can join the listserv by going to the site below and entering your name and address. For questions, contact Lucas Bingham at [lucas.bingham@netasite.org](mailto:lucas.bingham@netasite.org) or follow the site <http://netasite.org/techcoord>.

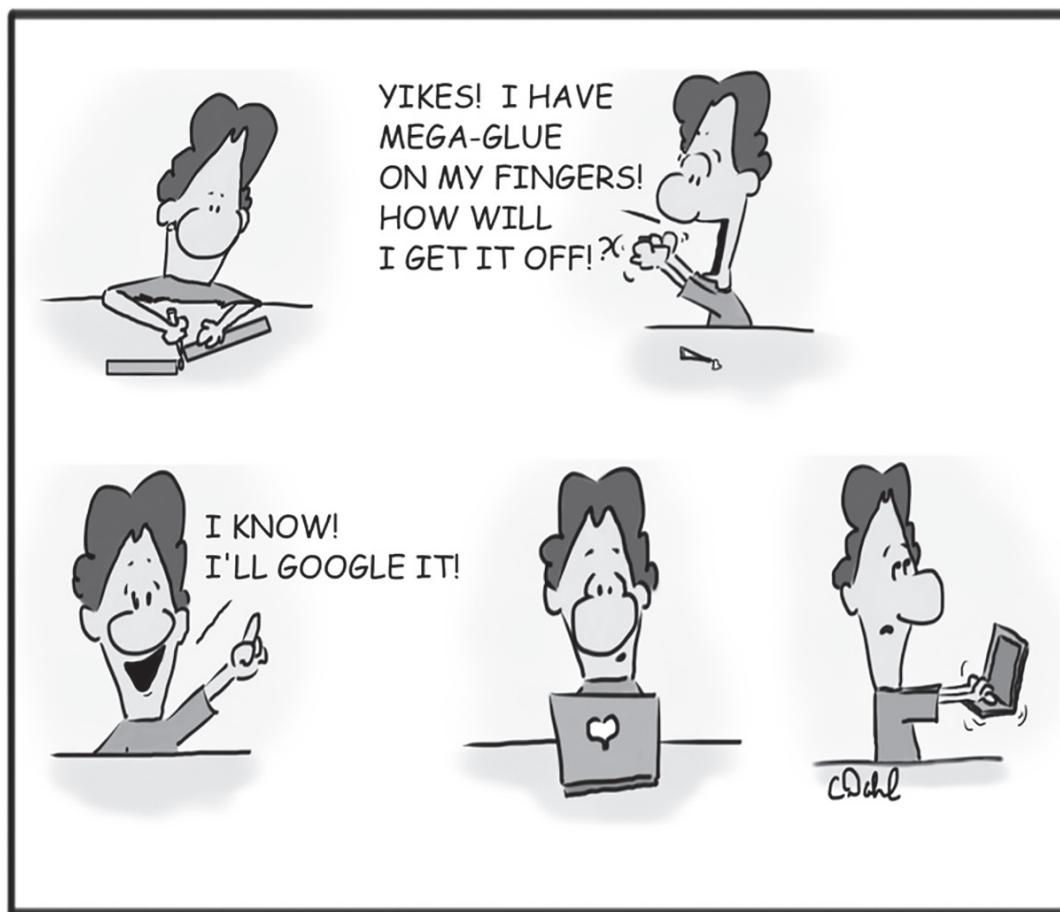
### Mobile Learning Community

The Mobile Learning Community Meeting will be October 29th in Kearney at ESU 10 from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided by NETA. There will be a roundtable discussion that will be based on the agenda items that are submitted by community

members. We will work to provide remote sites throughout the state. Please check the website to see if a remote site may be available and more convenient.

The purpose of this community meeting is to provide a place for support, information sharing, and getting answers to questions. Many of the districts involved are 1:1 with some kind of device (laptop or tablet), while others are simply trying to navigate teaching and learning in a device-rich environment. Those attending are going through similar situations, joys, obstacles and projects.

For more information, visit <http://netamobile.weebly.com> ❖



By Corey Dahl, Superintendent at Crofton Public Schools— <https://www.flickr.com/photos/coreydahl/>



# CALENDAR OF TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Events of every type for educators, technicians & administrators

## October 2015

### Fall Ed Tech Conference

October 7–8, 2015  
Younes Conference Center  
Kearney, NE  
[www.fall.netasite.org](http://www.fall.netasite.org)



### ITEC (Iowa Technology Education Connection) Conference

October 11–13, 2015  
Iowa Events Center  
Des Moines, IA  
[itec-ia.org](http://itec-ia.org)

## November 2015

### iNACOL—Blended and Online Learning Symposium

November 8–11, 2015  
Orlando, FL  
[www.inacol.org](http://www.inacol.org)

## January 2016

### Florida Educational Technology Conference (FETC)

January 13–15, 2016  
Orange County Convention Ctr,  
Orlando, FL  
[fetc.org](http://fetc.org)

## February 2016

### Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA)

February 1–5, 2016  
Austin, TX  
[www.tcea.org](http://www.tcea.org)

### Midwest Educational Technology Conference (METC)

February 8–10, 2016  
St. Charles, MO  
[metconference.org](http://metconference.org)

### NDLA (Nebraska Distance Learning Association) Blended Pathways to Learning

February 24–26, 2016  
Omaha Marriott (Regency)  
Omaha, NE  
[ndla.org](http://ndla.org)

### Nebraska Association for the Gifted (NAG) Conference

February 25–26, 2016  
Omaha, NE  
[www.negifted.org](http://www.negifted.org)

## April 2016

### CoSN's School Networking Conference

April 4–7, 2016  
Washington D.C.  
[www.cosn.org/events/](http://www.cosn.org/events/)

### National School Boards Association (NSBA)

April 9–11, 2016  
Boston, MA  
[annualconference.nsba.org](http://annualconference.nsba.org)

### Infotec (by the AIM Inst.)

April 18–19, 2016  
CenturyLink Center  
Omaha, NE  
[infotec.org](http://infotec.org)

### NETA Spring Conference Embrace Your Passion

April 21–22, 2016  
CenturyLink Center  
Omaha, NE  
[netasite.org](http://netasite.org)

## May 2016

### United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA)

May 10–12, 2016  
St. Louis, MO  
<http://www.usdla.org>

## June 2016

### Nebraska Career Education Conference (NCE)

June 6–9, 2016  
Younes Conference Center  
Kearney, NE  
[nceconference.com](http://nceconference.com)

### ISTE Conference Education Transformation Starts Here

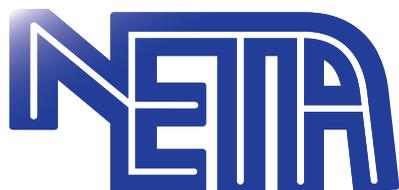
June 26–29, 2016  
Denver, CO  
[www.iste.org](http://www.iste.org)



# NETA

Nebraska Educational Technology Association  
PO Box 484  
Gretna, NE 68028

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## Membership Form

*NETA Statement of Purpose: The Nebraska Educational Technology Association exists for the purpose of providing leadership and promoting the application of technology to the educational process. Its span of interest includes all levels and aspects of education.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

School/Agency Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you attended the Spring Conference in April 2015, your membership is included with your registration. You will receive a printed newsletter. If you would like to receive a printed newsletter, but did not attend the Spring Conference, you may pay \$35.00 for a printed September, November, February and April newsletter. Make checks payable to NETA. To become a member, please fill out the above form and mail with check to:

NETA Membership  
PO Box 484  
Gretna, NE 68028

- I am a new member
- I was recruited by this current NETA member

Address changes should be sent to the above address or emailed to: [executivedirector@netasite.org](mailto:executivedirector@netasite.org)