

# TEC Talk

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Classes Participate in Hour of Code	1
Going on a Virtual Fieldtrip	2
Twitter	2
Shared Reading	3
Network News	3

## Technology Staff

Technology Coordinator  
Mary Ann McGinn

Network Administrator  
John Burke

Database Manager  
Brad Brubaker

Administrative Assistant  
Karen Fidler

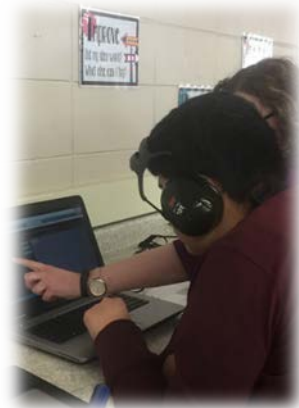
Instructional Technology Coaches  
Pam Guio  
Joan Obial

Technicians  
Jose Barragan  
Tom Conte  
Jason Nixon  
Sami Rizvi

TEC Liaison  
Deb Skoskiewicz

## Classes Participate in Hour of Code

Under the direction of Instructional Technology Coaches and STEM teachers, NSSEO students at Kirk, Timber Ridge, Miner, Riley and Forest participated in the Hour of Code. Hour of Code is promoted and organized by Code.org, a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding participation and interest in computer science in schools worldwide. The goal of the program is to promote computer science. It inspires students to try coding and explore interest in computer science.



Students completed a variety of coding activities on computers and iPads. They also coded robots including BeeBot, Kibo, and Dash and Dot.



In addition to learning coding, students worked on communication skills, problem solving, following directions and working cooperatively in teams. Many of our activities included literacy and math lessons.



## Going on a Virtual Fieldtrip

<https://nearpod.com/>



Students at Timber Ridge had a chance to visit historical sites in the United States, France and Mexico all on the same day.

Pam Guio, Instructional Coach, led a lesson using an online program called Nearpod which allowed students to participate in a social studies lesson on historical sites around the world.

The lessons are synchronized across all student devices and include research based instructional practices for student participation and engagement.

The program includes reading passages, video, and a variety of checks to provide real-time feedback to demonstrate comprehension.



Lessons may include multiple choice questions, open ended questions, polls, and opportunities to draw and respond using a virtual whiteboard. All answers are recorded for post session reports.

The highlight of the lesson was using the Nearpod VR headsets. They let students explore places in 3D. "Ooh", "It's cool", and "It's beautiful" could be heard throughout the classroom.

Contact Pam for more information at [pguio@nsseo.org](mailto:pguio@nsseo.org)

## Tell Your Story with Twitter

Social media is one way to communicate and share what is happening in your program or school. It is a great way to share with others in your school, NSSEO and the community.

What makes a good tweet? A picture is worth a thousand words, isn't that the saying? Well, with 140 character limitation, pictures will tell your story. Use the text to highlight the learning objectives. Examples: Learning to count money at CBE, Working on core vocabulary, Reading a recipe, Measuring in cooking, Working as a team, Learning about Point of View.

During the month of February, we will set up a Twitter Challenge for licensed staff. We'll send out a bingo board with each square having an idea to tweet. Contact Pam and Joan to help you set up an account and review guidelines.

Show our community how our students Engage, Connect and Grow!

 NSSEO River Trails @jzurawski71 - Jan 13  
Recognizing feelings through stories in Group today



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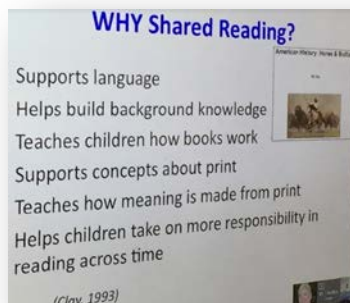
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## Shared Reading and Core Vocabulary

In December, teachers at Miner School and Kirk School were able to participate in a Google Hangout with Dr. Caroline Musselwhite on the topic of Shared Reading and using Core Vocabulary for students who use AAC devices.



Caroline reviewed the goals of shared reading and emphasized that shared reading is all about the interaction between the reader and the student. It is a conversation not an interrogation!

Caroline reviewed two strategies to use during shared reading. She reviewed the CAR- Comment, Ask Questions and Respond Strategy and the CROWD

Strategy- Comment, Recall, Open Ended, WH?'s and Distancing.

In order for students to participate in the shared reading experience they need to have a robust vocabulary that focuses on Core Words.

Caroline suggests giving students access to the most language possible. Using TouchChat 42 and 60 is a great start! She suggested trying to get the vocabulary within 2 hits.

Learn more about these strategies and others at the NSSEO Institute Day presentation by Caroline Musselwhite.



Shared Reading Webinar from DLM  
<http://dlmpd.com/shared-reading/>

## Network News

NSSEO continues to evaluate the network in regards to bandwidth and connectivity of wireless devices. Each year we apply for E-Rate funds to help support the cost of upgrading our network. We have requested additional access points in the programs to handle dead spots and to increase our internet bandwidth for next year.

Almost all of our student and staff programs are subscription based and rely on the internet. Our network resources should be used for educational and productivity

tasks. Some sites are blocked because of the bandwidth it uses. If you have questions about a blocked site, please contact the TEC Dept.

We are changing the greetings on the main phones so they are consistent across the schools. Callers can dial an extension by putting in the first few letters of a person's name. In order for this to work correctly, you should make sure you have your name on your greeting set up. Directions are on the website under Staff Forms and Templates. Please contact your technician if you need help.

*Press the Messages button on your phone to enter into your voicemail*

*Select 5 for advanced options*

- *Select 1 to Record a Greeting*
- *Select 3 to Record your Name*