Copyright

Media Coordinators are delivering mandated copyright presentations to all certified staff members. UCPS is proactively reminding staff of the importance of adhering to copyright laws to ensure materials are being used properly in a classroom and/or online setting. It is important to model ethical practices when utilizing resources and the intellectual property of others; UCPS will maintain on-going support and training with regards to copyright.

After School PD Sessions

November's After School Professional Development (ASPD) sessions at both the elementary and secondary level focused on creativity in the classroom. Both levels introduced WeVideo to teachers to incorporate into class. WeVideo is an online video creation tool that integrates with our Google Apps for Education accounts and can be used with students throughout the county.

Secondary ASPD also shared Lucidpress with their audience. Lucidpress, a tool available for use by teachers, creates digital flyers to communicate information. As with any application or Web 2.0 tool, always check the Terms of Service before using.

Please mark your calendars for our December sessions:
Elementary: Dec. 9th Sardis, Sandy Ridge and East Elementary
Secondary: Dec. 4th PDC Rm. 203/204 beginning at 4:15

⊙ IT TIP OF THE MONTH

UCPS suggests using Creative Commons Licensed resources for images, sounds, multimedia, etc. for your presentations and or web presence. Creative Commons materials can be easily searched and accessed using the Creative Commons Search Engine. This search engine can be used both by teachers and students at http://search.creativecommons.org/

The Hour of Code

The Hour of Code is coming the week of December 8th - 14th. The Hour of Code is an annual nationwide event sponsored by Code.org. Code.org is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote computer science education. Code.org accomplishes their mission by introducing computer coding lessons to students and emphasizing the importance of learning to code. Computer coding is one of the fastest growing jobs in the world and it was named by US News as the best job for 2013.

Since computer coding is a growing field, it aligns with our district's mission in *preparing all students to succeed*. If you are interested in participating in the Hour of Code with your students you can find more information about this event at - http://hourofcode.com/us. You can also contact your school's ITF for assistance.

Spotlight Educational Strategy

Union County Public Schools continues the push for compliance with copyright and fair use. Regardless of content area, it is extremely important that teachers model best practices when using materials for instruction, presentations and so forth.

As we develop digital citizenship among students, we must reinforce the necessity of using material on the web or in print correctly that is available for use. Additionally, educating students on how to properly cite their sources is a fundamental skill when researching and generating products for class.

There are multiple avenues a teacher can use to help students in learning and generating proper citations. Media Coordinators at every school across the district are invaluable resources for assisting with copyright, fair use and citations. Digital resources are also available, these include, but are not limited to:

- Google Research Tool
- Google Image Tool
- Creative Commons
- EasyBib Citation Maker
- Databases provided within UCPS

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IT Matters Archive

The IT Matters Monthly newsletter is archived online. Those newsletters can be accessed by scanning the QR code or by clicking the hyperlink.

IT Matters Archive

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