

Ministry Technology Mentor Newsletter (MTM)

Notes From the Editor
David Black

November 20, 2009

Budgets and Professional Growth

www.mtmproject.org



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The mission
of MTM is to enhance the proficiency of workers in the use of existing and emerging technologies in support of the mission and ministry in Lutheran churches and schools.

MTM's Vision:
Schools of choice emerge as leaders apply exceptional competence in integrating technology as a result of MTM's

I have been teaching in Lutheran schools a long time, now serving in my 22nd year. Like many of you, I have seen the ebb and flow of budget cycles. While all of us would love to have our schools abundantly supported financially, the reality is that there are times when difficult choices are needed to balance budgets. Budgets have many different line items, including such things as personnel, facilities, instructional materials, and financial aid. However, in my experience, one of the easiest line items to cut when times are tough is professional development for our teachers.



The reality is that this is one of the very last line items which should be cut. If we in Lutheran schools are serious about quality, serious about supporting our teachers, and serious about re-tooling them where necessary for effective educational ministry in the 21st century, then we must make it a priority to find creative ways to fund professional development for our educators.

I realize this idea isn't always easy to sell to school boards and other constituents. After all, the pressures faced by Lutheran schools are many and varied, and it is easy to cut a line item when the benefits of the expenditure might not be immediately apparent. Yet we know that this type of investment compounds the blessing as it directly benefits the instruction and educational experience for the students under our care.

It is certainly helpful to share with school boards and other constituents that there are many quality professional development opportunities available, especially through the Ministry Technology Mentor (MTM) program. This project offers high quality graduate level courses on technology integration in education through

mission

Concordia University Wisconsin and a Technology Inservice Program (TIP) for an entire faculty. MTM is here to serve you and your professional growth.

MTM Board of Directors

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Make MTM a part of your own professional development program, or that of your school. You will be glad you did!

An investment in an MTM Project annual school membership is a guaranteed investment, as it will pay real financial dividends (in graduate course scholarships) as well as educational benefits to your teachers and students

Dave Black

Quick Links...

www.mtmproject.org

<http://etale.org/main>

Join Our Mailing List!

District Members

Central Illinois

Florida/Georgia

Indiana

Michigan

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Minnesota South

Missouri

North Dakota

Northern Illinois

North Wisconsin

Ohio

South Wisconsin

Spring 1 Session Classes Begin January 4, 2010 - Register Early to get Your Textbooks

Classes normally begin around the first part of January. **You are able to register online** by following the guidelines at our web site; www.mtmproject.org. Move your mouse over Classes and then click on How to Enroll. Call Mary Eberhardt at CUW (262-243-4551) if you have questions regarding enrolling.

Let us know immediately via an email or a phone call if you have difficulties enrolling in our classes.

EDG 970 "Integrating Technology in the Classroom" Online

EDG 908 "Critical Issues in Educational Technology" Online

EDG 889 "Applying Technology in the Content Areas" Online

EDG 892 "Instructional Design" Online

EDG 594 "Digital Literacy" CUW Campus

We encourage you to continue to support our partners in Lutheran Education:
School Ministry
Lutheran School Portal

LEA
ALSS
CUW

Announcing a M.S. in Education - Educational Technology Cohort in Appleton, WI.

The special focus is on "New Literacies" and 21st Century Skills.

A CUW Ed Tech cohort is a learning community of graduate students who work through the master degree program together, one course at a time.

The first class starts January 5, 2010.

Contact Dr. Bernard Bull at 262-243-4595 or Mary Eberhardt at 262-243-4551 for more information.

Lutheran educators may apply for MTM Scholarships and the CUW Lutheran Teacher Grants for this program.

EDG 670 "Integrating Technology in the Classroom" CUW Campus

EDG 589 "Applying technology in the Content Areas" CUW Campus

NOTE: Courses with numbers in the 800's and 900's are done online. Courses with numbers in the 500's and 600's are done on the CUW campus.

MTM Scholarships and CUW Lutheran Teacher Grants are Available to Lutheran Educators for These Courses!!

Julie Faulkner, Lutheran Educator, Shares Some Thoughts ...

Technology is transforming education more than we can ever imagine. It is our job as (Lutheran) educators to be the agents of change to encourage our colleagues to use technology to model effective learning environments. We need to ask, "How is technology being used in our school in a way that supports student learning" and "how effectively is that being accomplished?" I want to take it one step further and say, "I know how to help you."

It is an amazing privilege to be able to teach in a Lutheran School. The level of compassion and concern for the whole child, not just the education, is a joy to see and a honor to be a part of.

I have noticed that the advancement of technology increases by 100% each year and the proper professional development of the technology is 5%. I need professional development, technical support, and direct teacher training. I am constantly looking for new ideas and information on how to utilize technology to support my technology goals. That is where this class (EDG 970 Integrating Technology in the Classroom) comes into place. I am not taking it for another master's degree, I am taking it to really learn and advance my knowledge.

I am committed to being a trailblazer in technology in our school. I have an opportunity to be a little creative with the resources we do have and to make sure we use them effectively and to their potential. I am blessed with a supportive principal. He nods understandingly as I explain how I am using the computer to help students with problem solving skills, critical thinking and

differentiated learning and how it fits into my curriculum and not the other way around.

Julie Faulkner
1st Grade Teacher

The Ministry Technology Mentor Project



If you have any questions regarding MTM memberships, MTM scholarships, or enrolling in an online technology course at CUW, please contact Michael Uden or Frank Wegner. They are eager to



help you!

Contact Information:

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Please help us spread the news about the MTM Project and how it can benefit principals and teachers in Lutheran schools. You can help by forwarding this newsletter to your colleagues and encouraging them to become involved in the program. I thank you for your help!!

Sincerely,

David

David Black