

Here is a Vocabulary List of some current "Tech Terms":

Source: <http://whatis.techtarget.com/>

BLOG: On the Internet, a blog (short for weblog) is a personal journal that is frequently updated and intended for general public consumption. Blogs generally represent the personality of the author or reflect the purpose of the Web site that hosts the blog. Topics sometimes include brief philosophical musings, commentary on Internet and other social issues, and links to other sites the author favors. The essential characteristics of the blog are its journal form, typically a new entry each day, and its informal style.

SPAMBOT: A spambot is a program designed to collect, or harvest, e-mail addresses from the Internet in order to build mailing lists for sending unsolicited e-mail, also known as spam. A spambot can gather e-mail addresses from Web sites, newsgroups, special-interest group (SIG) postings, and chat-room conversations. Because e-mail addresses have a distinctive format, spambots are easy to write.

COOKIE: A cookie is information that a Web site puts on your hard disk so that it can remember something about you at a later time. (More technically, it is information for future use that is stored by the server on the client side of a client/server communication.) Typically, a cookie records your preferences when using a particular site.

WiFi: short for "wireless fidelity" is a term for certain types of wireless local area network connections. It has gained acceptance in many businesses, agencies, schools, and homes as an alternative to a wired LAN. Many airports, hotels, and fast-food facilities offer public access to Wi-Fi networks. These locations are known as hot spots. Many charge a daily or hourly rate for access, but some are free

BANDWIDTH: bandwidth is often used as a synonym for data transfer rate - the amount of data that can be carried from one point to another in a given time period (usually a second). This kind of bandwidth is usually expressed in bits (of data) per second (bps). Occasionally, it's expressed as bytes per second (Bps). A modem that works at 57,600 bps has twice the bandwidth of a modem that works at 28,800 bps. In general, a link with a high bandwidth is one that may be able to carry enough information to sustain the succession of images in a video presentation

X2 Student Admin. Software

The District continues to gradually implement the X2 Student Information program. First quarter report card grade entry was run in X2 by BMR High School and F.W.Hartnett Middle School teachers. Report cards and honor rolls are now run from X2 in those schools. Homeroom attendance is now being done on-line. This feature is available for the elementary schools as well. District administrators, nurses, secretaries, guidance staff, and others now use X2 exclusively on a daily basis. A teacher gradebook feature exists with training to be given in the future. The program continues in developmental stages and BMRSD, as an early adopter, receives these updates in releases that occur periodically throughout the year.

Featured Website:

Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators

<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/>

... is a categorized list of sites useful for enhancing curriculum and professional growth. It is updated often to include the best sites for teaching and learning.

Kathy Schrock is the Administrator for Technology for the Nauset Public Schools in Orleans on Cape Cod. She has written numerous articles on technology and education and has authored four books about the Internet -- *Evaluating Internet Web Sites : An Educator's Guide*, *Developing Web Pages for Educators*, *TeacherQuests for Today's Teachers*, *Writing and Researching Using the Computer* and one entitled *Microsoft Publisher for Every Day of the School Year*. She also recently compiled a book entitled *The Technology Connection: Building a Successful Library Media Program* and is the editor of a new series of books for Linworth Publishing. Source:

<http://kathyschrock.net/about.htm>

"I am often asked to list my favorite sites of the more than 2000 resources included in [Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators](http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/). When I think about the sites that make the best use of the Internet, I feel that those which include a significant amount of content are heads above the rest. I am often heard saying, "Remember, content rules!". I have 26 criteria that I consider before adding a link to the Schrockguide, but, when choosing the sites for the "Content Rules!" award, I have chosen those that include a substantial amount of content presented in a usable way for teachers and students. I have created a page listing all of the winners. The sites also appear in their subject category listing in the Schrockguide, with a small award ribbon to highlight them. I hope by taking the time to examine the sites I have chosen, you will have the chance to use them to support your teaching, and maybe they will encourage you to create a content-rich site of your own to share with the rest of us!"

Check out:

<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/content2.html>

BMR Submits Data to DOE

Recently, Tech Staff submitted the required student data on the 2400+ students who attend BMRSD schools. This involves 52 data elements on each student. It is, at times, a large data management project. A special thank you goes to several staff members, not the least of which are: Betty Ganis, Sue Desilets, Priscilla O'Neil, Sue Levitre, Monique Simard, Sue Blouin, Karen Breault, Tina Lacroix, Sue Sawyer, Suzanne Hannon, Mary Pasciucco, Virginia Edwards, Natalie Romer, Jill Pilla-Gallerani, Gary Castiglioni and Patricia Robinson.

Recent BMRSD Webpage Changes

By Student Webmaster Richard Gaskill, Grade 12, BMRHS

- 1) Update the HS Student/Teacher of the Month page.
- 2) Began the creation of the newspaper archive page.
- 3) Updated HelpDesk drop down links.
- 4) Converted Mr. Ducharme's email link – No spam.
- 5) Updated AFM administration page.
- 6) Updated all school handbooks.

From DOE: Educational Technology Items

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/teacher/>

1. MassONE: The Department of Education's MassONE is the Commonwealth's set of web-based tools for communication, collaboration, and curriculum planning, which are designed to support PreK-12 standards-based teaching and learning.

Recently added tools include a lesson planning tool, a survey/quiz creator, and expanded teaching and learning resources. To coincide with the launch of MassONE, the Department of Education has published a new report, E-Learning in Massachusetts, which describes some of the online learning activities currently underway in the state's public schools.

<http://massone.mass.edu/>

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/news05/eLearning.html>

2. Technology Self-Assessment Tool (TSAT)... has been designed for teachers to determine their own levels of technology proficiency and to identify personal technology professional development needs. It is available as a .pdf file or an inter-active tool.

http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/standards/sa_tool.html

3. Recommended Criteria for Evaluating Instructional Technology Materials: An evaluation chart that teachers can use when selecting software and related materials.

http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/standards/tech_mat.PDF

+ Content Focus: Mathematics \checkmark

Math-related Websites and Resources:

<http://www.AAAMath.com>

Access hundreds of pages to enhance math skills with interactive practice for every kind of math problem. Elementary / Secondary

<http://www.illuminations.nctm.org/>

Sponsored by the National Council of teachers of Math and MarcoPolo, this site is a bank of lessons, standards, interactive tools and links to other resources. Elementary / Secondary

<http://Aplusmath.com>

Designed to help students improve their math skills interactively using flash cards, worksheets, and puzzles. Elementary

<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/>

"MathWorld is a comprehensive and interactive mathematics encyclopedia intended for students, educators, math enthusiasts, and researchers. Like the vibrant and constantly evolving discipline of mathematics, this site is continuously updated to include new material and incorporate new discoveries." Secondary

<http://www.coolmath.com/>

As they say at the site: "Bored with math? Confused by math? Hate math? Yeah, Coolmath can fix that. An amusement park of math designed for fun!" Elementary / Secondary

<http://www.educationindex.com/math/>

An edited collection of math-related web links and resources. Elementary / Secondary

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/>

"The idea behind the site is to offer mathematics as well as some fun bits, and to combine the two wherever possible. The main content of the site is aimed at basic math skills. However you will find some more complex stuff, and some easier bits. Hopefully there should be something for everybody." Elementary / Secondary

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