

Log-on



Technology News

► Spam



We are making every attempt to control the spam that is sent to you through email. Sometimes, it seems like you are receiving a great deal of spam, but you are really only getting a small amount of the spam that is being sent. For example, here is the district breakdown for February 28, 2007.

External from our network to users until 4:00.....	16,160
Blocked Virus E-mails.....	27
Spam Stopped.....	14,532
E-mails received that were not spam.....	1,601
Percentage of spam and viruses stopped.....	90.09%
Percentage of e-mails getting through.....	9.91%

We average 15,000 to 23,000 e-mails to the systems a day. We prevent almost 90% of those e-mails from coming through. Those are blocked because they contain viruses, are known spam addresses or black-listed or tagged as possible spam by the content.

If you do not receive an e-mail that you are expecting, you can put a track-it in to see if it was blocked. It is very helpful and will produce faster results if you can supply the e-mail address of the sender. We will white-list the address so it will come through in the future.

► New face in the Technology Department

We would like to welcome Carole Heckman-Shingler as the new Helpdesk Analyst. Carole replaces Lisa Rankin who retired last month. When you call the tech department, Carole is the helpful person who answers the phone. She started work here on February 19th. Carole lives in Reedsville and for the last 13 years she has traveled to State College to work so she is pleased to be working in Mifflin County again.

► Regional Computer Fair

The second Regional High School Computer Fair will be held at the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11 on Friday, March 30, 2007. This is a competitive event and participation is open to any student enrolled in grades 9 – 12.

This year students from Indian Valley and Lewistown High Schools will be participating. From Indian Valley, Charity Werner, Grade 12, is competing in the Computer Fair Logo category. Nicole Harshbarger, Trevor Shoemaker, and Derek Kepner are competing in Web Design and Sean Yoder and Seth Stewart are competing in Digital Movie. Their advisors are Peggy Fisher and Richard Pennepacker.

Lewistown High School students Katie Stimely and Zachary Craig are competing in Information Based Web Design and Derek Hetrick and Mark Harper are competing in Curriculum Based Web Design. Their advisor is Alan Streisel. <http://www.pacomputerfair.org/>

► Blocked Sites

As most of you know, many websites are being blocked by Websense. If you find a site that you need to use, please submit a track-it with the address of the site. The site will be unblocked as soon as possible.

Because this happens so frequently, it is best to test the site before using it with your class so that you can adjust or change your plans for that day.

If you have sites that you would like included on the Curriculum Links site, please contact Karen Galbraith. They will be added to any area of the site that you choose and your students can link to the site rather than having to type in a long, complicated web address.

Access Track-It! by going to the Intranet and clicking on the Track-It! button. Then click **add a new Work Order**, fill in the information and Submit. You can also use Track-It! to submit repair requests.

Strodes Mills Middle School Students Win Regional Competition

Emily Tomasello and Morgan Stimely, two seventh grade students from Strodes Mills Middle School TSA, took first place in the Cyberspace Pursuit competition at the Regional Competition in State College on February 24th, at Park Forest Middle School.

The Technology Student Association (TSA) is a worldwide student organization whose mission is to prepare its membership for the challenges of a dynamic world by promoting technological literacy, leadership, and problem solving skills, resulting in personal growth and opportunities. <http://www.tsaweb.org/>



This challenge of the Cyberspace Pursuit competition was to “Design a series of Web pages that document and show in your option the seven (7) most significant technological developments in the history of human-kind. Your design brief solution must include one (1) web page for each of the 7 technological developments that your team believes are the most significant in human history.”

<http://www.iris.org/tsa/cyberms.html>

Students Emily Tomasello and Morgan Stimely worked together to design a web site that met the Cyberspace Challenge and also included information about TSA, the SMMS TSA chapter and the Scope and Sequence of the project. Their advisor is Ezra Scheffel but Lanielle Reese, grade six teacher and Strodes Mills Middle School webmaster, worked with the girls to complete the website. Nancy Machmer, District Webmaster, also spent time helping them to set up the web pages and reviewed their final entry.

Their first step was to gather information about TSA and then to decide what technologies were important and impact the world the most. “We thought about what things we used the most every day that made our life better and easier,” commented Emily. They decided on cellular phones, televisions, computers, Ipods, microwaves, CD player and digital cameras. They researched these technologies and added pictures and information to the web pages. They worked every study hall and every day before and after school. They learned the most by creating and designing the web pages and learning how to work together. The most important thing Morgan learned was, “Save everything!” “Also, don’t work on a bunch of things at the same time.” Both Morgan and Emily learned that when working together they had to be really organized.

“I was very impressed with how quickly they picked up on web design and how dedicated they were to getting it done. They spent a lot of time and got more and more excited as the project developed,” noted Mrs. Reese.

Emily and Morgan are now working toward improving their website for the state competition in Seven Springs on April 19th.

The student’s website can be found at http://www2.mcsdk12.org/tsa3/cyberspace_pursuit.htm.



A **web camera** (or **webcam**, **real camera**) is a real-time camera (usually a video camera) whose images can be accessed using the World Wide Web. Today there are thousands of webcams that provide views into homes, offices and other buildings as well as providing panoramic views of cities (Metrocams) and the countryside. Webcams are used to monitor traffic with TrafficCams, the weather with WeatherCams and even volcanoes with VolcanoCams.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (<http://www.wikipedia.org/>)

Web cams are becoming more and more sophisticated and they abound on the web. You don't need to leave your classroom to view baby eagles being born, penguins playing in the snow or the Eiffel Tower at night. The web cams are constantly filming so in most cases you are watching events in real time. Here are a few great web cams to explore. To find more specific webcams, type in the subject and the words "webcam" into any search engine and sit back and enjoy.

▶ **Monterey Bay Aquarium** http://www.mbayaq.org/efc/cam_menu.asp
This site boasts seven web cams including a penguin, otter, aviary, underwater kelp and Monterey Bay cam. They are in operation from 7am - 7pm PST. The penguin cam includes live audio and if you tune in at specific times, you can watch and listen to feeding times.

▶ **Smithsonian National Zoological Park**
<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/WebCams/>
There are 16 web cams at the Smithsonian site. Watch giant pandas, a giant Pacific octopus, tigers, cheetahs and even ferrets at this site. If you tune in at 11:00 am, you can watch an elephant training session.

▶ **Sandiego Zoo**
<http://www.sandiegozoo.org/videos/index.html>
The San Diego Zoo offers four webcams. You can visit elephants, polar bears, apes and pandas. There are also videos of all of the animals.

▶ **Earth Cams** <http://www.earthcam.com>
Type in a location and in a few seconds, a list of available web cams will appear. View the Seattle Space Needle, watch what is happening in the heart of New York City or observe an eaglet being born. Webcams refresh after a few seconds. In some cases, streaming video is available and most sites offer archived pictures.

▶ Here are some others that organize and index webcams on the internet.

- **WebCam Central** <http://www.camcentral.com/>
- **Opentopia** (Random live webcams from the net)
<http://www.opentopia.com/hiddencam.php>
- **WebCam Index** <http://www.webcam-index.com/>
- **WebCam World** <http://www.webcamworld.com/>
- **WebCam-List** <http://www.webcam-list.com/>



Summer Graduate Technology Classes Announced

► The following 3 credit technology graduate courses have been scheduled for the spring and summer. More spring and summer graduate class information is available online at http://www.mcsdk12.org/staff/prodev_courses.htm

• **ED 528 Desktop Publishing** [Wilkes University Course](#)

Instructor: [G. Karen Galbraith](#)

Dates: July 23 - August 9, 2007. M, T, W, & Th Time: 8- 11:30 AM

Location: Indian Valley High School Room 157

• **ED 585 Integrating Technology in the Curriculum** [Wilkes University Course](#)

Instructor: [G. Karen Galbraith](#)

Date: May 7 - June 13 (no 5/21, 5/28) Mon.-Wed. Time: 4:30-8:30 PM

Location: Highland Park Elementary School Computer Lab

• **EDW 709 - Hands-On Digital Photography** [Millersville University Course](#)

Instructor: Dr. Mark Snyder

Dates: June 25 - 29, 2007 Time: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Location: Highland Park Area Elementary School, Room 107

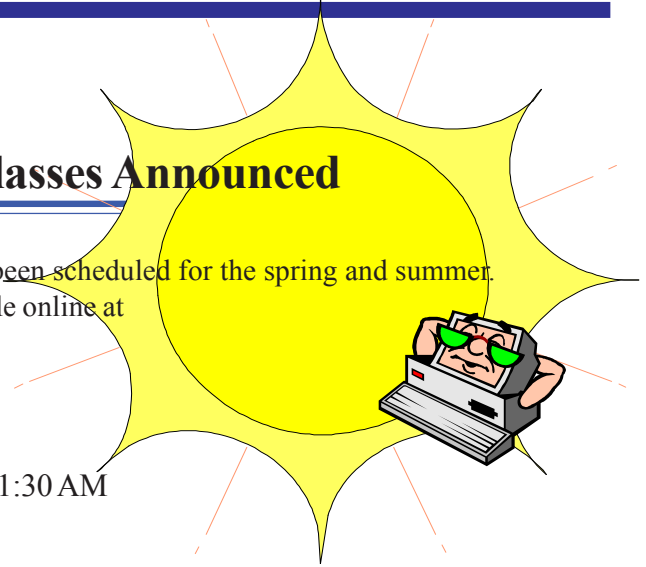
• **EDW 744 - Microsoft Products for Classroom Use** [Millersville University Course](#)

Instructor: Susan Scales

Dates: July 9 - 13, 2007 Time: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Location: Highland Park Area Elementary School, Room 107

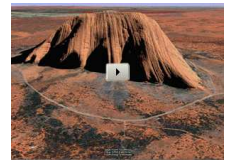
► We are still offering one hour after school classes at your school. New classes have been added at this website. http://www.mcsdk12.org/curr/Computer_Classes.htm



Google
Mania

A new, free version of Google Earth was released in January. Google Earth 4 can be downloaded at <http://earth.google.com/earth4.html>. It features “higher quality terrain data for many mountainous regions, as well as support for “textured” 3D buildings—meaning bricks look like real bricks, glass looks like real glass, and overall, the world looks more like the real world.

Users share geographic information and photos every day. Now you can view travel photos in panoramic views and view an animation of how the world changes over time and over the seasons. Find more examples at Google Earth Showcase (<http://earth.google.com/showcase/>)



Our Goals

Our goals are to provide staff with up-to-date information regarding all areas of technology, share helpful hints and ideas, showcase teachers and students, and communicate staff development plans. Any questions or suggestions can be directed to **Karen Galbraith * 248-6480 gkg26@mcsdk12.org**