

Title of Session: Special Education Forum

Moderator: BJ Berquist

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Room: Special Education Group

CharlesWP joined the room.

BJB2 waves hi to Charles

CharlesWP: hello

BJB2: sparse crowd tonight!

BJB2: are you a special ed teacher, Charles?

CharlesWP: I am MS student at Univ. TN Knoxville and following this chat discussion as an observer if you don't mind to see how forums of this nature can expedite learning and collaborative communications in education.

BJB2 nods solemnly. Wish more people were here to demo that for you!

BJB2: may I give you a couple resources to check out to help in your research?

CharlesWP: Thanks

BJB2: <http://tappedin.org/tappedin/web/papers/>

BJB2: hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard

BJB2: if you have a pop up blocker

BJB2: the other resource is the archived transcripts at www.tappedin.org/transcripts

BJB2: most of the text from the discussions scheduled on the calendar are archived there

CharlesWP: thanks

BJB2: as a researcher, you also might want to set your preferences to get a time stamped transcript

BJB2 . o O (I find time stamps tedious, but you may find them valuable)

BJB2: do you know how to edit your preferences?

BJB2 . o O (you may already have that preference chosen)

CharlesWP: new to program

BJB2: click on the ME tab at the top of your screen

BJB2: then click on the subtab SETTINGS

CharlesWP: done

BJB2: I also suggest you go to Actions in the top right of this chat window and click on larger text

CharlesWP: much better

BJB2: you can also detach your chat, but I figured while I had you as a captive audience I'd give you a little tour

BJB2 . o O (so when you join a discussion with actual people in it, you'll be more comfortable in the interface)

CharlesWP: It will just take a little time. thanks

BJB2 nods. The more you use the interface the easier it gets

BJB2: but there is a LOT here that educators can use

BJB2: how did you find out about Tapped In, Charles?

CharlesWP: I have a grandson with special needs. That is one reason this group attracted my attention.

BJB2: ahhh...interesting.

CharlesWP: My instructor gave a class assignment.

BJB2: then you still may find your visit to this group room valuable

BJB2: click on ROOM VIEW at the top of your screen

BJB2: if you scroll down the welcome screen...

BJB2: you will see FEATURED ITEMS

CharlesWP: I am just starting a program in instruction technology

CharlesWP: looking

CharlesWP: Interesting topics

BJB2: the council for exceptional children has a good newsletter

CharlesWP: If I click on a link will it disconnect me from this discussion group?

BJB2: no. It should open a new webpage for you

BJB2: . o O (but you may need to hold down the ctrl key when you press)

CharlesWP: It worked

BJB2: nods

BJB2: a suggestion...if you join this group you will be able to post and receive posts to and from the discussion board

CharlesWP: thanks

BJB2: joining the group also adds the group room to your pull down favorite places menu in the top right

BJB2: which allows you to enter the room from any location in Tapped In

BJB2: if you had a specific question about your grandchild you could post to the discussion board

BJB2: this allows the group to function asynch

BJB2: and lets you communicate with the 93 members of the group

CharlesWP: Are you expecting any more people tonight?

BJB2: it doesn't look like it, Charles. The discussion leader didn't even log in!

BJB2: have you explored the groups lobby, Charles?

CharlesWP: ??

BJB2: above this chat window on the left is a grey columned building

BJB2: see it?

CharlesWP: yes

BJB2: below the building is a door icon. Click on the door

CharlesWP left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: TI_3_Lby

BJB2 joined the room.

BJB2: you are now in the groups lobby

BJB2: normally, only Tapped In members can join a group

BJB2: and only group members can enter a group room

BJB2: however, there is a feature that allows groups to let all visitors enter their group room

CharlesWP: interesting

BJB2: all the groups listed under featured passageways are open to all visitors

BJB2: this lets you explore some of the groups and view their resources

CharlesWP: That's why I was able to enter?

BJB2 nods

CharlesWP: I explored another Teacher Ed site on Saturday and I was nothing like this. Enough said..

BJB2 chuckles. You'll not find many places like Tapped In!

CharlesWP: It was nothing like this.

BJB2: one of the most valuable features is the community...the people!

CharlesWP: Are you teaching in K-12?

BJB2: yes, I'm sorry, I should have introduced myself

BJB2: I'm a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

BJB2: and am a teacher in Pennsylvania

BJB2: another tip: click on the ONLINE tab to the left of this chat window

CharlesWP: I am a RN with computer interest.

BJB2: then click one time on BJB (not **BJB2**) and the green i at the bottom

BJB2: cool, Charles.

CharlesWP: I have been working in Nursing Informatics for the last 8 yes,

BJB2: perhaps you would be interested in creating a resource room in the K-12 student campus so the kids could do research if they're interested in nursing

BJB2 . o O (in your spare time)

CharlesWP: At the moment I am in overload big time

BJB2 understands. Just tuck the idea on the back burner for now

CharlesWP: Two jobs ... going back to school

BJB2: but it might be an interesting research topic for you eventually

BJB2: going back to school is tough

CharlesWP: Hospital is paying... slow process

BJB2: especially if you've been out of school for a while

CharlesWP: 23yrs

BJB2 laughs....I feel ya, man! I went back after 30 years

CharlesWP: It's called taking little steps one at a time

BJB2: it's a lot different when you're older. You don't have the petty stuff to worry about that distracted you when you were younger

BJB2: I think you get a lot more out of the lessons too.

CharlesWP: Different way of looking at life

BJB2 . o O (that was my experience, at any rate)

BJB2 agrees

BJB2: you also don't have a young family to spend time with

BJB2 . o O (although grandchildren can be time consuming)

CharlesWP: Two boys 11 and 13 and my wife to keep me company

CharlesWP: Second time around

BJB2: that's a pretty young family! Spouse support is really important

CharlesWP: She's starting back too. This house is going to be crazy come fall.

BJB2 grins. Makes it exciting.

CharlesWP: Think I need to take a typing course!

BJB2: you'll find that your typing speed increases dramatically if you log in often enough

BJB2: and we don't count typos

BJB2 . o O (no spell police here)

CharlesWP: good

BJB2: lots of people to support what you're doing though...

BJB2: and lots of colleagues going through much the same thing you are

BJB2 . o O (misery loves company?)

CharlesWP: The first class back and it is all on line. All I have seen is picture of the people in my class. Not a one has contacted me.

BJB2: oh, that is so isolating

CharlesWP: Hope this is not going to be the way it continues.

BJB2: what is the platform for the course?

CharlesWP: I would have to pick my first course on line

CharlesWP: Platform?

BJB2: is the course in Tapped In? Blackboard?

CharlesWP: Combination of several different communication tools. We had a Moo and use e-mail. Post to a shared drive all our work.

BJB2 nods.

BJB2: You might invite the class to log in here for one session

BJB2: invite them to your office

BJB2: and give a tour

BJB2 . o O (or, if I'm available I can do a tour for you)

CharlesWP: I think our final session will be online here. If I ever get that far in the syllabus

BJB2: who is your instructor?

CharlesWP: Dr. Waugh... Appears to be really good. I just had to take some time to figure out his style.

CharlesWP: Hope you are not best friend.

BJB2 nods...that is important and does take a while to adjust to when all the work is online

CharlesWP: I really thought I was computer savvy until.....

CharlesWP: The main theme of the course is HTML.

BJB2: Michael is a member of Tapped In. You could go to his office and leave a message on his whiteboard

CharlesWP: I have learned so much... but lost a lot of hair in the process

CharlesWP: That might impress. A few extra points can't hurt.

BJB2 wonders if HTML is that important to know anymore

BJB2: to go to Michael's office...

BJB2: click on the SEARCH tab in the top right

CharlesWP: I have used FrontPage for several years and never touched HTML

BJB2: enter waugh

CharlesWP: Found him

BJB2: under his photo is a passageway to his office

CharlesWP left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: MichaelLW_Ofc

BJB2 joined the room.

BJB2: at the top of your screen is ADD TO MY FAVORITES

BJB2: click on that and this office will be added to the pull down favorite places menu in the top right of your screen

CharlesWP: great

BJB2: to write on the whiteboard....

BJB2: click on whiteboard on the blue menu on the left of the welcome screen

CharlesWP: when you type a message how do you save it.

BJB2: scroll down...you should see Write on Whiteboard

BJB2 . o O (button)

CharlesWP: thanks

CharlesWP: I shouldn't have been so ruff on my classmates. They have busy lives too. I tried a couple of times when the course started but I guess subgroups have already been formed and since this is my first course I am not a member, yet.

BJB2 nods

CharlesWP: Thanks for your help tonight. I have a lot of more work to do. See you around?

BJB2 waves goodnight

BJB2: nice meeting you, Charles

BJB2: good luck with the course!

CharlesWP: See around

BJB2 left the room.