Title of Session: Bringing K-12 Students to the Student Campus
Moderator: Marielle Palombo
Title of File: 20041109k12students
Date: November 9, 2004

Room: After School Online Room

BevinGst3: Am I in the right place for this event?
MarielleP: If you're looking for K-12 Students in TI, you are.
BevinGst3: Yes I am...thank you
MarielleP: So it looks like a manageable group so far.
MarielleP: Shall we start by introducing ourselves?
BevinGst3: Sure
MarielleP: I'll start.
BJ: Welcome, everyone. May I offer a suggestion, Marielle?
MarielleP: Sure, BJ.
BJ: if you're new to Tapped In, go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH
BJ: that will make your chat window larger and easier to read
BJ . o O (thanks, Marielle)
MarielleP: Thanks, BJ. How many are new to TI?
AlexNg: My name is Alex from the University of Houston. I getting certified in History 8-12.
KristenFS: hi my name is Kristen and I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston for middle school science
MarielleP: Hi, Alex.
MarielleP: Hi, Kristen.
LeniD: I'm Leni Donlan. I coordinate the Learning Page Web site for teachers at the Library of Congress. I also conduct online projects and use tapped in for them.
MarielleP: Hi, Leni.
MarielleP: Bevin?
BevinGst3: My name is Bevin. I am a graduate student at the University of Mary Washington College looking to teach secondary English.
MarielleP: Welcome.
MarielleP: BJ?
BJ waves
BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In
MarielleP: So we have history, science, English, and art represented.
MarielleP: Terrific.
BJ . o O (helpdesk is who you ask if you have questions about setting up your K-12 group)
MarielleP: I am Marielle, and I am currently working on my doctorate in Learning and Teaching at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.
MarielleP: I also design teacher professional development courses for PBS TeacherLine.
KristenFS: wow Harvard
KristenFS: I have never actually met anyone who went to Harvard

MarielleP: I have taught middle school (interdisciplinary with a focus on humanities),

MarielleP: (well now you have, Kristin, but don't expect too much!)

BevinGst3: So what is the goal of this chat really? I am new to this.

LeniD: I have also taught--elementary and middle school and a bit of everything else

MarielleP: Well, that depends somewhat on what brings you here.

BevinGst3: New to Tapped In in general.

MarielleP: I'd like to tailor our discussion to the needs and interests of those who are here.

BevinGst3: Ok that makes sense.

MarielleP: So maybe we can each say what brings us here briefly.

MarielleP: I'll start...

MarielleP: I have been doing some research with middle school students using TI as an "interactive portfolio" space, where they share and discuss some of their project work with students from another school.

MarielleP: I am interested in...

MarielleP: learning about how electronic communication might serve as a bridge between speaking and writing for kids this age.

AlexNg: I'm here because I have to participate in two Tapped in discussions for my 6320 Technology in the Classroom class.

KristenFS: me too

MarielleP: And why did you pick this one, Alex?

KristenFS: 4 though

MarielleP: and Kristen?

BJ chuckles. You might even learn something, Alex and Kristen!

LeniD: Nothing like a bit of honesty :-))

KristenFS: I wanted to see all the different ways Tapped In could be used in the classroom

BevinGst3: I am here for a similar reason to Alex and Kristen. Though, I am very interested in learning about bridging classrooms together through technology.

KristenFS: that sounds better Bevin

BevinGst3: Haha. Thank you.

BJ: I'm interested in seeing how teachers prepare their students to use the Tapped In interface

AlexNg: I found this more interesting than other topics...

LeniD: And I was hoping to learn from others how they are using Tapped In with students. It sounds as though Marielle and I are the only ones who have used it with kids so far, though.

LeniD: I'll bet you ARE, BJ :-)))

MarielleP: Well, BJ, since there aren't too many here who have done that, this may not provide a lot of that.

MarielleP: Yes.

BJ . o O (you might want to point out the resources available in the group room, Marielle)

LeniD: Maybe, BJ can suggest what would be helpful from the Tapped In perspective?

MarielleP: Yes, I was just typing that.

MarielleP -)

KristenFS: I want to know how I can used Tapped In for my science classroom one day

MarielleP: Nice morph of your goal, Kristen!

MarielleP winks.

KristenFS: uhh...thanks

BJ smiles.

MarielleP: Since you're here...

MarielleP: So before I forget...

MarielleP: If it turns out you really DO want to find out about how different people are using TI with students...

MarielleP: you may want to join the K-12 Students in TI group.

AlexNg: I want to know how I can use it for my history class...

BevinGst3: How do you join that. What exactly does it do?

BevinGst3: Sorry...I'm an amateur...I know.

BJ: there is a document that should be posted in the K-12 group room...

BJ . o O (although I'm not sure it is)

MarielleP: There's a room you can go to...

BJ: http://tappedin.org/tappedin/web/help/students.jsp

LeniD: Marielle and BJ, I'm curious about your perspective on using Tapped In for a single class.

MarielleP: where there are discussion boards, shared documents, transcripts of other chats, etc..

BevinGst3: Oh I see.

MarielleP: that include all sorts of ideas about using TI with students,

MarielleP: discussions about management issues,

BevinGst3: Ok wow. That is great.

BJ: I think the opportunities are endless, Leni....

MarielleP: tips and tricks..

BJ: you could have the class 'interview' an expert on a topic

BJ: you could have the kids 'describe' an experience...use the group discussion board like a blog or diary for their westward ho experience

LeniD: BJ, I see Tapped In as a powerful tool for bringing others to a class. I am wondering if it is the best tool for working with a single class. Why use Tapped In?

MarielleP: Leni, I think people are starting to experiment with using TI as a virtual classroom...

LeniD: Ahhh...use of discussion boards makes sense.

MarielleP: with an electronic file cabinet...

BJ: the K-12 Student campus is safe and secure, Leni

MarielleP: shared teacher and student documents,

LeniD: Can you tell us more, Marielle?

LeniD: Agreed, BJ!

BJ listens to Marielle

MarielleP: threaded discussions and chats focused on long-term projects with different groups - like a WebQuest...

MarielleP: It's nice to have a repository for small group work so that everyone can access it from any computer at home or school.

AlexNg: What is WebQuest?

KristenFS: ok I see
BJ: http://www.webquest.org/
LeniD: So you see it as a "blog-like" environment?
BevinGst3: When would teachers have students do this? Class time? On their own?
KristenFS: I could even use it as a discussion with classrooms in another part of the country--for example i was working on an ecosystem lesson plan and this would be a great way to discuss ecosystems with students who live in different ones
BJ: webquests are research projects that engage students in higher order thinking skills
BJ: Good idea, Kristen
MarielleP: http://www.ozline.com/learning/index.htm
MarielleP: That's another WebQuest link.
BJ . o O (both webquest pages link to Bernie Dodge's webquest information)
BJ . o O (Bernie leads a monthly discussion on webquests here in TI)
MarielleP: Yes, WebQuests are inquiry-oriented activities that aim to go beyond using the Web for mere information retrieval to active applications of knowledge drawn in part from Web-based resources.
BJ: Bevin, all of the above...students could log in from school and/or home
MarielleP: There are lots of examples on both of those sites.
AlexNg: This will be very useful when I teach
MarielleP: Here's one that's science oriented -
http://www.powayschools.com/projects/ewe2/
BevinGst3: WebQuests are very interesting and I think extremely beneficial for students. I studied these and created on in my Technology class and am excited to create a real one for a real classroom.
LeniD: We have some history oriented WebQuests on the Learning Page, as well.
MarielleP: Oh - do you have the link to your WebQuest, Bevin?
BevinGst3: Any English ones?
MarielleP: Sure - plenty...
AlexNg: Thanks Leni
BevinGst3: I do not actually.   sorry
LeniD: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/learn/lessons/97/dream/index.html
MarielleP: http://bestwebquests.com/
KristenFS: that's pretty interesting
MarielleP: http://webquest.org/ - check out Top in the left hand menu
MarielleP: These two collections offer many examples.
MarielleP: But back to using TI with students...
MarielleP: Give me a sec to catch up on a few questions...
MarielleP: Part of the WebQuest model often includes groups of students taking on different roles.
AlexNg: like roleplaying?
MarielleP: Here's one I did on civil rights -
http://www.phenomenotions.org/curriculum/shades/
LeniD: America Dreams (the link I shared above) does that as well.
AlexNg: Very nice.
LeniD: You've done a great job with this WebQuest, Marielle!

MarielleP: In this case, different kids take perspectives of historians, political activists, investigative reporters, and biographers.
BevinGst3: Wow...that sounds great.
MarielleP: Thanks, Leni! And thanks for your help with citations.
MarielleP: Each role has different resources...
MarielleP: and then kids work in cross-role groups (like a jigsaw) to create an exhibit informed by each of their perspectives.
MarielleP: So...you could use TI in this case in a variety of ways.
LeniD: How will/would you use TI for this, Marielle, other than as a repository of their work?
MarielleP: The exhibit groups could have discussions about their exhibits...
KristenFS: that's pretty interesting Marielle
BJ: the small groups can meet in the studios to plan and discuss ideas
MarielleP: One thing that I think electronic communications offer...
MarielleP: is a text record of conversations where ideas are being worked through.
LeniD: I guess what I am hanging up on is that if students in the same class are working on something, it would seem artificial to use an online chat...though they could work "after hours" in this environment.
MarielleP: That way, the whole brainstorm is captured without having to take notes...
MarielleP: and people can add to it in pieces over time if they are using threaded discussions...
MarielleP: or be able to chat from a distance if they can't meet face-to-face.

LeniD: The latter makes good sense to me
MarielleP: I agree, Leni, that it's not worth chatting online unless you have a reason.
BJ: kids are really comfortable with chat...much more so than we are....
MarielleP: If kids can meet f2f, that might be better.
BevinGst3: I agree with everything being said.
BevinGst3: Not all kids have afterschool access though?
BJ: they come home from school and use IM with their friends from school
MarielleP: True, Bevin.
KristenFS: we are doing this thing called a WIKI
MarielleP: It must be offered through school if such an assignment is made.
BevinGst3: Yeah.
KristenFS: it sounds similar to the threaded discussion
LeniD: Face to face offers some benefits...though I agree with BJ that kids are VERY comfortable with chat.
MarielleP: Yes, Leni. I think each mode has its benefits.
BevinGst3: Chatting online offers the more shy kids a chance to voice their piece.
LeniD: Kristen, what are you doing in this WIKI?
KristenFS: I think all kids like chatting online
MarielleP: In TI, you can share files, chat or have threaded discussions...
BevinGst3: However, maybe that could contribute to their shyness even moreso.
BJ . o O (some of each is good....Chris Dede is a supporter of 5 ways of communicating...right, Marielle?)
KristenFS: it's for our middle school program...
LeniD: Discussion boards do, for sure, Bevin.

MarielleP: And I think that suite of tools offers many options, depending on the task.
KristenFS: we are adding links to it and have about 8 different discussion pages going
KristenFS: would you like a link to it to look at
MarielleP: Yes, BJ - at least 5 - maybe more.
BJ nods
MarielleP: Sure, Kristin.

LeniD: Yes...agreed, BJ. It is best to use the best tool for the purpose
LeniD: Interesting, Kristen! Do you enjoy communicating in this way?
MarielleP: Bevin, you bring up a good point about shy kids...
KristenFS:
http://www.seedwiki.com/page.cfm?Doc=page%20directory&wikiid=6667&olddoc=The%20Middle%20School%20Experiment
KristenFS: I don't know if that will work or not
KristenFS: its pretty interesting Leni
MarielleP: Online communication - both async discussions and synchronous chat - can allow voices to be heard that might not be heard f2f.
LeniD: (thanks, Kristen)
KristenFS: actually Leni- I just noticed someone messed up our front page
LeniD: Agreed, Marielle.
MarielleP: Great, Kristin. Can you say a bit about how you are using this technology?
MarielleP: And what it might offer that others do not?
BevinGst3: Yes. However, the more reserved students may start using it as their only release. I guess everything just needs to be taken into consideration when utilizing technology, to best benefit students both in and out of the classroom environment.
MarielleP: Yes, Bevin. Everything in moderation.
MarielleP: F2f communication can also be misused or overused.
KristenFS: well for our class it is required that we post 10x to it--but we have all seemed to enjoy it b/c it keeps us in touch with each other since we don't all have classes together anymore--we also get a lot of good links and ideas when others find them and they can just post it real quick
AlexNg: I agree
MarielleP: Not everyone who has a f2f discussion in class has a good discussion.
BevinGst3: Yes. I agree with that also.
MarielleP: But a good f2f discussion does things that asynchronous discussions can't and vice-versa.
LeniD: Kristen...your experience shows one of the important elements of a good online discussion...real purpose and common goals.
MarielleP: One of the things that async discussions offer is some reflection time - you can think before you speak since time is not bounded the way it is f2f.
BevinGst3: I actually have to leave for my class right now. But this discussion has been helpful. I look forward to the next event. Thanks to everyone for your input!
KristenFS: I think it would be good to use in a classroom with students while they are working on projects--a student can add their ideas for all in the group to see
MarielleP: It also allows for nonlinear conversation, which is not possible f2f since only one person can speak at a time.
MarielleP: Thanks, Bevin.

MarielleP: Have a good class!

MarielleP: Check out the K12 Students in TI group for more...

LeniD: We use a discussion board in my online project, Westward HO! Kids can share their simulated experiences here...

LeniD: http://www.pdpvu.org/foruM/index.php3?bn=wwho_westwardho2

LeniD: (not sure it will work)

BevinGst3: Thanks. One last thing. Is there a way to print out this discussion?

MarielleP: You'll get a transcript via e-mail.

BJ: Bevin, go to the Actions menu

BJ: and send to pasteboard

BJ: copy and paste to a word doc

BevinGst3: thank you!

MarielleP: Leni - can you say more about how TI fits into Westward Ho?

BJ . o O (if you were a member you would get a transcript automatically emailed to you)

MarielleP: Right - sorry.

MarielleP: Forgot about the guest thing.

LeniD: We also meet online for weekly chats to make some "decisions" together. Since it's a national audience, this medium is the only way we can all meet.

BJ wants to hear what Leni has to say, too

LeniD: Sorry, Marielle...was already mid-type when you asked your question :-0

MarielleP: oh no problem

LeniD: Westward HO!...is an online simulation about Westward Expansion.

LeniD: Within classrooms (we have a couple of hundred every year), students form wagon "families" that travel to Oregon Territory as part of the National Wagon Train.

MarielleP: cool, Leni!

KristenFS: that sounds like fun

LeniD: The journey is scaffolded by "Travel and Fates" which present scenarios of real experiences pioneers encountered on their journey.

KristenFS: can anyone play

KristenFS: haha

LeniD: It's very "hands-on" offline, and the online portion is for communication only.

MarielleP nods attentively.

LeniD: Anyone can sign up to travel with us, Kristen

KristenFS: what grade do you teach?

LeniD: Tapped In works REALLY well for our weekly chats.

MarielleP: Who chats? How many at once?

LeniD: We are in "character" and have some fun as well as making our trail decisions.

LeniD: Marielle, I have two student chats (at different times to accommodate time zones) per week.

BJ wonders if Leni is going to use the student campus for the chats this year?

MarielleP: What ages?

LeniD: We have three total teacher chats (in the evening) to help with planning as the project begins, and to debrief at project end.

KristenFS: I'm going to post that to my wiki for the history people

LeniD: BJ, I still am not sure how that would help? Can you and Marielle help me understand the benefit of doing it in ways other than I have in previous years?
MarielleP: Hey, Kristen - I'm still interested in how you use the wiki.
LeniD: Great, Kristen! Thanks.
KristenFS: what grade do you usually do this with
MarielleP: How have you done it in previous years, Leni?
KristenFS: or who is the audience
LeniD: http://www.cyberbee.com/wwho/
LeniD: We have students from grades 3-8 for the most part, though we get a lot of homeschools who have younger students and some high school groups, as well.
KristenFS: wiki is just how we (middle school preservice teachers) communicate with each other throughout the semester
LeniD: Marielle, I've used my Tapped In office for our meetings.
LeniD: Our online chats.
MarielleP: That's so great, Leni! I didn't know you were part of cyberbee, too!
MarielleP: I love the authentic language.
KristenFS: we all post different links that would be helpful to our own and to others areas of specialty
LeniD: Linda Joseph and I go way back
MarielleP: But you haven't used TI with kids yet?
MarielleP: What do you use instead?
LeniD: Kristen, I think this is a great way to communicate for a class.
AlexNg: I agree.
LeniD: Marielle, I do use tapped in for chatting (but we meet in my "office").
MarielleP: Ah - I see/
LeniD: The threaded discussion boards are currently on the project web site.
LeniD: (Bulletin Board and Trading Post)
MarielleP: Gotcha.
KristenFS: that sounds so fun
MarielleP: What about file sharing? Any need for that?
KristenFS: I wonder how I could incorporate into science?
MarielleP: Perhaps artifact images might fit in...
LeniD: I have files that are downloaded from the site. As I said, this is a scaffold for the project...the real, hands on work is going on in the classrooms.
KristenFS: that's an idea--maybe pair each student up with one on the trail and they have to research things they find on the trail
LeniD: Good idea, Marielle!
MarielleP: I guess the reason to have your own group room in the SAC would be if you wanted people to come back and have a shared community space that they could populate with stuff.
MarielleP: Maybe they could meet each other at additional times if they wanted, too.
LeniD: Yes, that would be an advantage
BJ . o O (don't forget that the student transcripts are sent to the teacher)
MarielleP: I can see that you wouldn't want to divert traffic from the discussion boards on the site...
BJ . o O (even if the students meet after school)

MarielleP: but if there were a reason to migrate them...

MarielleP: Of course, BJ.

MarielleP: They should be aware of that, but it might open up the possibility for more teamwork time.

LeniD: Really, BJ? So these students can talk but their teacher knows what is discussed? Cool

BJ nods to Leni

LeniD: http://www.cyberbee.com/wwho/store.html

MarielleP: Oh yes, Leni! Key point.

LeniD: In the store, we offer "side trips"...it would be cool to make these cross class projects.

MarielleP: Do you find that there might be more for teams to discuss if they chose beyond the weekly chats?

LeniD: I'll have to think about that.

BJ: I know you all have busy schedules....you're welcome to continue talking, but your scheduled hour is up if you need to bring the discussion to closure.

MarielleP: Yes, thanks.

LeniD: Thanks, BJ

MarielleP: I just want to ask Alex and Kristen if they have any last questions.

KristenFS: no I think that's it

MarielleP: And if any of this was useful.

KristenFS: this discussion was pretty helpful

AlexNg: No. Thank you for all the valuable info...

MarielleP: Hope it felt like more than an obligation!

KristenFS: got some good websites for webquest--I'm not sure completely on what those are but i have been looking at them

MarielleP grins.

KristenFS: I keep hearing about them

MarielleP: There's a lot there worth browsing.

LeniD: Thanks for sharing your thoughts and experiences Alex and Kristen.

KristenFS: yw

KristenFS: thanks for the website

AlexNg: I find it quite useful. I will use it in the future.

KristenFS: I'm posting it on the wiki right now

KristenFS: I think the history teachers will love it

BJ: Thanks for leading this discussion, Marielle!

MarielleP: Sure. It was really a group effort.

KristenFS: ty marielle

LeniD: Good discussion, Marielle. Thanks:-)

MarielleP: Thanks for everyone's input.

AlexNg: Nice meeting everyone. I will forward to future discussions.

BJ . o O (and thanks everyone, for participating)

MarielleP: Same here, Alex.

MarielleP: Look forward to seeing you all around TI!

KristenFS: me too

MarielleP: Do check out the K12 students in TI room...

MarielleP: there are plenty more ideas and resources there.
KristenFS: ok
MarielleP: Do you know how to find it?
KristenFS: yes
MarielleP: Search Groups
MarielleP: Ok. Great.
KristenFS: bye bye thanks everyone
MarielleP: Bye, Kristen!
KristenFS left the room.
LeniD: Marielle, do you have any further questions about Westward HO?
MarielleP: I will take a look at the site...
MarielleP: and recommend it to any teacher I know who might be able to use it.
LeniD: BJ, what would be different about using the K12 forum rather than my office for our chats?
MarielleP: It looks wonderful!
LeniD: It's looking a bit seedy, but the project has been running for about 15 years, now

BJ: Leni, I'm doing a tour right now...I'll get back to you on that asap, ok?
MarielleP: She has a clone, that one!
LeniD: Sure. I'll say good night, too   Bye everyone. I enjoyed this chat. Thanks Marielle!
MarielleP: Leni, do they come into your office as guests?
LeniD: Some are guests and some sign up.
MarielleP: Kids?
MarielleP: How old again?
MarielleP: Thanks to you, too, by the way. I also enjoyed the chat.
LeniD: Most of the classes do a "whole class" chat...with the teacher or a student at a keyboard and projection for the class. Some classes do sign on as individuals.
MarielleP: Ah. I see.
LeniD: Ages vary from as young as 5 to high school seniors.
MarielleP: That makes sense.
LeniD: Average is 8-15 year olds.
MarielleP: Do you think there would be any advantage to having a space dedicated to the project?
LeniD: Again...this project is 15 years old. It is time to rethink how it is presented.
LeniD: If I migrated the discussions here, definitely. If I try to make it more interactive between classrooms, that would be reason, too.
MarielleP: I find that the folders help a lot.
MarielleP: For organizing things.
MarielleP: Yes - lots of fuel for thought.
BJ likes Marielle's use of folders
MarielleP: I'd be glad to brainstorm more with you at some point if you want, Leni.
MarielleP: Thanks, BJ.
LeniD: Right now, everything needed is on the web site, and classes work on their own except when they meet for chats.

MarielleP: I really could have used them for my interactive portfolio project, but they weren't in place yet.

LeniD: That would be great, Marielle. Now I really will leave. Night all   Thanks!

MarielleP: Each student now has a folder, both for their work and for discussions related to their work.

MarielleP: Ok, Leni.

MarielleP: Bye!

MarielleP: Thanks again!