Title of Session: Targeting Librarians! - Technology and Motivation
Moderator: Lesley Farmer
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Room: Hot Tub Conference Room

LesleyF: Hi, Kathy!
KathyBu : Hi!
KathyBu : Just got here.
LesleyF: Ready to talk about motivation and technology?
LesleyF: Right now it's sort of chummy ...
KathyBu : Yes! It's also Back to School Night so I'm a little fragmented.
LesleyF: deep breathing before the masses arrive?
KathyBu : One of the things I want suggestions on is helping those scared of technology to use it more.
KathyBu : yes. Meditation.
LesleyF: Is that for teachers more than for students?
KathyBu : Yes. I'm a site leader here.
LesleyF: Let's go ahead with that idea, then, as a way to start the conversation.
KathyBu : I help people to start using it by using it with them.
LesleyF: Basically, the technology has to align with what the teacher wants to do (or has to do), and it has to make their life either simpler or "funner."
KathyBu : But it's so enriching that I want to help them use it!
LesleyF: Sometimes you have to go with the personal needs/interests too... sending pix to grandkids, finding genealogy, selling on ebay...
KathyBu : They think it's not simple and the fun is for the students. Good ideas on grandkids etc.
LesleyF: So thinking teachery, have you shown them some good sites -- say, one site a month during a faculty meeting.
KathyBu : My computer capability at work is just beginning to get up to where I can do that. Good idea!
LesleyF: You can even start by printing out the splash screen page...
LesleyF: Do you know about discovery school?
KathyBu : We now will have 109 computers, still not connected, but here. Yes, I've used it.
LesleyF: So have you shared that with them?
LesleyF: How about FunBrain or SCORE?
KathyBu : No, Only in addresses.
KathyBu : We just bought 2 LCD projectors so I'm raring to go.
LesleyF: Some teachers are very concrete learners -- they really have to see it in action. A URL is not enough. TG for LCD...
SusanpcGst2 joined the room.
JaneR joined the room.
LesleyF: Have you shown them Pam Berger's CyberTours?
BJ: Hi, Susan and Jane

LesleyF: Hi, folks! We're talking about motivation and technology.

JaneR: Hi

KathyBu : I'm also making up Pathfinders for teachers to give their students. No, I had no way to show them anything until now, except one on one.

KathyBu : I'm not sure I know the Cybertours one.

LesleyF: We're starting by talking about motivating teachers to use technology. I was also thinking about how technology can motivate low-achieving students to succeed academically.

LesleyF: Let me show you Pam's site.

KathyBu : Yes!

SusanpcGst2: Hi, I am a former school librarian and will be going back to work for a charter middle school. Are there places we can borrow books from? The school district isn't too friendly; as we had to go into appeals.

JaneR: Never heard of Cybertours either

LesleyF: http://www.infosearcher.com/cybertours

LesleyF: Why don't you peer about Pam's site for a bit, and then we'll regather.

JaneR: yes, I've gotten onto the site. Thanks!

LesleyF: So, now that you've had a look, how do you think this site could motivate teachers and students?

KathyBu : Wow! I quickly went over the Reference and the Web search cybertours. The Websearch one I could use with my GATE students to start.

LesleyF: The active learning sites are really fun too.

KathyBu : I had looked at some Think quests before, but these would help me teach what I'm presently trying to have students learn.

JaneR: The "Search Strategy" section looks pretty good. Nice basic info that middle Schoolers could handle.

LesleyF: Your point about ThinkQuests and WebQuests also reminds us that those are good motivating tools.

LesleyF: I should note that teachers and students can both produce them -- but they should try them out as "consumers" first (students actually have more fun making them than teachers, I think.)

LesleyF: There's a very good site that talks about student motivation and technology, which I think fits for teachers as well -- and is useful for teachers to see when they're thinking about incorporating technology. Want to see it?

SusanpcGst2: I found the build your own website section interesting.

KathyBu : Yes, please.

JaneR: Yes, may we see the site?

LesleyF: OK. It's

LesleyF: http://www.ltss.bris.ac.uk/implement_11.htm

LesleyF: So can you think of some ways to apply these recommendations?

LesleyF: Good idea, Jane. That way they can see for themselves rather than you telling them...

SusanpcGst2: I find the cable TV educational programs very motivational. PBS, www.pbs.org/wgbh

JaneR: Right. It should help them think out a plan before they try a lab project.

KathyBu : We have a separate computer lab at our K-6 school, but I will be getting 6

computers for research in the school library.

LesleyF: Absolutely -- let's all take a look for a minute or two. I must tell you that teens now prefer the Internet to TV...

KathyBu : So do I!

KathyBu : When I poll students, the biggest use of the Internet is to download music or watch music videos.

LesleyF: So I'm hearing that the issue of motivation isn't really with the students, it's the teachers?

LesleyF: Access to information... which yearns to be free?

KathyBu : That's my experience. Kids, especially those with learning issues gravitate to computers. Now they don't always want to do what you want them to do.

JaneR: It takes good planning to use technology to teach kids. I think teachers want to use it, but the learning curve and time needed is great.

KathyBu : Our site is investing in Orchard software which aligns to the California standards. It's a good way to start making it easy for teachers to use technology.

SusanpcGst2: Discovery Channel's: http://school.discovery.com/ontv/ad.html

JaneR: Aligning to standards is a step in the right direction.

LesleyF: Do you know about CLRN: Cal. Learning Resource Network? It has reviews of software and video aligned with state standards

LesleyF: You can even start with the standards, by grade and by subject, and get a list of the best reviewed resources. Want to see?

KathyBu : The computer assesses student knowledge in standard areas through a pre-test and prints out a report which teachers can use to discuss student progress with parents.

SusanpcGst2: AETV: http://www.aetv.com/class/teach/

KathyBu : I'm very familiar with CLRN and used it to make software recommendations at my school.

LesleyF: For the others, it's http://www.clrn.org. It also includes lessons.

LesleyF: Instructor magazine now has an online section: http://www.scholasticinstructor.com

SusanpcGst2: they all have websites for additional information on the individual shows. PBS's American Experience, Nova,

LesleyF: another way to get teachers motivated is to provide them online lists, such as the children's picture book database: http://www.lib.muohio.edu/pictbks and the children's literature site of http://www.carolhurst.com

KathyBu : Sorry, I have to leave for my Back to School night. Please send me the whole discussion via email. Good talking with you, Lesley and BJ and everyone else. Thanks! Bye.

BjB . o O (Carol Hurst has a nice newsletter)

LesleyF: Take a look at these. A third one is the reading corner with book abstracts for 2-8th graders, which can motivate them to read: http://www.carr.lib.md.us/read

LesleyF: Take a moment to check these out -- that's also an awards site: http://www.dawcl.com

KathyBu left the room (signed off).

LesleyF: A meeting is calling me -- I hope that you can get going with these ideas.

LesleyF: Thoughts on what you want to share next month?

SusanpcGst2: Goodbye, all.

JaneR: What about on-line databases?
LesleyF: I'll send it to you tomorrow.
BjB: Thanks, Jane.
BjB nods to Lesley
KarenL joined the room.
JaneR: Thanks, everyone.
BjB: Thanks, Lesley, for another great discussion