



DIGITAL LEARNING & INNOVATION NEWSLETTER



March brought about exciting events that allowed all of our schools to participate in the inaugural VCS Battle of the Mascots podcast challenge to determine which school has the **BEST** mascot in the whole district. Each team worked collaboratively to research the top qualities of their mascot as well as their opponents. The teams recorded their podcasts and battled it out to the end. We are so proud of all of our schools but we are so excited to announce that the winner of this year's battle is ZEB VANCE ELEMENTARY EAGLES!

Way to soar, Eagles!

Please [listen](#) to all the amazing podcasts recorded by our amazing Vance County School students.

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HIGH-STAKES TESTING



Looking for a way to easily evaluate student readiness for high-stakes assessments this spring? IXL is here to help!

IXL unpacks every state, assessment, or textbook standard into targeted skills that help build student understanding and confidence. These skill plans can be used to point students to the exact skills they need to excel on high-stakes tests. It's test prep made simple!

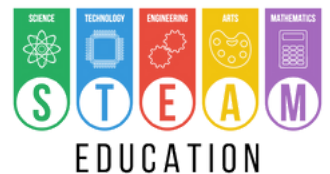
Plus, brand-new Quizzes are the perfect way to combine skills from multiple standards to assess student understanding.

Learn more IXL strategies by signing up for one of their 30-minute complimentary webinars (new test prep webinars were just added!) and share these resources with your colleagues!

S.T.E.A.M. STARS



Nearpod is all about student engagement. This tool has a lot of versatility that allows teachers and students to stay within the platform to complete all their activities. This month we are recognizing the top 3 educators that had the most student engagement per session. We would like to congratulate Sashauna Miller (VCHS), Josette Broughton (New Hope), and Tyrone Davis (VCMS). This month's top activity was video! We love seeing integrated questions being utilized. We would love to see more educators become Nearpod coaches. Click [here](#) to learn how to start your journey. Summer is quickly approaching and Nearpod has [activities](#) all lined up. We are always excited to see how you are using these tools in your classroom. Share your success with us [@VCSCLI](#) [#NearpodRocks](#)



Christian Salinas

In addition to teaching robotics and coding at STEM Early High School, Mr. Salinas is working with a group of students after school as they compete in NC A&T's Game of Drones!



**Sashauna
Miller**



**Josette
Broughton**



**Tyrone
Davis**



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This month, CFI had the opportunity to present at the [NCTIES](#) conference. Kristin Jeffreys and Dr. Ross- Putney presented in a session called, "Think Different" About STEAM.



Stephen Jones and Trish Burroughs showcased some of our amazing RoboVance students from STEM Academy and Aycock Elementary. They demonstrated skills they are learning as they prepare for their upcoming competition. We are so proud of everyone for sharing a glimpse of some amazing work happening in VCS. If you did not get the chance to attend this amazing conference it is not too late to experience the wealth of knowledge shared by educators from all over NC. Click [here](#) to access the collaborative slides.



Apple Educator Cohort

Apple Teacher is a professional learning program designed to support and celebrate educators using Apple products for teaching and learning. Your self-paced journey starts by learning foundational skills on iPad and Mac, and continues as you integrate Apple technology into your everyday lessons.

Begin your Apple Teacher journey by exploring skill-building tutorials that make it easy to use iPad and Mac and Apple apps like Pages, Keynote, Numbers, GarageBand, and iMovie for teaching and learning.

When you're ready to test your knowledge on using iPad or Mac, you'll earn badges as you pass interactive quizzes. Collect all six badges for either iPad or Mac to become a **recognized Apple Teacher**.

Interested in becoming an Apple Educator? Complete [this interest form](#) now to be a part of this Cohort!



CFI is seeking student interns for the summer! \$15 per hour, June through September. Do you know a VCS 9-12th grader interested in applying? Application and more information found [here](#). VCS is hiring interns for multiple departments

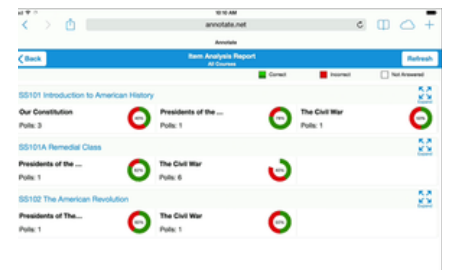


TECH RECS

Annotate is a cloud based web app that transforms your iPad, Chromebook, smartphone, or mobile device into a powerful engagement, assessment, and participation tool. It allows you to engage students, enhance participation, and improve retention.



Our favorite way to use this app is to work in a Google Slide that has moving parts. The app allows you to still move your pieces and annotate over the screen at the same time. The annotate system also uses your device screen to be mirrored on your projector converting it into a mobile interactive whiteboard. You could give formative assessments in real time. Students can participate and respond using their personal devices. Best of all, you view response analysis in real time and align your instruction to exactly match student progress.



TECH WORKSHOPS

The Center For Innovation is offering **hands-on workshops** to assist teachers with their digital learning needs. These sessions are open to all educators but priority is given to beginning teachers.

All sessions will take place in Room 213 at the Center for Innovation. on **Thursdays from 3:45–5:00.**

Register for workshops here!



APRIL

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Hero Hacks! Join us to learn tips and tricks with your Newline Interactive whiteboard that will allow more student engagement during EOY review.

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Hands-On Heroes! Join us for hands-on activities for more student engagement during EOY review.

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Organized Heroes: It's not a superpower to have all of your lesson plans ready for next year before this year is even over! Let's organize your content!



Need Digital Learning Help?

Click to schedule a meeting with a Digital Learning & Innovation Specialist

