Technology Times: SUMMER 2021

Great things are happening @Wacoisd with Technology Services

Instructional Technology

Summer Training through TCEA

We know teachers love to continue their personal growth as well continue their learning paths to help our students be successful. As technology has become more prevalent in our educational setting, the need to have knowledge of how to incorporate it into our lessons is essential to our learning plans. To support our teachers, we have again purchased online/on demand instructional technology training through TCEA for your teachers for this summer and throughout all of next year. There is no stipend for completing the training, but you will get continuing education credit for completion, and a free membership to TCEA.

These can also be found on the [2021 Summer Professional Development website from Curriculum and Instruction](#).

These are free for all Waco ISD faculty to sign up to work through at their leisure. Please sign up for the training by clicking on the following link:

https://bit.ly/WISD_TCEA_Training

*****Please note: There are limited seats for each training session and the training sessions are designed with specific teacher groupings (New, Returning, Secondary, Elementary) in mind.

Training	Purpose	# of Seats Available	Designed for whom?
Google Level 1 Certification	TCEA's Google Level 1 course assists educators in earning their Google Educator Level 1 certification. Upon completion, you will earn the TCEA Google Educator Level 1 Certification which will prepare participants to successfully pass the Google Educator Level 1 exam (certification exam cost not included).	300	New Teachers
Google Level 2 Certification	The purpose of this program is to assist educators in earning their Google Educator Level 2 certification. Participants who successfully complete the certification requirements will earn the TCEA Google Educator Level 2 Certification. They will also be prepared to pursue the Google Educator Level 2 Certification (certification exam cost not included).	300	New Teachers
Canvas Educator	This straightforward, self-paced course provides you with a roadmap to conquer Canvas. You'll become the go-to expert and transform the way students are learning by putting them on the path you built specifically for them.	175	New Secondary (6th - 12th) Teachers
Seesaw Educator	The purpose of this online, self-paced course is to assist educators in learning the basics of teaching using Seesaw. Seesaw offers a wonderful set of tools that make student-driven digital portfolios and simple parent communication easier for remote learners. This course covers the basics and shares a wide variety of tips and suggestions working within a Seesaw learning environment.	175	New Elementary (Pk - 5th) Teachers
Chromebook Educator	This straightforward, self-paced course provides you with guided support to clarify using a Chromebook. You'll become fluent in using a Chromebook for your classroom and leave with unique ideas and techniques for use with your students.	700	Teachers with Chromebooks (3rd - 12th)
Seesaw Content Creator	This online, self-paced course offers instruction, ideas and strategies on how to deepen your implementation of Seesaw. This course assumes that you already know the basics of Seesaw, but are now wanting to expand your learning and your usage of Seesaw in order to enhance the daily experiences of teachers and students. This course is framed to support your blended learning efforts with the Seesaw learning management system.	325	Returning Elementary Teachers
Remote Learning Educator	This robust, self-paced course provides you with multiple ways to facilitate remote learning based on research-based instructional strategies in order for you to provide an exceptional educational experience for your students.	1000	ALL Teachers

PEIMS and Information

Online Registration for Families

Online registration for the 2021-22 school year is now extended through the first week in August. **Remember to emphasize that at this time we will be 100% in person for 2021-2022.**

Families can register by visiting wacoisd.org/register. Be sure to share the district's posts about registration being extended. Do not forget to post your summer hours and in-person registration hours to your Facebook page.

Operational Technology

More new devices on the way!

Technology Services has been busy this summer. Over 7,000 new Chromebooks have been delivered to our secondary campuses to support our 1:1 initiative. These are brand new Dell Chromebook 3100 11" laptops for our students with the latest operating systems. Make sure to sign up for the Chromebook Educator training above to get more ideas of how to engage students in the classroom with these technology tools!!!

As a reminder, the district technology plan allows for all students in grades 3rd - 12th to have chromebooks this year and all PK - 2 will have iPads. All purchasing of student devices will need to fit into our district plan.
I am working with the FCC: Emergency Connectivity Fund to help support our elementary student device needs. The Emergency Connectivity Funding - The FCC has established a fund that will help our students receive the tools (devices) necessary to receive instruction remotely to help close the Homework Gap. During a needs assessment survey of our parents, approximately 50% of our students would lack a sufficient device to engage in remote learning. What this means to Waco ISD is that we are eligible to utilize this fund to assist with the purchase of a device for our students that have that deficiency. The ECF also provides funding needed to assist our teachers with a connected device to assist with remote instruction as well. We will be exploring all options for our faculty staff and students.

Please click on the button below for more information if you are interested.

Emergency Connectivity Fund Fact Sheet

Student Passwords

All 6th grade through 12th grade student user name and passwords will be a standard pattern moving forward and will be reset to this standard beginning August 20th.

User Name: s (student id) @ student.wacoisd.org
Password: Capital first initial, lower second @# last 4 digits of their ID#

So a student named John Edwards ID# 100034567
UN: s100034567@student.wacoisd.org
PW: Je@#4567

Please keep in mind that passwords keep our data safe and keep our accounts OURS. If a student is having difficulty with their password, please have them contact the help desk @ 254-284-1072 or email to student.helpdesk@wacoisd.org

Faculty & Staff Helpdesk

Please remember that if you need assistance with your technology, the helpdesk is here to assist you.

1. navigate to https://helpdesk.wacoisd.org/
2. Sign in with your Waco ISD username and password.
3. Click on Have a problem? Report it.. or the Want Software? (This is for all district approved software)
4. **Or you can: call 254-755-9599 Monday - Friday 7:30AM - 5:00PM or email helpdesk@wacoisd.org**

Waco ISD Helpdesk

Click here to be taken directly to the Helpdesk work order system.

Cybersecurity Reminders

5 Reminders to practice this summer!!!

1) THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK
If you receive an enticing offer via email or text, don't be so quick to click on the link. Instead, go directly to the company's website to verify it is legitimate. If you're unsure who n email is from-even if the details appear accurate-or if the email looks "phishy," do not respond and do not click on any links or open any attachments found in that email as they may be infected with malware.

2) WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT
Links in email, tweets, texts, posts, social media messages and online advertising are the easiest way for cyber criminals to get your sensitive information. Be wary of clicking on links or downloading anything that comes from a stranger or that you were not expecting. When available, use the "junk" or "block" option to no longer receive messages from a particular sender. Don't trust those links.

3) LOCK DOWN YOUR LOGIN
Create long and unique passphrases for all accounts and use multifactor authentication (MFA) wherever possible. MFA will fortify your online accounts by enabling the strongest authentication tools available, such as biometrics or a unique one-time code sent to your phone or mobile device. Use password managers to generate and remember different, complex passwords for each of your accounts.

4) SHARE WITH CARE
Think before posting about yourself and others online. Consider what a post reveals, who might see it and how it might affect you or others. Consider creating an alternate persona that you use for online profiles to limit how much of your own personal information you share.

5) GET SAVVY ABOUT WIFI HOTSPOTS
Public wireless networks and hotspots are not secure, which means that anyone could potentially see what you are doing on your laptop or smartphone while you are connected to them. Limit what you do on public WiFi and avoid logging in to key accounts like email and bank accounts. Consider using a virtual private network (VPN) or a personal/mobile hotspot if you need a more secure connection.

Waco ISD Technology Services

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