



CECA

Newsletter

Connecticut Educators Computer Association

Vol. XIX No. 3

HELP CEA GET THE WORD OUT!

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

- expired professional educator certificates will not be back-dated to show continuous validity
- validity date will be the date on which the SDE receives your application for renewal
- all expired certificates, upon receipt of the renewal application, will be reported to the Teachers' Retirement Board as having been expired
- all time spent teaching without a valid certificate will not count as time accrued toward retirement

This will affect your teacher retirement benefits!

Example: Your professional educator certificate expired on January 30, 2003. You did not send in the application for renewal until April 2004, and the Bureau of Certification received it on April 29, 2004. Your certificate was reported to the Teachers' Retirement Board as having been expired. You were teaching without a valid certificate for 13 school months. That 13 months will not count as time accrued toward retirement....you must teach an additional 13 months beyond your original projected retirement date to make it up.

Protect your teaching certificate & your future....send in your renewal application 8 weeks before the expiration date!

Visit the CEA web site at this link: <http://www.cea.org/ProfessionalIssues/cert.cfm> for more information

CECA 2005

Classroom of My Dreams Call for Presenters

As CECA adds the finishing touches on this year's exciting conference, we have started the planning process for CECA 2005. CECA prides itself in offering our state educational community with exemplary lessons and classroom models of technology integration. We keep the teaching community current and informed in the latest trends and issues in the information, communications and technology field. Our conference offers a diversified program by tapping into the talents of teachers and leaders throughout the state. Please join us and be a presenter. Anyone who is involved in exciting projects with technology and learning, simply fill out an application for consideration. Some areas that your workshop presentation may fall under are: Innovation, Best Practices, Wireless Design as Proof of Concept, One-To-One Laptop Initiatives. These are just a few examples of what can be done. If you have never presented and would like more information as to how to get started, please contact Barbara St. Onge (bstonge@torrington.org). Don't miss out on this great opportunity. Please find the application form on our website at <http://www/ceca-ct.org/CECA2005>.

CEUs

The CEUs are now in the hands of CEA. There were a number of Evaluation Forms which were not accepted because people failed to evaluate all the sessions they attended, left too early to receive credit or did NOT provide their SS#. Please understand that we need to strictly follow the state regulations regarding CEU's if we are to remain in good standing with the SDE.

Forms from people who attempted to attend Session 1 by Catherine Tannahill were accepted without evaluation because she was a no-show which is not the fault of the attendees. Many people found another session to attend or took the time to network with other attendees and/or to visit the vendors.

Comments have been collated and will be shared with the CECA board to help with planning for next year's conference. The CECA conference committee wishes to extend a hearty thank you to all attendees for your thoughtful comments.

11th Annual Tech Expo Legislative Office Building Wednesday, April 6, 2005 9:00 - 1:15

CECA is sponsoring the 11th Annual Tech Expo. The Tech Expo is a time to demonstrate to legislators how students use technology to support the learning process and how the incorporation of technology into the curriculum supports the skills tested on the CMT and the CAPT and prepares students for future work place skills. Demonstrations are needed from any and all subject areas.

Public school districts across the state are invited to apply to participate. Invitations and applications will be sent to superintendents, tech coordinators the first week of January 2005 and will be on the CECA website.

We are able to accommodate 30 groups in three sessions and look for groups from all regions of the state and all levels K-12. Groups may have a maximum of 4 students. All groups must apply and only groups that have been pre-approved may

participate. Session times will run from 9:00 am - 10:15 am; 10:30 am - 11:45 am and 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm. While at the Tech Expo students and teachers will be able to see demonstrations of technology integration from many schools, visit the Capitol and see their legislators at work.

Check the CECA website for pictures from the Tech Expo in April, 2004. We look forward to another good session with exciting examples of how technology is used in the classroom.

Adobe CLP3 Legacy Period ends Jan 1, 2005

Adobe CLP3 customer,
Please be advised that the Adobe Legacy Period (period during which you may add maintenance/upgrade plan options to existing Adobe current product licenses and previously purchased/owned current box product, etc.). Maintenance renewals (from TLP or earlier CLP contracts) may be purchased at this time also. Beyond this period, any maintenance (from TLP or earlier CLP contracts) which expires, will have to either be renewed under Transactional Licensing Program 4 (TLP) or purchased as new CLP licenses (when a new version becomes available).

If you have any Adobe current product license/products which need maintenance, or if you have any Maintenance renewals (from TLP or earlier CLP contracts), please see that your order is sent to K12 MicroMedia before leaving for Winter Break...Adobe has informed us that there will be NO exceptions.

If there is a way to filter this information to other Adobe software-purchasing members of your school or consortium (via email, website or newsletter), it would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you,
Odessa

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CECA Welcomes New CECA Advisors

The following people have joined our team in our Advisor Program and added representation for the following school districts. Our team of Advisors continues to grow.

Our goal is to have at least one Advisor from each school district in Connecticut.

Bethany	Toby Zabinski
Bozrah	Jamie Owen
Canton	David Oliver
Cornwall	Vicky Nelson
Danbury	Barbara Myers-Letson
Groton	Judy Goldsmith-Karp
Hamden	Arlene Herens
Hartford	Debbie Mortensen
Madison	Noel Heimer
Manchester	Sharon Wilhelm
Meriden	Kim Cadwell
Middletown	Roberta Avery
Region 13	Tracy Earnshaw
Ridgefield	Laura Webber
Seymour	Kristen Clark Hammond
Stratford	Janet Lengel
Waterbury	Jennifer Kizis
West Hartford	Jeanne Pascon
West Haven	Patti Fusco
LEARN	Kristen Hoyt
Catholic Schools	Archdiocese of Hartford
	Michael Ganci
CT Technical High School System	
	Teresa Boyd Cowles

It is not too late to participate in the program. We need representatives from each district.

The role of a CECA Advisor is as follows:

- CECA Advisors must be a current member of CECA.
- The CECA Board and CECA Advisors serve as liaisons to help exchange information between educators in their school or district.
- The Advisor determines the method selected to disseminate information provided by the CECA Board member contact. Advisors have shared information using e-mail, newsletters, printing information updates for distribution to teachers, memos and announcements at faculty meetings.
- Advisors check the CECA web site for updates and new announcements and help inform teachers about

proposed legislative issues. Advisors may assist the board with activities related to the annual CECA Conference.

- Advisors inform their CECA board member contact about issues and concerns expressed by teachers in their school or district.

Advisors are a critical link for CECA to school districts. We were very fortunate to have two opportunities to meet with Advisors at the CECA 2004. The breakfast by the pool afforded Advisors a chance to meet and have express check-in for the conference.

In the afternoon at the Technology Party again it was a chance to connect and Advisors had reserve seating.

Please consider becoming an Advisor. You can sign-up at <http://www.ceca-ct.org/>, just click on the Advisor Link.

If you would like further information about the CECA Advisor Program you can contact either Diane E. George, CECA Advisor Co-Chair, Branford Public Schools at degeorge@branford.k12.ct.us or Patricial Palmer, CECA Advisor Co-Chair, North Canaan Public Schools at palm_tree@snet.net.

CECA EDUCATOR RECOGNITION AWARD

\$1000 - \$1000 - \$1000

Are you doing something special, unique, or unusual in your classroom with computer technology?

Are you making significant improvements in student achievement because of innovative and creative applications of modern technology?

The Connecticut Educators' Computer Association has established three \$1000 awards to recognize and encourage excellence in the application of technology to classroom learning.

One award will be given at each level: elementary, middle, and high school. All teachers in Connecticut public or private schools are eligible. Individuals or teams may submit proposals for work that has or will achieve notable results. This is a merit award to be used at the discretion of the winner(s).

Previous winning awards can be found at:

www.ceca-ct.org/Award/winners.html

Further information can be found online at:

www.ceca-ct.org

The award application must be postmarked by March 14, 2005.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

New for 2005 “Raptors in the City”

TECHNOLOGY CONNECTS KIDS WITH NATURE

How do you catch a glimpse of the fastest creature on earth? Go online! “Raptors in the City” is a real-time, inquiry-based science and technology program for grades 4-6 that stars the peregrine falcon. The peregrine has recovered from near extinction and was removed from the List of Endangered Species in 1999, one of the great success stories in the field of wildlife conservation. The online portion of Raptors in the City guides children through nesting season (roughly February to June) as they watch the still rare falcons live via cameras mounted on skyscrapers. The curriculum supports one semester of study, and the students learn environmental, biological, and technological lessons, as well as research skills, tied to national science and technology standards. Curriculum materials and books for falcon study are available at low cost. It’s easy - no software to install.

Nesting season (and the the Raptors in the City program) begins in February 2005.

To subscribe to the free “Falcon Flash” e-newsletter, weekly bulletins and pictures from the program’s study nestsite during nesting season, reply to this message with “subscribe” in the subject.

For more information visit: www.raptorsinthecity.org

Contact person:

Deborah Mathies

177 W. Norwalk Rd.

Norwalk, CT 06850

(203) 831-0855, e-mail: raptors@optonline.net

Raptors in the City is a featured link on National Geographic.com’s “Geography Action!” http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographyaction/habitats/cities_suburbs.html

Photo by Scott Wright



This is a picture of a female peregrine falcon at the “Raptors in the City” program’s study nestsite. She is perched atop the “FalconCam” that broadcasts the nesting drama live on the internet. Nestbox is on the right background on a 12th floor window ledge. Photo is courtesy of Scott Wright (picture is also available at higher resolution).

Raffle Gifts Won by CECA 2004 Attendees

CECA thanks the vendors for their contributions to our tech party raffle. CECA extends a special note of appreciation to **RnB Enterprises** for their generous support of the conference tech party.

Laser Printer		Adele Gray
CECA Gift	CECA	Deborah Shindell
Site License for mPower	mPower	Sara Schutz
CECA Gift	CECA	Richard Nigro
Inkjet Printer	Advanced Office Systems	Kathi Maler
CECA Gift	CECA	Audrey Kimball
Dana	AlphaSmart	Diana Garra
CECA Gift	CECA	Bob Olson
ClayAnimation kit	Tech Learning	Anita Ward
Inspiration	K-12 MicroMedia	Maria Lizano DiMare
CECA Gift	CECA	Jeanne Meiers
Flash Mx		BeBe Dudley
CECA Gift	CECA	Joseph Aveni
CECA Gift	CECA	Kel Youngs
DVD Player		Wendy Carton
CECA Gift	CECA	Christine Lang
Teacher Website Made	Classwebs.net	Judy Toth
Whales & Dolphins CD	K-12 MicroMedia	Lynn Haberern
Label Maker	MegaSys	Irene E. Siena
Mini-Mouse	CDW-G	Barbara Derrico
T-shirt	K-12 MicroMedia	Bryan Sample
30 Software Licenses	Blue Ribbon	Terri L. Buganski
Kid Power (Key to Unlock MS Office)		Kristen Clark Hammond
Digital Camera Project Kit	Tech for Learning	Marija Venier
\$25.00 Gift Certificate	Pitsco	David Oliver
CD Case	Apple Computer	Jayne Durnal
MicroWorlds Junior	K-12 MicroMedia	Michelle Mertz
Media Blender		Robyn McKenney
NEO	AlphaSmart	Diane Simpson
Book	Apple Computer	Alberta Wininger
Viewscreen Calculator	Texas Instruments	Lynn McMullin
Writer's Companion	School Tys	Bruce Williams
Terrapin Software	Terrapin	Joretta Kilcourse
1001 Websites for Kids	Teacher Created Materials	Erica Bria
CD Case	Apple Computer	Jennifer Miller
Gift Certificate toward Finalsite Website		Jamie Veronesi
Clicker	Crick Software	Christopher Barlow
Growing Up Digital (book)	Apple Computer	Carol LaRow
50 Quick and Easy PowerPoint Activities (book) E		lizabeth Pierce-Fortin
\$25.00 Gift Certificate	Pitsco	Michael Ladd
Image Blender	Tech 4 Learning	Angela Bassett
Organizer	School Furnishings	Nancy A. Betloski
Unlock Kid Power In MS Office	Tom Snyder	Mary Lou Banks