In a Nutshell

A Newsletter from the KMS Academic Coaches

A Note from Administration

Thank you to everyone for making our PD week such a success.  Everyone’s input and flexibility enabled us to offer customized professional development.  There was great energy during an already busy time of the year and everyone’s interest in the ideas being shared was revitalizing.  We have seen several new tools and strategies from the sessions already used in classrooms!

We received particularly good feedback about the benefits of 1:1, small group and co-teaching models of delivering professional development. A summary of the sessions follows in this newsletter.

Please remember that teachers and staff of KMS have built internal capacity over the past year and a half so that we can conduct professional development on an as-needed and just-in-time basis.  Our Academic Coaches are here to support you throughout your continued professional development.  After all, if we are not learning, we are falling behind.   Please visit the KMS Staff Website to “Book a Coach” and get the support you need to make your classroom the best it can be!

Thanks again,

KMS Administration

A Note from the  
Academic Coaches

***So, you’ve got a Document Camera. Now What?***

As you know, KMS has  
 been focusing on collaboration in recent years. One of the best ways to collaborate to improve student learning is to work with one or more of the academic coaches.

One way to look at our roles is this: *We are here to remove any barrier that might stand in the way of student improvement.* Our coaching can take many forms, as you will see on the “Menu of Services” on page 2 of this newsletter. We realize that each of you is at a different comfort level regarding the use of coaches, so we offer multiple ways for you to work with us. Do notice, though, that the “higher up” you go on the menu, the greater the impact on student learning.

We invite you to look at the menu and reflect on your current level(s) of collaboration with us. Then think openly about how you can use us in the future. We hope that you find yourself working with us in more than one way.

[Book A Coach Now!](https://sites.google.com/site/kannapolismiddleschool/academic-coaches-resources/book-an-academic-coach)



Below are some possible uses of your document camera. See a colleague or a coach for help!

* viewing science experiments/ demonstrations
* working with manipulatives so all can see
* projecting/marking text (handouts, articles, books)
* showing artwork/maps
* sharing student work with the class
* snapping a series of pictures during a demo for later review
* magnifying objects

Links: [100 Uses for a Document Camera](http://www.umesd.k12.or.us/techlinks_100ideas) [Document Camera Discussion](http://www.classroom20.com/forum/topics/649749:Topic:65214)

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| Impact on Student Achievement | Cara Wolford  **Literacy/Instructional Coach** | Debby Smith  **Media Coach** | Beth Spell  **Technology Coach** |
| Focused **Visits**:   * you share a successful strategy * address a specific challenge, like:   + not getting results you wanted on student work   + getting class started   + classroom management   + student participation   **Observe** you teach instructional strategy (w/follow up)  **Reflect** on student work together  **Co-teach** instructional strategy (w/follow up)  **Co-plan** a lesson  Facilitate **inter-class** **visitations**  **Model** instructional strategy (w/follow up)  **Suggest** instructional strategy  **Consult** (bounce ideas, brainstorm together, ask ?’s)  Large/small **group** prof. development  Provide **resources** (text, video, research, etc.) | **Research Mini-Lessons**   * Matching info sources to info need * What makes a "good search"? * Alternatives to Google * Using NCWiseOwl resources * How to extract info (notes) from texts * Finding and using photos from the Internet * Electronic note-taking * Organizing information * Purpose and how-to of citing sources * How could I have been more effective?     **Other lessons**   * How to select/find books in the media center (Destiny) * Writing book reviews (Destiny) * Using iLife tools (Mac Lab) * Book discussions * Other--what do you need?     **Other services**   * Consult to help select a tech tool for use in a lesson * Co-plan a lesson * Videotape a class * Do booktalks * Large/small group prof. development * Provide resources (text, video, research, etc.) * Facilitate chats, blogs, etc. | **Technology Tools for Co-teaching/Modeling**  Mimio  Mimio Pad  CPS  DE Streaming  Curriculum Pathways (SAS)  SmartBoard  Ning  Google Tools  Internet Safety  Podcasting  Document camera  **1-on-1 Staff Development**  (Any of the above topics)  Technology Tips  Webpage Design  Atomic Learning  Take existing lesson plan and incorporate technology into it. |

**Menu of Services for your Academic Coaches**

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| **Vocabulary 2.0**  Mike Fisher, Cara Wolford  -Memorizing is NOT learning.  -Use Marzano's 6 Steps for Teaching Academic Vocabulary  -All steps together bring success.  -Step 3 is crucial.  -Steps 1, 3, and 5 are skipped most often.  -Step 2 is often done as copying definitions. NOT effective.  -Technology tools can support vocab instruction. See Mike's wiki.  [Mike's Vocabulary Wiki](http://innovativocab.wikispaces.com/)  [Great wiki on the 6 Steps](http://academicvocabulary.pbworks.com/FrontPage)  Additional [Vocabulary Strategies](https://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=0AfMDT7gtyC7KZGY1Y21rYzZfMTY2ZHF6ZHNzMno&hl=en)  Email your colleagues about:  [S. Fulton](mailto:fultons@kannapolis.k12.nc.us) Wordle idea  [Fitzpatrick](mailto:fitzpatl@kannapolis.k12.nc.us) vocab critical thinking  [Teague](mailto:teaguea@kannapolis.k12.nc.us) YouTube videos for Step 1 | **Advanced Podcasting**  Debby Smith  -Three necessary elements:  Content, means of recording, place to "park" it.  -Audacity (PC) and Garage Band (Mac) are easiest ways to record.  -Posterous is simple vehicle for making podcast available and offers RSS feed.  -Can be password protected.  -Student comments can be enabled.  -Consider a different Posterous for each class.  [Clif's wiki](http://clifmims.wetpaint.com/page/Educational+Podcasting)  [Mike's wiki](http://kannapolis.wikispaces.com/Introduction) | **Cool Tools**  [AudioBoo](http://audioboo.fm/) - Clif Mims  Allows users to post and share audio files  [Etherpad](http://etherpad.com/) – Mike Fisher  Web-based word processor that allows people to work together in real-time  [MuseumBoxes](http://museumbox.e2bn.org/) – Debby Smith Tool for you to build an argument or description of an event, person or historical period  SmartBoard – Beth Spell  An additional interactive board software we can use.  [Animoto](http://animoto.com/) – Anna Watson  Easy music videos for your images, video clips, and pics  Kelly Burgess  [PicLits](http://piclits.com/compose_dragdrop.aspx) – inspired picture writing  [CountryReports](http://countryreports.org/) – useful country information for students/teachers |
| **CPS**  Mike Fisher  Topics Covered  -Bringing in Powerpoints already created and engaging within CPS. -Engaging Verbal Mode to create assessments "on the fly." -Running reports, specifically the Instructor Summary and some disaggregated data as well including Standards Analysis reports, and Student Question Grid Export.  [Mike's CPS Wiki](http://cpsclickers.pbworks.com) [eInstruction CPS training material](http://einstruction.com/support_downloads/training/cps_k12.html) [CPS Pulse User Guides](http://einstruction.com/support_downloads/assessment/pulse/index.html) | **Google Tools**  Clif Mims  [Advanced searching](http://www.google.com/advanced_search) options and strategies  [Google Images](http://images.google.com/) - Note that Google should be cited as the source for images.  [Google News](http://news.google.com/)  [Google Books](http://books.google.com/) - You can also setup and share your [library](http://books.google.com/books?uid=15055907676998855276).  [Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/)  [Google Translate](http://www.google.com/)  [Google Reader](https://www.google.com/reader)    [Clif's wiki](http://clifmims.wetpaint.com/page/Google+Tools) | **Examview**  Mike Fisher  -Overview of creating assessments within Examview, including Quick Test Wizard, and building an assessment from scratch.  -Explanation of different options for administering tests, including layout and multiple versions.  -Overview of saving tests into Test Bank on C Drive or network, then importing into CPS to engage as a CPS assessment.  [Examview Support](http://einstruction.com/support_downloads/assessment/examview/index.html) [Examview Tutorials](http://einstruction.com/support_downloads/training/examview.html) |

**Summary of Sessions**

**KMS Professional Development Week, December 2009**

Here are the sessions from the Professional Development week at-a-glance that might be useful as a refresher or if you weren’t able to attend a session you wanted. Contacts and links are provided for further information or follow-up. Remember that your academic coaches are here for everyday ongoing professional development.

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| **Inquiry-Based Learning**  Clif Mims  -"Inquiry Based Learning" as we discussed it includes other labels such as: action-learning, problem-based learning, discovery learning, project-based learning, inquiry science, etc.  -Characteristics include:   question-driven, student-centered, active, discovery, motivating, open-ended, interdisciplinary  Things to think about:  -Time (1 day? 3 days? 2 weeks?)  -The Scenario/Question  -Product(s) and Assessment(s)  -Interdisciplinary opportunities  -How to scaffold students who need more support    Tips:  -Teacher must act like a coach.  -Inquiry is not quiet.  -Ease your way into it.  -Get some help.  [Clif's Wiki](http://clifmims.wetpaint.com/page/Inquiry-Based+Learning)  [Inquiry Planning Tool](https://docs.google.com/View?docid=df5cmkc6_154fxjfb8hn) | **Brain-Based Learning**  Cara Wolford, Mike Fisher  Areas of Focus:  -Brain Basics  -Environmental Influences  -The Role of Attention  -Managing the Flow of Attention  -Students' States for Learning  -Long-Term Memory    Key Points:  -Eric Jensen: "You can either have your students' attention, or they can be making meaning, but never both at the same time." You must give students time to process/practice/reflect after each chunk of input.  -Research suggests 8-10 minute "chunks" for middle schoolers.  -We can change students' states to get attention and prepare them for learning.  -Moving info to Long Term Memory requires: activating prior knowledge, tapping into emotions, identifing relevance, chunking information, and repeating/rehearsing/retrieving.  [Cara's wiki page](http://carawolford.wetpaint.com/page/Brain-Based+Learning)  [Mike's wiki page](http://brainorama.wikispaces.com/)    [Brain Bookable](https://docs.google.com/fileview?id=0B_MDT7gtyC7KMWUzZGM4YzYtMGM3Ny00M2NlLThhYTYtNzgwYmY3MjA5Nzlj&hl=en)  [Types of States](https://docs.google.com/View?docid=df5cmkc6_143dz5sb7fv) (Word document)  [Instructional Strategies](https://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=0AfMDT7gtyC7KZGY1Y21rYzZfMTY1NHhuN2pmOA&hl=en) | **Mimio Advanced**  Molly Charles, ALB  - Remember you can print multiple slides on one page like you can in PowerPoint.  - Use the camera icon on your toolbar to capture an image anywhere on your computer and put it directly into your mimio presentation.  - You can hyperlink to internet pages as well as other mimio slides.  - Lock items in place to get rid of the blue box around them.  - Right click on items to find the tool that allows you to order them from front to back and group them together so that they move together.  - Sign up at mimioconnect.com to find lessons, downloads, and interactive websites that can be useful for your classroom.  [Mimio Connect](http://mimioconnect.com/) - lessons, downloads, etc.  email [Molly Charles](mailto:charlesm@kannapolis.k12.nc.us)  [Mimio Master courses info](http://www.mimio.com/training/mimio_masters/index.asp) |
| **DE Streaming**  Beth Spell, Debby Smith  -Searchable resources include much more than videos.  Photos, quizzes, games, clip art, sounds.  - Search by key word, subject, grade, curriculum standard.  - Save to server in curriculum folder; best way to share and also not use bandwidth.  - Builder tools: Quiz Builder, Assignment Builder, Writing Prompt Builder  [DE Streaming](http://www.discoveryeducation.com/) | **iLife**  Debby Smith, Karen Braswell  -iPhoto, iMovie and Garage Band are key components of iLife  -Mac Lab has 8 stations, and will be appropriate for paired or group work.  -Ask one of the coaches to coordinate scheduling and planning Mac projects  [Tutorials](http://www.apple.com/ilife/tutorials/#iphoto) | **Building Webpages**  Beth Spell  -Used Google Sites to create classroom webpages.  -Must follow the school board policy of page content.  -Keep it simple, with very little scrolling.  [Google Sites](http://sites.google.com/) |