



Connected

The Newsletter of the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

FALL 2002

MVECA STAFF

Gary Bosserman -
Director of Operations

Laura Gallogly - EMIS
Software Specialist

Rebecca Nininger - SIS
Software Specialist

Jim Pesch - INFOhio
Software Specialist

Steven Phipps -
Network Specialist

Michelle Powers - Fiscal
Software Specialist

Thor Sage -
Technology Coordinator

William Schroeder -
Video/Distance Learning

Norma K. Stewart -
Executive Director

Sue Ann Welsh -
Secretary

MVECA BOARD

David Baits

Supt. - Cedar Cliff Local

Marsha Leonard, Chair

Supt. - Greene Co. Career Center

David Bollheimer, Rec. Sec.

Treas. - Northwestern Local

Terry Fouch

Supt. - E. Clinton Local

Denny Howell

Supt. - Greenon Local

Roger Pankake

Supt. - Tecumseh Local

Tracy Parker, Vice Chair

Treas. - Clinton-Massie Local

<http://www.mveca.org>



We hope your summer break was enjoyable. We were busy at MVECA this summer! Becky Nininger joined the MVECA staff and will begin September 9 to provide support for the SIS software. You can learn more about Becky on page 4.

MVECA staff updated our skills in various workshops and training sessions. We hosted a very successful IVDL summer institute in August for 40 area teachers. We completed our FY '03 CIP and have set a goal to provide you faster response time and conduct more training opportunities this year. We want your feedback about our services. In order to be responsive to your needs, we need to hear from you!

OTHER NEWS

MRK Technologies of Cleveland will be conducting a **network security and risk assessment** for MVECA this Fall. They will assess our security vulnerabilities, and make general recommendations for improving the security of our internal network.



E-RATE: Now that MVECA is a "service provider", districts will be eligible for greater discounts. However, in order to get the discounts AND as a new requirement for receiving ONEnet funds, districts **MUST FILE** the necessary paperwork to apply for e-rate discounts.

The ONEnet Application deadline for both public and private school districts in fiscal year 2003 is *September 30, 2002*, which is also the order deadline for new communications circuits in order to be eligible for funding in fiscal year 2003. The circuit order deadline applies to existing buildings and any newly constructed facilities that will open in fiscal year 2003.

Important filing dates, forms, and more information about e-rate can be found at: <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/>.

⇒ There will be a **MEETING** on **Mon., Sept. 23 at 9:30 a.m.** at MVECA for district personnel responsible for filing e-rate. We will review important dates and information to help you meet e-rate deadlines. Notices will be sent in Sept.

The application consists of only two items -
1. Upload your district WAN diagram.
2. Answer one funding question.
The remaining questions were answered within your BETA building survey. If questions, please contact ONEnet Ohio at 614-728-1887.

The MCOECN continues to work with the other Regional Service Agencies to study and make recommendations to the legislative **Technology Task Force** to implement some key recommendations from the CELT Study Report. You can read the entire CELT report at <http://www.ohioschoolnet.k12.oh.us/home/>

SchoolNet Plus Round 5 targets Grade 6 classrooms and has a goal of one computer workstation per 5 students. There were 385 districts eligible for SchoolNet Plus for grade 6 in FY02. There are 255 school districts eligible to receive funding in FY03. 100% of those districts have been reviewed and approved. SchoolNet requested the release of FY03 funds and purchase order requests for all remaining 255 districts on July 1, 2002. Funds should be transferred to district accounts before school starts in August/September.

FALL ASSEMBLY MEETING FOR SUPERINTENDENTS AND TREASURERS

Thursday, November 21, 2002 at MVECA.

Breakfast 9:00; Business Meeting 9:30 a.m.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

—Margaret Mead



FISCAL UPDATE by Michelle Powers

New USPS Report: Check out the new report just added. DEDLST is a new payroll report that has been added that allows you to get a list of employees with specific deduction codes. This is a new screen formatted report that allows you to select all or just a few deductions to verify employees and amounts. A payroll does not have to be in process to generate. You may generate the report anytime. I think you will find this report a huge benefit. Here is a sample of the screen:

DEDLST - Deductions Listing

Report File Specifications:	
Output file	DEDLST.TX
Print options page? (Y, N)	Y
Optional heading line	
Reporting Options:	
Sort option (S, N, D)	N
Start each deduction on a new page? (Y, N)	N
Exclude records with stop date (MM/DD/YYYY)	/ /

Specific Deduction Codes:

5 Year Forecast: Everyone should have received from me an email containing your 5 Year Forecast data for 2003. If you should have any problems opening the email - PLEASE contact me. Once you have your updates completed, snail mail a disk to me and I will load it on for you to verify. Remember your 5 Year Forecast is now due in October. I'll be sending reminders.

DISTANCE LEARNING UPDATE

by Bill Schroeder



Ohio SchoolNet has outlined a state video network upgrade through level one of the IVDL Continuation Grant. The original timeline had this project completed in August. However, since the issuing of RFPs, several problems have arisen in the implementation phase of this project. As a result, the network upgrades are not expected to be complete until December. It is hoped that through these network upgrades, the connectivity problems that have plagued the IVDL program will be resolved.

The first MVECA IVDL Summer Institute was held August 12-15. Forty teachers attended the institute. Each teacher attending planned and implemented four lessons using videoconferencing this school year. The focus of the institute was on finding content that meets district curricular objectives, state content standards, and state proficiency goals. Through these methods we should once again see technology meeting the needs of education.

MVECA will be hosting IVDL support training for media specialists on September 17th. This training will focus on giving media specialists the basic tools to provide teachers with curricular and basic technical support when they are using interactive video lessons. We will also cover scheduling ISDN and multipoint calls using the VC Wizard online registration software. Look for more information about this training coming soon.

INFOhio UPDATE by Jim Pesch



Welcome Back! We are pleased to announce that Northeastern Local Schools and Washington Courthouse City Schools have been awarded LSTA Automation Grants for 2002. We will be working closely with both of these districts to bring their libraries online yet this year.

Our first meeting this year will be on Tuesday, September 17th. Please note that this is also the date of the Library Media Specialist IVDL training. We hope to continue to combine training and meetings this year to limit your time away from your buildings. Please bring your calendars so that we can plan for the rest of the year.

RESOURCES — Cataloging and Circulation Resources Kits continue to be improved. These essential training resources will soon be available in WORD, PDF, and HTML formats. You can get to them from the INFOhio training resources page at http://www.infohio.org/training/LA_resources.htm.

WEB2 — This fall we will see several changes to the Web2 Interface.

- * Changes to CAT banner to make buttons brighter
- * Links to results page numbers to facilitate navigation
- * Book bag feature so items can be selected then printed, saved, or e-mailed (depending on your library settings)
- * Corrected HELP content reflecting INFOhio selected Web2 features
- * Item notes displayed on full record (feature selected by library)

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES — On July 1, INFOhio transitioned to a suite of electronic resources from EBSCO Research Databases, which replaced the resources from bigchalk. The EBSCOhost suite features databases that contain materials specifically for school administration and staff, secondary students, middle school students, and primary students. When totaled, the various databases provide access to articles from over 6,000 titles. The EBSCOhost subscription also includes Page Composer for developing Web pages and Topic Search. The EBSCOhost subscription is made possible due to the cooperative efforts of OPLIN, OhioLINK, State Library of Ohio, and, of course, INFOhio through the Libraries Connect for Ohio consortium.

The home access passwords for the INFOhio Electronic Resources will remain the same for the 2002 - 2003 school year, but they will no longer be case sensitive.

MORE — Buildings from 16 DASites representing 39 districts for a total of 141 schools have agreed to participate in MORE, Ohio's statewide resource sharing network. Any districts still wishing to participate will come online in the second semester. School districts are encouraged to form partnerships to reduce delivery costs. One model would split the costs between all of a county's schools with the county ESC being the delivery and distribution site.

SIRSI Transition — As you know, the purchase of DRA by SIRSI has changed INFOhio's software migration plan. A transition team is investigating various factors that impact the transition from MultiLIS to Sirsi's UnicornECOLE.

"Success is a journey, not a destination."

— Ben Sweetland



EMIS UPDATE by Laura Gallogly

Summer school data will be reported with October data this year rather than in September. Requirements for summer school data to be reported in October are: student intervention program codes, district record and a summer school building record. Additional summer school data will be required to be reported via a web interface TBA!

SSID is here! All students enrolled after 8/30/02 will be required to be submitted to PWC with the additional two elements, middle name, birth place city. All the students that you have entered for 02/03 school year have been assigned an SSID under the FY02 requirements using the original four required elements.

I have heard from some of you about ways to improve EMIS documentation from MVECA. All the replies I received were great feedback and I appreciate all of your comments and suggestions.

I would like to schedule the October reporting requirements meeting for Tuesday, September 24, 2002, 9:00 a.m. in the MVECA commons area. EMAIL to follow with more details.

Aug. 15, 2002 - Final date for test files to be sent to PWC

Aug. 30, 2002 - Final date for live files to be sent to PWC

Sept. 24, 2002 - Tentative date for the October EMIS reporting requirements meeting

Oct. 1, 2002 - First processing for October, FY03 data

Nov. 1, 2002 - Deadline for October data to be sent to ODE

Nov. 15, 2002 - Final processing of June, 02N data

SIS UPDATE



Have you heard about SWAN? SWAN is a web based attendance and marks program in which your teachers can take daily or period attendance on-line and it can then be updated, by the office staff, directly into SIS for attendance. The same package can also be used to enter marks for grade cards and/or progress reports. If you would like a demonstration of SWAN or additional information, please contact Laura Gallogly, gallogly@mveca.org

Reminders for the beginning of the year:

- * No shows - withdraw them before the first day of school and give them a D status on STUD
- * Homeroom roster is an R201
- * Please be sure to clean off your MGMT screen to start the school year

If you have questions, please contact Becky Nininger (nininger@mveca.org) or Laura (gallogly@mveca.org).

ANNOUNCEMENT: We are developing plans to set aside a few days each month that the MVECA training lab would be open for building/district use. Users would have the option of reserving the lab to work or to get assistance from MVECA staff on a certain problem you are having. More details and dates will be forthcoming.

TECH UPDATE by Thor Sage

Upcoming Technology Events at MVECA

September 13th - MVECA Quarterly Tech. Update Mtg.

December 6th - MVECA Quarterly Tech. Update Mtg.

October 14-15, 2002 Ohio SchoolNet Marco Polo Training 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM at MVECA

This is a two day training. The MarcoPolo program provides no-cost, standards-based Internet content for the K-12 teacher and classroom, developed by the nation's experts. In this workshop we will explore the MarcoPolo website and training materials while discussing the integration of the MarcoPolo resources into the SchoolNet Novice and Practitioner training. Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be certified MarcoPolo trainers who will be able to conduct training for teachers within your district. The Practitioner portion of the training will provide ideas for integrating technology into the curriculum. PLEASE NOTE: These workshops will be approached as a two-day event. Those seeking Practitioner certification MUST attend both days.

Details: Novice certification recommended for both trainings and required for those seeking Practitioner certification.

Contact: Scott Kane 513.529.6448 (kane@osn.state.oh.us).

The National Teacher Training Institute Workshop

The National Teacher Training Institute (NTTI) is a one-day conference and follow-up lesson development workshop designed to help teachers of grade 3-8 improve their instruction of math and science by integrating video and/or Internet and other technologies into their classroom.

Register at www.thinktv.org/edservices/ntti/ntti-form.asp to attend one of the following National Teacher Training Institute sessions. Enrollment is limited; register today. For more information call (937) 220-1693. Visit their web site, www.thinktv.org, for more information about the educational services provided by ThinkTV.

Sat., February 8, 2003 8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

at ThinkTV Studios 110 South Jefferson Street Dayton
This session is co-sponsored by the Western Regional Professional Development Center.

Sat., March 15, 2003 8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

at Greene County ESC *This session is co-sponsored by MVECA and the Greene County ESC.*

Mon., March 24, 2003 8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

at SOITA Offices, Franklin, OH
This session is co-sponsored by SOITA.

Students Used for Technology Support

Students are used to provide technical support in more than half the school districts in the country. Students troubleshoot hardware, software and infrastructure problems in 43% of districts. They set up wiring and equipment in 39% and perform technical maintenance in 36% of districts. The National School Boards Foundation [<http://www.nsb.org/>] surveyed technology decision-makers for 811 public school districts, including 90 of the top 100 largest districts.



IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 2 MVECA Offices Closed - Labor Day
Sept. 13 MVECA Tech Coordinators Mtg. at MVECA
Sept. 17 INFOhio Regional Users Mtg, MVECA
Sept. 19 MVECA Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
Sept. 23 E-rate meeting at MVECA - 9:30 a.m.
Sept. 24 EMIS Oct. reporting mtg. 9:00 a.m. MVECA
Sept. 30 ONEnet application deadline
Oct. 1 First Oct. EMIS processing FY03
Oct. 14-15 Marco Polo Training at MVECA 9-3
Oct. 17 MVECA Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.

Nov. 1 Deadline for Oct. EMIS data to ODE
Nov. 15 Final processing of June 02 EMIS data
Nov. 21 MVECA Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
Nov. 21 Assembly Meeting 9:30; breakfast at 9:00
Nov. 28-29 MVECA Offices closed for Thanksgiving
Dec. 6 MVECA Tech Coordinators Meeting at MVECA
Dec. 9-11 SOITA Conference - Dayton

For more details about any event, or to register for an event, contact MVECA at 937-767-1468.



MEET OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBER AT MVECA - beginning September 9



Rebecca (Becky) Nininger comes to MVECA with eleven years of experience in software support at another DA site in Ohio. She has an Associate degree in Applied Business and Data Processing Technology from Marion Technical College. Becky will be your primary contact for your questions about SIS, but can also help with DASL, SWAN, and other questions. Contact Becky at nininger@mveca.org or at MVECA (937-767-1468 ext. 3108).

Wearable PCs Help Special Ed Students Learn, Communicate

Xybernaut Corp. is marketing Xyberkids, a wearable/mobile computer that can increase independence of students with cerebral palsy, autism, mild mental retardation and other disorders. Each computer has a touch screen that students can use with a pointer, a finger or a giant button they can press with their elbow. The technology is being tested in Ohio's Coventry school district. For information about Xybernaut, go to the company's Web site at www.xybernaut.com.

"Education is when you read the fine print; experience is what you get when you don't." — Pete Seeger



330 E. Enon Road
Yellow Springs, OH 45387