



Synergies

OCTOBER 2013

CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

ISSUE 41

Mobile Technology Learning Center

Mobile technology certainly promises to become a defining characteristic of the education process. No one is more enthusiastic about its potential than San Diego Qualcomm entrepreneur and philanthropist Irwin Jacobs.

Recently Jacobs and three CFF representatives, superintendent Jeff Felix, Todd Gutschow, and Bruce Braciszewski, met with Jacobs and others at the University of San Diego's Mobile Learning Technology Center. A principle topic was continuing research into the potential of mobile technology and its impact on learning.

In fact, Jacobs recently pledged \$3 million to enhance USD's Mobile Technology Center as it studies tech devices in K-12 schools.

"We are still going through a very rapid learning phase," said Jacobs. "The devices that the kids can carry around with them now are very powerful computers, full-time communication. So much can be done; the question is how can we best make use of that," he added in a recent UT San Diego article.

In the past Jacobs has underwritten a major North Carolina initiative where students equipped with mobile devices significantly increased their learning ability in algebra.

The Classroom of the Future and Qualcomm are continuing discussions about a number of related initiatives. Details will be announced as they are finalized.

Save the Date: May 21, 2014

The Classroom of the Future's Innovation in Education Awards will return to the University of San Diego next year, on May 21, 2014. And in what might be a record, Microsoft has already committed to being a Visionary Sponsor.

For a look at the enormously successful 10th anniversary awards dinner in 2013, a free iBook now is available at <http://www.classroomofthefuture.org>. Look for the "Download iBook" link near the top of the home page.

Caroline Winn New CFF Chair

Caroline Winn, vice president of customer services and chief customer privacy officer for SDG&E is the new Chairperson of the Classroom of the Future Foundation's board of directors.

Winn helped lead CFF's annual board of directors retreat, held each September. This year the board focused on technology program status and funding; expanding Foundation social media and marketing activities; and assessing how education can improve student learning in a global competitive society.



SDG&E has been a prominent and sustained supporter of CFF initiatives. Winn started as an associate engineer with SDG&E in 1986. She has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and is a registered professional engineer.

"We grow accustomed to the dark, when the light is put away."

Emily Dickenson

“The desire of knowledge, like the thirst of riches, increases ever with the acquisition of it.”

Laurence Sterne

“I’m looking forward to helping the board maintain the momentum of our 10th anniversary,” said Caroline. “In addition, it’s vital that our board become even more involved with our annual Innovation in Education Awards program.”

This year’s CFF vice chair is John Sipe, senior vice president at Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

STEMposium Is Successful

CFF again was a co-host of this summer’s two-week STEMposium for grade 4-12 teachers. Two co-sponsors were the San Diego County Office of Education and the San Diego Science Alliance Foundation.

Forty teachers from across the region participated in the program. It is designed to enhance teachers’ core science teaching skills in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math.

A popular aspect of the program is “externships” in which participating teachers visit technology leaders such as Qualcomm to see how classroom STEM instruction can be linked with real-world experiences.

Computer-Using Educators Event

SDCUE 2013 (San Diego Computer-Using Educators) will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at Cal State San Marcos. It will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with check-in and exhibits opening at 7:30 a.m.

More than 75 educational sessions spanning all curriculum areas and the use of technology for all levels will be held. Attendees are encouraged to bring a tablet or laptop to the event. More than 25 exhibits are anticipated as well. The event is EETT approved, includes professional growth certificates, and carries optional CSUSM college credit.

The registration deadline is October 10. Registration includes parking, a morning snack and lunch. For more information or to register, visit www.sdcue.org.



Medal of Honor Educates, Inspires

The Medal of Honor Foundation believes the qualities of heroism, namely character and integrity, have a role to play in education. San Diego educators agree.

This summer the USS Midway Museum hosted a Medal of Honor presentation about new curriculum available. Emerald Middle School’s Mary Kraus volunteered to create localized curriculum and trained six other teachers who volunteered to use it in their classrooms.

They used the district’s new digital Learning Management System that is accessible to teachers and students. The first classroom education sessions took place on Patriot’s Day, September 11.

Early feedback is promising and as the program is developed further it could become available to teachers across the country.



“An education isn’t how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It’s being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don’t.”

Anatole France

Digital Learning Partnerships

The Classroom of the Future Foundation attended a U.S. Department of Education roundtable, "Community Partnerships for the Digital Learning Revolution," held at High Tech High on Point Loma for 40 invited participants.

The roundtable was facilitated by USD staff Richard Culatta, Director of the Office of Education Technology, and Michael Robbins, Senior Advisor for Nonprofit Partnerships. Participants included local district superintendents, teachers, technology specialists, education non-profits and students.

The dialogue focused on the following topics: expanding access and digital literacy; bridging across schools families and communities; service and volunteering in education; and anytime-anywhere learning. The forum provided input to the Department of Education in its support of expanding broadband services and building professional development and leadership as part of its national technology plan.

Student Cyber Safety Extended

For the third consecutive year SDG&E is underwriting the Student Cyber Safety initiative in the Lemon Grove and Cajon Valley Districts.



The sponsorship enables students to produce videos that teach other students about cyber safety. SDG&E’s steadfast support enables a greater number of students to both produce

these vital videos and to benefit from them.

Social Media Is More Robust

The Classroom of the Future Foundation’s social media program is becoming more robust and vibrant than ever. For example, twice a day the latest in education technology news is posted at www.facebook.com/CFFSD. A typical day recently included posting on common core issues and new research on the use of broadband in education.

In addition, CFF’s learning link blog can be accessed through the Classroom of the Future Foundation’s website. And we’re always looking for story ideas, feedback, and comments on education technology issues of the day.

It’s one more way that CFF is forging timely communication channels and platforms in an education technology context.

Linked Education Technology News

[If we were really serious about educational technology](#)

If we were really serious about educational technology, we would... [here are 10 to get you started]: Show students how to edit their privacy settings and use groups in Facebook instead of banning online social networks because they’re ‘dangerous’ and/or ‘frivolous’; teach students to understand and contribute to the online information commons rather than ‘just saying no’ to Wikipedia...

[School libraries: A shift to digital](#)

The school library is changing. Instead of a stuffy and silent space filled with books, today’s school libraries are becoming collaboration centers, where teachers and librarians work together to help students develop technology skills and evaluate digital information.

Over the past decade, studies have shown that students in schools with

endorsed librarians earn higher scores on standardized reading tests, and those scores are higher regardless of students' socioeconomic level and despite overall school staffing declines.

A 2012 Institute of Museum and Library Services study that spanned 10 years analyzed library conditions and their impact on learning and literacy development in two Philadelphia neighborhoods. The researchers found that, when comparing a poor community with an affluent community, "children with early access to print and technology continue to build and gain knowledge. Children who don't have early access enter school far behind and are taught the basics..."

Forget books, students say gimme tablets

Take a quick jaunt through some of the education blogs in our Lifestyle section, and you'll know that mom bloggers are all talking about back to school, Technorati reports. One of the topics that's heating up is technology in the classroom, specifically the thirst students want to quench with tablets. According to a new report from Nielsen it found, 71% of students who use tablets are interested in accessing textbooks on them. Google is listening as they now let students rent or buy digital textbooks via Google Play. Also in the report, 51% of students who are over 13-years-old and use their tablets in school said they use it to search the Internet. Additionally, they are also using it for email (46%), reading books (42%), taking notes (40%) and completing homework/school assignments (30%).

Synergies is a newsletter of the Classroom of the Future Foundation. For more information, contact Bruce Braciszewski at (858) 292-3685 or visit www.classroomofthefuture.org © 2013