

Meeting of February 18th, 2015Google Presentation:

Kim Meldrum (one of the regular presenters of the Google 101 & 201 workshops offered by ESD) presented EPC with a condensed version of these workshops. She discussed and answered questions about GAFE, outlining its potential uses in the classroom. The ultimate goal is to help teachers effectively integrate this technology into the classroom, whereas the technology becomes a learning outcome rather than simply a tool.

Concerns were raised regarding the compatibility of documents originally created in Microsoft Office that are now having to be opened in the Google Environment. While most documents transferred easily, we were assured that ordering a licence(s) for Microsoft Office is still possible if you feel it is necessary. You should speak to your DCP/NTIC representative to put forth such requests.

The New Portal

As we all know, at the end of this school year, LBPSB will be making the switch from GRICS (Portal) to Google. Portal will still exist, however, but its functionality will no longer be limited to the constraints of GRICS. The goal of the new Portal is to be more user-friendly and operate in more of a point-and-click format that would link us to the features we regularly use (i.e. Payroll, HR forms, Aesop, GPI, PIC forms, registration for EDS workshops, announcements, etc.). The in-house technicians designing the new portal are working closely with a focus group (comprised of teachers/admin from all sectors) to ensure it will meet everyone's needs.

Upcoming ESD workshops

ESD continues to offer more GOOGLE workshops (at varied levels) in both English & French. Registration for such workshops can be done on the portal.

Research Policies & Projects

Every year the school board is approached by outside organizations (mainly universities) with proposals of projects. ESD vets these proposals and then, if any are of interest, they are presented to the administrator of the school. Ultimately, however, the decision to implement these projects or not, is up to each school's staff council and the teachers directly involved.

Submitted by
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