
IETL Newsletter - August 2019

IETL - Illinois Educational Technology Leaders

Mon, Aug 5, 2019 at 7:45 AM



We are an official CoSN State Chapter providing mentorship and professional development to school district leaders. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Summer Newsletter



Note from the President

Hello IETL Members-

Summer is a busy time for us in the EdTech world. As you work on getting your projects completed before the first day of school, please make sure to take some time for yourself and recharge as well.



Some thanks are in order. First, thank you, and well-wishes to our President from last year, Nancy Battaglia. Nancy served our board, and our organization, with distinction. Nancy stepped down from the board and changed roles this summer, we wish her well!

Second, we also wish to thank Matt Dusterhoft and Eric Hansen for their service on the IETL board and welcome Mary Jane Warden and Jason Weigel as they begin 3-year terms as board members. Also, please join me in welcoming John Connolly as the President-Elect of IETL for this year! Maria Stavropoulos and Chris Budzinski will continue in their roles as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, and Phil Morris will continue as Past President this year.

As you've no doubt seen, we are holding a special election to fill the board seat that Nancy vacated. Please make sure to submit nominations if you have them, and to vote in the

election in August.

As I write, the board has just completed its Summer planning meeting, and while we had an amazing year this last year, be on the lookout for even better things to come - although to be fair it will be hard to top this June's CTO Clinic, thank you for attending and thanks to John Connolly, Nancy Battaglia, Phil Morris and Eric Hansen for putting it together.

Finally, it's just about that time again folks, our students and staff are coming back soon to benefit from all of our hard work this Summer. I wish all of our IETL community a great August, and here's hoping that everything goes off without a hitch for all of us this August!

Don Ringlestein
IETL President



CTO Summit Recap

We had another outstanding CTO Summit on June 13th at Guaranteed Rate Field. The day was filled with great discussions, topics, networking, and capped off with a great night to watch the Chicago White Sox beat the NY Yankees. Highlights of the day included our outstanding keynote from Kevin Novak ([slides link](#)), the inaugural **DELTA Award** to Hank Thiele, and general connections throughout the day. Thank you to all that attended and make it great learning day!





Update your membership. Click [here](#) to get started.

[Member School District Directory](#)

2019 - 2020 Workshop Dates

- Workshop #1: Friday, November 1
- Workshop #2: Thursday, January 23
- IDEA (ICE) Conference Admin Session: Wednesday, 2/26-2/27
- CoSN National Conference: 3/16-3/18
- Workshop #3: Friday, April 17
- CTO Summit: Thursday, June 18
- Golf Outing: Thursday, July 9

Invites will be send closer to the dates.

These sessions are always beneficial so please try to attend!

Spotlight District - D21

It is a very exciting year in CCSD21 this year as we are coming off a passed \$69 million referendum this past November by a 73% margin. This passed referendum struck a plan that will be carried out starting this summer through 2023 and includes major upgrades in security, A/C in all buildings, preparation and

implementation of Full-day Kindergarten across all schools, and infusion of 21st-century learning environments across all schools. This summer almost \$35 million in total work is being completed which includes security upgrades including complete installation of secured entrances in fourteen older buildings, and upgraded security camera and door access systems. We are implementing a Genetec security camera and door access solution with Axis cameras from a technology standpoint. We will be integrating this technology with our current Bosch intrusion system and visitor management. Also, this summer is a complete installation of A/C across the district, and other upgrades including LED lighting and flooring.



In addition to the major referendum work, we are also expanding our 1:1 Chromebook program to include all grades K-8, and expanding our take-home model down to grades 3-5. This past year, we were a full 1:1 in grades 3-8 and were at a 3 to 4 ratio in K-2. Our take-home model was limited to grades 6-8 prior. We're excited for the expansion of this program and what it means for our students and their learning!



From an instructional lens, we are intensifying our focus on staff development and technology integration and will be providing a total of 2 Technology MiniCons for staff. These full-day mini tech conferences have provided great PD opportunities for our staff, and have really helped them to enhance the infusion of technology into their teaching to create meaningful and authentic student learning experiences. Sessions are led by teachers and professional staff and include topics such as Seesaw (Beginner), Seesaw (Advanced), Using Technology to Support SEL, Tools for Student Engagement, Pear Deck/Nearpod, WeVideo Basics, and many more.

TLE Updates

You may already know that IETL is sponsoring an official state cohort of districts working to earn the [Trusted Learning Environment Seal](#). For more information regarding the seal requirements, please visit the [TLE Seal website](#).



The cohort met on Thursday, July 25, 2019. At that meeting, each district worked on a draft application for the TLE Seal. We will edit and enhance our applications over the coming year, working together to prepare to apply for the seal. It is not too late to join; we welcome new cohort members and August is a perfect time to get started. Please contact Mary Morgan Ryan at mmorganryan@nssed.org



CETL Recognition

**Congratulations for your
CETL Certification.**

Michael Arensdorff
Andrew White

The CETL exam has been undergoing a change process for the last two years to include changes in the body of knowledge needed by educational technology leaders. If the schedule holds, the new test should be unveiled at the CoSN conference next March.

Prior to that, as a part of the development process, the test needs to be beta tested this Fall. Those who volunteer to beta test will have the opportunity for a free retake of the exam in the event that they fail.

Please contact Don Ringlestein (dringlestein@sd129.org) if you are interested.

Interested in earning your CETL, test out your CTO skills [here](#).



Update your membership. NOW!

Visit our website

