TECH TRAINER VOL. 1.8

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While it is true that common sense can sometimes be applied to complicated subjects, it is also true that sometimes the law lacks a common sense interpretation. Over the course of the next few TechTrainers I will be sharing some widely held conventions about digital citizenship that may apply to you and your students in the ever changing world of technology. What is acceptable use in the real world and how can we help our students to be responsible digital citizens as they make their way into the world? Ultimately each individual is responsible for his or her decision. Next issue we will start by looking at how digital media is changing how scholarly papers are written and how it affects students' work in the classroom.

PRODUCTIVITY TIP #18

You may find the following feature to be very helpful, or very bothersome depending upon how quickly you become used to it. Windows XP allows you to turn on a feature called "sticky keys." Pressing the shift key five times in a row will launch a dialog to turn the "sticky keys" feature on. Once activated you can press keys that belong to a key combination one key at a time. For instance you could turn "sticky keys" on and then access the cntrl alt del screen by pressing and releasing each key in sequence. With "sticky keys" on you no longer have to stretch your hands to reach all of those keys at once. Beware though, sticky keys is turned off by pressing a key combination all at once (just like you have for years), so you may accidentally turn the feature off when trying to learn how to use it. While frustrating, learning to use the feature may be helpful to some, especially those used to texting.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND TRAINING

*Acuity Custom Test Design 20 min session next week for MS teachers during planning time
*January 20 tentative Web Page TTT
*January 21 tentative Brainware TTT
*Schedule a 20 minute training session today

ED SOFT

SCRIBUS

Scribus is an open source d   publishing software that is comparable in functionality to programs such as Adobe InDesign, Microsoft Publisher, and QuarkXPress. Scribus offers users a robust toolkit to prepare professional documents for publication. The program is useful for layout of small newspapers, posters, banners, books, brochures, and newsletters Scribus will also allow you to create interactive and animated pdf files from scratch. Please note that there is a learning curve with Scribus. While the program focuses on creating a professional looking final product, it can seem a bit daunting especially for beginners. Don't expect to sit down and learn the program in one sitting. While it may take a little longer to learn, the rewards are great with this free program. If you are interested you can download a windows version of the program at www.scribus.net. While there you can read one of a few success stories and see the potential of the product firsthand. You can also download documentation at the same site.

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