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# EdTECH SHOW DAILY

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Austin

## APPERSON ENCOURAGES EDUCATORS: RETIRE SCANTRON AND HIRE THE GRADEMASTER

**Abel Garcia**, Vice President of Marketing for Apperson Education Products, explains why Apperson's test scanners are the better solution to easy classroom and district testing.



**ESD:** We noticed that some of your materials read 'Retire Scantron, Hire GradeMaster.' Why do you think the GradeMaster should replace the Scantron™ test scanners?

**AG:** We have found that many schools continue to use their old test scanners because they are comfortable with them and in many cases aren't aware that there is a better and less expensive option available. Our GradeMaster scanner does

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## CREATIVITY EXPRESS FROM MADCAP LOGIC IS A VALUABLE TOOL FOR ONLINE EDUCATORS

**Sarah Beiriger** is a third and fourth grade teacher at Branson School Online. She highly recommends Madcap Logic's Creativity Express art education curriculum.



**ESD:** Tell our readers how you use Creativity Express art education software in your class. How do you implement this program?

**SB:** We use Creativity Express every week. It is a fourth grade elective. I assign one of the 16 interactive modules along with a Corel digital painting activity. I currently have 25 to 30 students using the program who login online. The students are required to complete two art projects from each module. Some students do traditional

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## WITH TI-NSPIRE, DEEPER OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ARE CLOSER THAN EVER BEFORE

By **Melendy Lovett**, President, Education Technology, Senior Vice President, Texas Instruments



Texas Instruments (TI) is proud to introduce TI-Nspire™ math and science learning technology. With TI-Nspire technology, TI unveils parallel handheld and computer software. The dual platforms of handheld and software allow documents to be transferred back and forth between the two and represent a fresh new approach for TI. This offering provides advancements such as "grab and move" functionality, automatic resizing and dynamic linking all around a save, edit and review document model.

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## SOFTWARE TO FIT ANY BUDGET: CAMPUSTECH, MICROSOFT PROVIDE YOU MORE

Most parents, students, faculty and staff have become well aware that in addition to the required costs of education, the additional cost necessary for software can become quite expensive. Often it is necessary for students to purchase software in order to complete required coursework. Likewise, it is necessary for faculty to purchase software to facilitate learning. Equipping students, faculty and staff with all of the necessary software to support the educational process just became simpler and more affordable with Student Select and Microsoft Select Licensing.



CampusTech, Inc. has partnered with TCPN to participate in volume licensing programs from Microsoft to offer affordable licensing options. With Microsoft

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## PROMETHEAN OFFERS MULTIPLE CHOICES FOR FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS

Research has consistently shown that formative assessment (and the ability to evaluate student comprehension throughout the course of a lesson) has a powerful impact on student achievement. This type of teaching enables educators to assess students' understanding of key concepts during the course of a lesson, also throughout the entire school year. For students who have traditionally fallen behind in school, research shows that the switch to formative assessment in the classroom can yield immediate results. For special needs environments, integrated daily assessment has proven particularly effective for students with dyslexia, attention deficit disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.



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## SONY MEDIA SOFTWARE: INCREASING STUDENT INVOLVEMENT WITH MULTIMEDIA

**Dave Chaimson**, Vice President of Marketing at Sony Creative Software, discusses the benefits of using multimedia creation software in the classroom.



**ESD:** What do you feel are the most compelling reasons for teachers to incorporate multimedia into their curriculum?

**DC:** Students of this generation have access to so much information. As a result, it can be challenging to get or maintain their attention in class and keep them excited about learning. Multimedia, when strategically incorporated into curriculum, can be a wonderful aid to traditional education methods and an excellent way to connect

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**Madcap Logic (Con't. from p. 1)**

artwork projects and others do projects with the Corel digital painting package.

**ESD:** Do you find the program an effective teaching tool and why?

**SB:** Yes, the program is very effective because it is interactive and allows each student to have a unique experience. Our school is very big on individual education, and each child working through the program at their own pace. However, there are eventual deadlines for each section. This is the second year that the students have used the program and different students use the program each year. Creativity Express meets their individualized education needs.

The program is great for getting both sides of the student's brain working. In

some subject areas the right brain thinkers are lost, and vice versa. Yet Creativity Express combines the use of both sides of the brain. It is a very positive program. It has also made students more comfortable with illustrating stories and stimulates their creative problem solving skills. The students utilize this knowledge in expressing themselves in other subject areas. They feel free to create and don't feel like their art or illustrations have to be uniform or too realistic.

**ESD:** What do your students find most appealing about the program?

**SB:** The students find the video learning style of the program to be very engaging. Also, the integrated use of technology is very appealing. The students love the Challenge sections of each lesson because it encourages competition, and they enjoy the artist cards and puzzle

pieces as rewards. The humorous storytelling, animation and language style keep the kids engaged. The challenges are called just—it is not a quiz—and reinforce positive learning in a non-threatening environment.

**ESD:** How are your students applying this information to enhance their performance in other areas?

**SB:** The students are applying what they've learned in Creativity Express to other subject areas. Last year when asked to research a famous person from history, and write a report on them, a student referenced Creativity Express and wrote a report on Picasso. In addition, it puts more meaning into other subject areas and encourages students to put more effort into their report visuals. Also, the program has improved the student's technical skills. The program is simple enough that they

can do it on their own after the first couple of times logging in. It is also intriguing for parents and gets them involved in what their children are learning.

**ESD:** What are your plans for using Creativity Express in future classes?

**SB:** We will continue to use this program every year. I see Creativity Express as a reward for our students. They look forward to the curriculum and how it teaches them to express their own creative voice. I find the teacher Account Center very helpful. Creativity Express is the most successful art program we have used in the seven years the school has been in existence. It is an essential part of our curriculum and I would not want to teach without it!

*You can find Creativity Express at this year's show in the Academic Superstore booth 1923.*

**Texas Instruments (Con't. from p. 1)**

TI-Nspire technology enhances the ability to:

- Use documents that align with teaching practices proven to enhance learning.
- Save and continue work from one class to the next.
- Allow student reflection and revision of work.
- Organize the build-up and sequencing of ideas.
- Enable formative assessment of student understanding.
- Have materials prepared at the start of class, increasing time on task.

Research played a major part in the development of the TI-Nspire handheld and software. The research and educator

benefits include:

*Effectiveness:* The TI-Nspire math and science learning technology brings together graphing and formative assessment. Research† shows that students who use graphing technology on a regular basis see increases with student achievement. TI-Nspire technology emphasizes problem solving and concepts, not just right answers. TI-Nspire technology also allows for assessment through TI-Nspire documents that stimulate student reasoning and explanation.

*Enhanced representation and communication of mathematics:* TI-Nspire linked representations (equations, graphs, tables, geometric figures and words) enable students to master difficult concepts and explore the effects of

changing variables, i.e. see the same mathematical idea across representations (grab and move a line on a graph and see how the equation and table data change). Teachers may also introduce topics such as modeling that were previously too time-consuming.

*Deeper opportunities to learn:* Students learn more when they have more time. TI-Nspire documents allow for a teacher to prepare the context for student work. With TI-Nspire documents, teachers may also organize a sequence of tasks and create a common starting point so students can succeed early and frequently. Using the new document features of TI-Nspire technology, teachers can develop classroom practices that increase the time students spend learning mathematics.

The TI-Nspire handheld is permitted on the SAT, ACT, PSAT and AP exams and comes with a snap-in TI-84 Plus Keypad that provides the same keystrokes and functionality as the TI-83 Plus, TI-84 Plus and TI-84 Plus Silver Edition graphing calculators. This dual functionality allows for districts and schools to continue using existing TI-84 materials, alignments, and professional development, and integrate the TI-Nspire handheld technology over time.

TI-Nspire math and science learning technology is available from instructional dealers. We have designed a series of Hands-On Institutes where educators can experience and explore the TI-Nspire handhelds and software. These institutes are in locations across the United States. Check out [www.ti-nspire.com](http://www.ti-nspire.com) for details.

**CampusTech (Con't. from p. 1)**

Academic Student Select and Academic Select Licensing, students, parents, faculty and staff can save tremendously on software from Microsoft. The price they pay for software through these programs can be *three times less* than a retail version.

Numerous states now participate in TCPN, offering more schools access to

Microsoft Academic Student Select. Participating states now include Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. Be sure your school knows that any school in any one of these states can take advantage of this great program to make the latest software affordable and available to their students, faculty and

staff. Licenses are currently available for the popular Office suite titles and Windows Vista operating system. Institutions can now offer this program to faculty and staff as well. The institution's purchasing power can be increased with volume purchasing.

While the offer sounds great, what if your school does not have the resources to distribute the software? No problem; CampusTech has Web site portals that

can distribute Microsoft products for you. Students and faculty can logon and order the software themselves with now work on the part of the school itself. Products ordered will be sent directly to the person who ordered them. It couldn't be easier.

To learn more about CampusTech's licensing programs, stop by booth 2147, call 800-543-8188 or visit [www.campustech.com](http://www.campustech.com).

**Sleek Corporation (Con't. from p. 4)**

to helping students succeed.

Best of all, MySatori is completely Web-based. This means no installation,

no time-consuming upgrades and no additional stress on lab administrators. Sleek Corporation representatives import all of the schools' users and classes, and all product enhancements

and upgrades take place automatically and behind the scenes. Training movies are also offered online for added convenience.

For more information about how

MySatori for TAKS can take the stress out of TAKS preparation in your school or district, visit [www.mysatori.com](http://www.mysatori.com) or call a Sleek Corporation representative at 800-337-5335.

**ANGEL LMS (Con't. from p. 4)**

Other ANGEL tools ensure FCS teachers don't lose any work completed prior to its ANGEL adoption and add value to the district's curriculum alignment projects. ANGEL's Content Templates allow teachers to use familiar process documents and enable collaborative design of instructional units. Learning Object Repositories allow searching and sharing of content across grade levels and schools.

**Report Student and Class Performance Against Standards**

As FCS students complete assignments and assessments aligned to standards in

ANGEL, performance data against those standards is automatically generated. ANGEL ensures triangulation of data by supporting a variety of assessment types—selected response, constructed response, dialog, discussion. On the data ANGEL generates on selected response items, Hobson says, "Incredible. Selected response items can be aligned down to the individual item, so teachers get incredible data as to how a student performs. Not just a raw score, teachers actually see student mastery against individual standards."

Teachers can generate ANGEL reports against standards in real time, to gain immediate results, or reports can be scheduled to run on a regular basis.

ANGEL class reports provide the average score of all graded items mapped to a particular standard and identify content aligned with standards, allowing teachers to quickly determine how students are performing against standards. ANGEL student reports identify individual student progress against standards. Hobson reports individual student reports, "are very helpful in determining student progress and communicating with parents."

For more about Forsyth County Schools' ANGEL adoption and other schools and districts that have adopted the ANGEL LMS, visit the ANGEL Learning exhibit at booth 2152 or at [www.angelllearning.com](http://www.angelllearning.com).

**Texas Tech (Con't. from p. 24)**

colleges, colleges or universities, military training, instructional design, corporate training and consulting.

A graduate degree in this field positions students for career advancement. Enrollment in the program is limited to ensure a high level of student-to-student and student-to-faculty interaction. Courses are offered over a two-year period, and students will usually take two courses per semester. There are no required face-to-face classes; however, opportunities for face-to-face meetings between faculty members and students will be provided throughout the program.