Title of Session: Math Resources K-20+

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

Title of File: 20060905mathk20

Date: September 5, 2006

Room: Math Resources Group

JeffC: I have a 27 page document on the desired attributes of distance education.

HeatherBu waves

HeatherBu hugs BJ

JeffC waves

BJB2 hugs Heather

JeffC: If I were to hand it out amongst us, how many pages would we each be responsible for analyzing?

BJB2: I'm not good at analysis

BJB2: what I've done that you might like, Jeff....

HeatherBu wonders what's up

BJB2: is that we're thinking about getting pd certificates for TI members...and I suggested

JeffC: Yeah... but you know what it takes for distance ed to work... frankly, the woman who created this document fed off of info myself and a number of educators put together... she's really done a great job of itemizing elements that should go together to make distance ed work.

BJB2: that one of the criteria would be to lead a discussion as a guest speaker

JeffC . o O (good idea)

HeatherBu: I like that, BJ

JeffC: We really need to find a way to get CEU units from one of these universities that work here.

JeffC: not to mention the fact that we need to get participants into calendared events.

JeffC: I think the two would go hand in hand.

TerriJS joined the room.

JeffC: Hi Terri

TerriJS: Hi Jeff

HeatherBu waves to Terri

TerriJS: Hi Heather

JeffC: Well... since you're the only non-Helpdesk participant here today Terri, perhaps you could tell us a little about yourself, and what kind of support you'd like from the Math Resources group.

HeatherBu: Hi, Terri

TerriJS: I teach fourth grade in rural western Pennsylvania

HeatherBu: I take my hat off to you. I don't think I could cope with the little ones.

HeatherBu . o O (I teach middle school)

TerriJS: I am developing a program for the kids to help them strengthen individual skills in math

TerriJS: middle school??? You deserve a medal

HeatherBu chuckles

JeffC: sounds great Terri... what kind of program are you developing? Do the kids have online access?

TerriJS: that's what I'm in need of help with

TerriJS: the kids have a folder of activities that help them with the skills

TerriJS: I would like to offer an online program of some sort

TerriJS: that would help the kiddies with their identified weaknesses

JeffC: ok... well... this is a good place to start. Take a look at this page: http://www.internet4classrooms.com/skills 4th math.htm

HeatherBu . o O (hold down the Ctrl key when you click on the link)

JeffC: yeah... forgot to tell you to hold the Ctrl key down when clicking... better still you should accept popups from this site. what browser are you using?

TerriJS: ahhh there we go

JeffC: take a look at that site for a bit, and when you tell me what browser you're using I'll give you the route to accept popups from tapped in.

TerriJS: this site is aligned to the national standards?

TerriJS: wow, many site, thanks

JeffC: it's aligned to Tennessee standards I think.

TerriJS: It shouldn't be hard to cross check the PA standards

JeffC: yeah... I think it's a pretty good portal site to use... and although the numbers might not line up with your own state standards, it shouldn't be tough to cross-check... yup.

TerriJS: I tried this program on a limited basis last year

TerriJS: it seems to help the kids

JeffC: you mean tapped in?

TerriJS: you weren't stuck doing subtracting over zeros for three weeks

JeffC: or a math program?

TerriJS: a math program sorry

JeffC: which one?

TerriJS: a fellow teacher and I developed it

JeffC: you developed your own software?

TerriJS: our program isn't a software program but a series of activities for the kids to do to help them strengthen skills

TerriJS: at the end of a unit the kids take the chapter test

TerriJS: if there is a skill they still do not understand, we give them activities to do

JeffC nods

TerriJS: we work on the folders one day a week

TerriJS: this way we don't spend extra class time redoing subtracting over zeros with the entire class

JeffC: Personally, I think there are so many activities that can be gleaned for free from the net, I wouldn't really recommend doing anything by yourself, other than finding online activities they can do (assuming you have adequate access to rotate the students online).

TerriJS: the advanced kiddies work on easy algebra

TerriJS: we only have three very old, sad apples in my classroom

TerriJS: iMac of the ancient sort

HeatherBu sighs. Sounds familiar, Terri.

TerriJS: I think we are all in the same boat

HeatherBu: Yep, sadly.

TerriJS: thanks for the help

JeffC: well dang... doesn't sound like online is a solution for you then... unless...

JeffC: we can figure out a way to get you four or five computers in your classroom.

TerriJS: the kids can take turns

TerriJS: they're very good about it

JeffC: AndrewP has a program in Chicago where they're refurbishing PIII computers and shipping them out worldwide. I wonder if we couldn't make a case here to ship you a few (assuming your admin would go for it).

TerriJS: 20 minutes at a shot should get 1/2 the class access during the time period

TerriJS: Ooooooo...sounds interesting

TerriJS: Heather, what state are you in?

TerriJS: beside confusion

TerriJS: Thanks for the help

TerriJS: I'm going to go explore the sites you gave me

TerriJS: later gators

TerriJS left the room (signed off).