P.O. BOX

Polk/Osceola Best Of eXamples
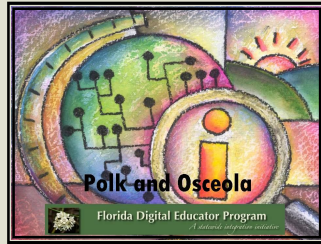
Florida Digital Educator Program

A statewide integration initiative

Karen C. Seddon

Polk and Osceola
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Special points of interest:

- Through the Eyes of Camp 3
- Digital Video
- PO Box wiki
- Collage of pictures
- The FDE website
- **B**est **O**f e**X**ample

  Dr. Mel Pace

The teachers in Camp 3 had the advantage of a smaller group. 53 Florida Digital Educators and 5 Master Digital Educators enjoyed six days of digital intensity as they learned to work together and share ideas for classroom integration technology.

When asked, *"What was the best part of camp?"*, the Camp 3 teachers replied:

"Learning about various technologies, and doing the group project." - **Kyle McDannald**

"The group project was the best part of camp. Being able to work with others, collaborate, and be hands-on made it very real and fun" - **Rachael McGowen**

3-D clip art is available to teachers everywhere at http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/3d/index.htm

Gina Morrison will definitely be using digital imaging with her students..

Through the Eyes of Camp 3

"I really enjoyed watching the presentations of the group projects. It was my favorite part of camp." - **Amy Jones**

"The ability to get hands on experience on a variety of technology." - **Kelly Cotton** →

"The collaboration with others from Polk County and getting to work together on group projects." - **Mark Hall**

"The helpfulness of other educators to assist me! Winning a SMART Board!!." - **Patti O'Brien**
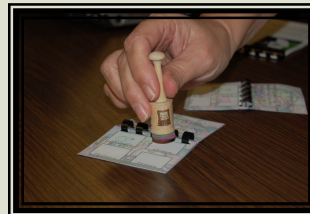
"Meeting new colleagues, exploring Inspiration, exploring movie making, Google documents, time to explore educational websites." - **Alexis Andruszkiewicz**

"I liked the hands on part. I loved being able to learn the programs by really putting my hands on it. I appreciate the fact that there were computers available as well." **Melissa Carr**

"My favorite part was extending my technology skills so I could implement them in my classroom. Interacting with the other participants was also very rewarding." - **Marsha Yoder**

"Practice in using technology with the varied group of people. That was a fun and strong learning experience. Just speaking with teachers who are not from your county is a great learning experience." - **John Patience**
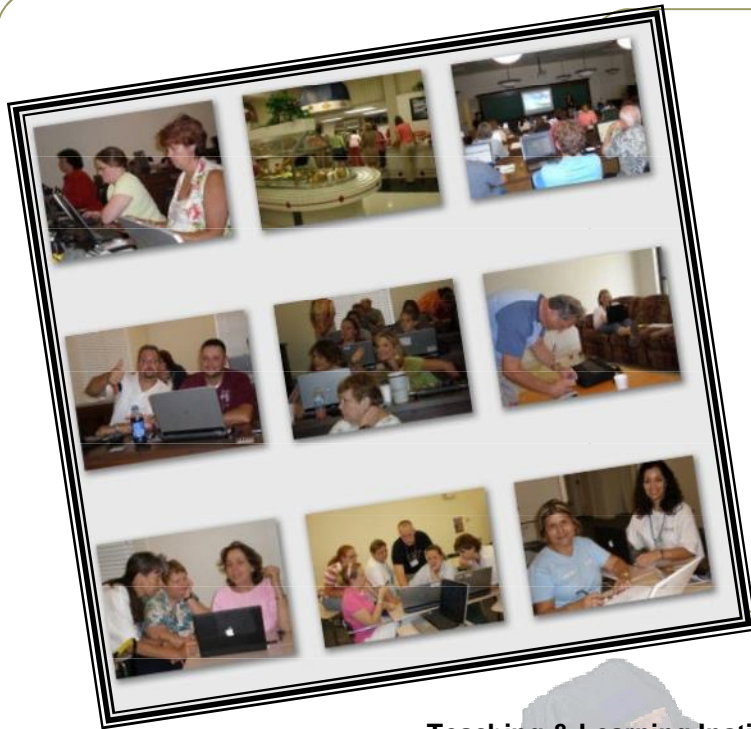
Digital Video

Originality is our motto. Florida Digital Educators were encouraged to create original images, audio and video this summer. In Camp 3, the teachers took all three digital assets and integrated them into a project for classroom application. Video project topics ranged from, "*Why Vote?*" to recycling, citizenship, the water cycle, a Gazillionaire game, space exploration, "*Why Art is the*

Most Important Subject?" and even a parody on the Sunshine State Standards! Most of the teachers commented on how excited they are to get their students involved in the process of creating original video to enhance their classroom experience. It's not such a scary prospect anymore. If we can do it, we KNOW the students will far exceed all expectations!

Patti O'Brien is one of our many teachers learning to create original videos for the classroom.

In his second week on the job, Dr. Mel Pace joined us for at a full day of training at Camp 3. Dr. Pace said, "*It was so much fun to see adults so energized while learning just like the kids.*" Dr. Pace jumped right in and even created his own files for podcasting! He comes to Osceola County from the University of South Florida where he was the Associate Director of the School of Library Sciences. Previously he served both as an elementary media specialist and a primary teacher. His favorite thing to do is to read to students, particularly kindergarteners! Let him know if you would like him to come read to your students.

Teaching & Learning Institutes

Camp 3
July 22-28

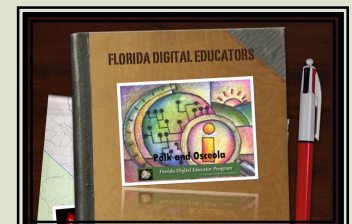### Florida Digital Educator Program
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Empowering teacher leaders to enhance the curriculum with technology integration and collaboration in Polk & Osceola

PO Box wiki (pobox.pbwiki.com)

Without a doubt, our Florida Digital Educators are empowered to make an impact at their schools to bring 21st century tools and experiences to the classroom. Our students are digital natives to this new informational landscape and speak without an accent. We may have an accent as immigrants to their technological world, but we have the gifts and vision to develop life-long learners among them. Technology really levels the playing field. As immigrants, we are as much a life-long learner as our students. This exciting time that we live in affords us the opportunity to learn with our students. A few of the digital tools that our teachers were particularly jazzed about this summer were wikis.. Wiki comes from the Hawaiian word "wikiwiki" which means quick. A wiki is a "quick" website that needs no web designing skills, yet encourages content and idea sharing with a group of learners. Two of the most popular wiki generators are Wikispaces and PB wiki. A teacher (with permission from his/her district) can create a classroom wiki for FREE. At our summer camps, we collaborated with one wiki (pobox.pbwiki.com) to share the wealth of information we were learning. I created the skeleton and then teachers began adding to the wiki as they found resources and ideas that they felt would benefit the larger group. Wikis are password protected and can only be edited/added to if one is given the password. The best-known wiki is Wikipedia. Presently in Polk and Osceola Counties, our district leaders are exploring policies to allow podcasting, blogging and wikis for our 21st century students. The POBox wiki is a beta tester site for exploration into the potentials and pitfalls of wikis for the classroom. Our teachers are looking forward to the time when we can use these tools in a protected environment that will encourage our students to engage in active learning.

FLORIDA DIGITAL EDUCATORS

Visit our website at
www.imc.osceola.k12.fl.us/EETT