

# Massachusetts Computer Using Educators, Inc.

## January 2003



All educators are invited to attend any MassCUE meeting. Invite your colleagues to join you.

### Worcester SIG

Tuesday, January 14

**Location:** Venerini Academy, Worcester, MA

**Time:** 3:30-5:00

**Topic:** *Digital Cameras, Part 1*

**Presenter:** Sister Carol Skehan

**Description:** Learn the fundamentals of photography using a digital camera.

**Contact:** Sister Carol Skehan 508 753-3210  
*cskehan@venerini.org*

**Directions:** From 290 East exit 16. At ramp bear right. Take second right, Edward St. (Store 24 –landmark) School is second block on left. From 290 west take exit 17. Go Route 9 East—Boston. Your now on Belmont St. After 290 ramps on right take second right, Edward St. (Store 24 –landmark) School is second block on left.

### Blackstone Valley SIG

Wednesday, January 15

**Location:** Northbridge Primary School Library

**Time:** 3:30-6:30

**Topic:** *Using the Internet to find sources for our space enrichment theme*

**Description:** Join us to find Internet sources to use for space enrichment theme (or whatever topic suits your needs) Door prizes!

**SIG Leader:** Sandra Hastings

**Contact:** *shastings@maill.northbridge.k12.ma.us*

**Directions:** please e-mail Sandra at the address above.

### Hampden County SIG

Thursdays — January 16, 23, 30

**Location:** Sumner Ave. School's Computer Lab, 45 Sumner Ave. (near Longhill St.), Springfield

**Time:** 3:30-5:30pm

**Topic:** "Mini Technology Institute: Make, Take, and Share"

**Presenters:** Carole Sherman, Sharon Esempio

**Description:** This "mini-institute" will provide teachers with the opportunity to learn about various online resources such as Trackstar and IKeepBookmarks.com. Participants will create resources to be used with their students.

- Day 1- Learn about online resources and begin to develop tracks, bookmarks, etc.

- Day 2- Work session (individually, with a partner, or with support from peers)

- Day 3- Complete the tracks, bookmarks, etc. and share with the group.

Invest a little time— leave with an abundance of resources developed by participants!

**Contact:** Theo Glickman (*theogl@aol.com*), Jan Kibbe (*jkibbe@map.com*)

**Directions:** From the North: Take Rte. 91 to the East Longmeadow exit. Go under the highway and turn right onto Longhill St. at the first light. Go up the hill and take a left at the traffic light onto Sumner Ave. The school will be on your right.  
From the South: Take Rte. 91 to the East Longmeadow exit. Continue to the second traffic light and take a right onto Sumner Ave. The school will be on your right.

### TRC2 SIG

Thursday, January 16

(Teacher Resource Center for a Technology Rich Classroom)

**Location:** Meeting Room at Acton Memorial Library, Main Street (Route 27), Acton

**Time:** 3:45 - 6:00 pm

**Topic:** *Digital Portfolios for teachers as well as students*

**Presenter:** David Niguidula, Principal, Ideas Consulting

**Description:** How can we collect data (student/teacher) samples, and best display standards instead of the usual one size fits all assessment? David will demonstrate how to accomplish this and more thru the use of sample elementary and secondary digital portfolios. He will also include the teacher's own personal digital portfolio which can be used for evaluation by superiors, parent conferences, as well as a vital tool in the job search. While linking to the Massachusetts state standards, David shows the correlation between

### Plato's Cave Project Results Now Online!!

<http://www.masscue.org/platoscave/>

The recent MassCUE conference presented a project called Plato's Cave. With this presentation, a group of educators attempted to create a quiet, reflective atmosphere where conference participants could express their feelings, thoughts, and suggestions concerning educational technology. The results of this project are now online at <http://www.masscue.org/platoscave/>. This website has been created to allow continuous interaction on the topics such as: technology obstacles, ideal classroom environments, and samples of technology success. Whether you were able to visit the project site at the conference or not, please visit the Plato's Cave Website. See what others have left on the "cave walls" and what they continue to leave. You are also urged to add some comments of your own.

the standards and these demon test scores thru such evidence as video clips, multimedia projects and more. This is not a sales pitch for software, you can do this with your basic operating system, be it Windows or OS (for Macs). Light refreshment will be provided.

**Contact:** Paula Torrielli 978.263.3909 (9 am - 4 pm)  
*Trc2@hotmail.com*

**Directions:** From points east take Route 2 west to the exit for Route 27 (EXIT 42). At the end of the exit ramp bear right (north) onto Route 27 (Main St.). The library is located approximately one mile on the left next to Town Hall. Turn left onto Woodbury Lane (just opposite the Monument) to reach the parking lot, which is located behind Town Hall and the library. Entrance to library is at the rear of the building, facing the parking lot. (978) 264-9641.

### MassCUE Board Meeting Friday, January 17

**Location:** Publick House, Sturbridge

**Time:** 5:00 PM

**Contact:** *president@masscue.org*

### ITS SIG Tuesday, January 21

**Location:** Joyce Middle School, Locust St., Woburn

**Time:** 4:30

**Topic:** *AlphaSmart Dana*

**Description:** A representative from AlphaSmart will demo the new "Dana" and attendees will be able to use this new computer.

**SIG Leaders:** Sharon Hydren and Susan Weiss

**Contact:** *sharon@hydren.com* or *hydrens@chelsea.mec.edu*  
Please RSVP by Friday, Jan. 17. Thank you.

**Directions:** to Joyce Junior High, 55 Locust St.- From Rte 95 (128) take Exit 33 to Rte 3S towards Woburn 0.9 miles turn left onto Locust St. You may want to also check more exact directions from your location.

#### Q: What is a MassCUE SIG?

#### A: Special Interest Group

A SIG is the place where educators from a school system and/or a wider area meet to discuss what's on the cutting edge of technology. This forum allows you to make many new professional contacts, and places you in a position where you will learn first hand about new developments in educational technology. You will be able to share successes, and offer trouble-shooting tips. The new knowledge and relationships that you will establish within a SIG can only enhance your own understanding of technology, its role in teaching and learning. You don't have to be a MassCUE member to attend, and it's FREE. Attend a SIG to discuss, compare, and share thoughts and discoveries concerning educational technology.

Bev Reber, MassCUE SIG Coordinator  
Technology Integration Specialist  
Marshall Simonds Middle School  
Burlington, MA 01803  
781 270-1766

### Western Massachusetts Tech Coordinators SIG Tuesday, January 21

**Location:** Hampshire Educational Collaborative

**Time:** 8:30 to 10:30 am

**Topic:** *Apple Xserve*

**Description:** We will examine the Apple Xserve Macintosh/Unix based server hardware as well as Mac OS X Server software features.

**SIG Leader:** John Heffernan, Hampshire Educational Collaborative

**Presenter:** Apple Computer

**Contact:** *jheffern@rcn.com*

**Directions:** Take Mass Pike Exit 4 to I-91 North. Take I-91 Exit 18 to Route 5 north, toward downtown Northampton. Continue on Route 5, approx. 1/2 mile. Turn right onto Holyoke Street (just past C. Sprong Furniture). Take first left onto Hawley Street (just beyond railroad underpass). HEC is a large, light green building on left side. Main entrance is on right side of building.

### Blackstone Valley SIG Wednesday, January 22

**Location:** Northbridge Primary School Library

**Time:** 3:30-6:30

**Topic:** *Using the Internet to find sources for our space enrichment theme*

**Description:** Join us to find Internet sources to use for space enrichment theme (or whatever topic suits your needs) Door prizes!

**SIG Leader:** Sandra Hastings

**Contact:** *shastings@maill.northbridge.k12.ma.us*

**Directions:** please e-mail Sandra at the address above.

### Southeastern Massachusetts SIG (SEMSIG) Wednesday, January 22

**Location:** North Attleborough Middle School Library, North Attleborough, MA

**Time:** 3:30pm - 5:00pm

**Topic:** *Computer Security & Anti-Virus Information Workshop*

**Facilitator:** Chuck Drayton, Technology Systems Manager, Foxborough Schools

**Presenters:** John Sullivan, McAfee Regional Manager  
Jay Appell, Senior Engineer, former virus officer at EMC & Data General

**Description:** The tech coordinators and educators in our part of the state are becoming very concerned with computer viruses and their effects on our school systems. The request for information on this topic was great. If you don't know what Klez, Elkern, or Bugbear viruses are, you will by attending this meeting! Find out more about these, their impact, how they have affected thousands of desktops and networks, and most importantly, what you can do to protect your schools from these devastating computer viruses. You will receive information, guidance, and best practices as to how to prevent and /or bring these under control within your environments. Guaranteed you will leave this session more informed than when you walked in!!

**Contact:** Chuck Drayton, *draytonc@foxborough.k12.ma.us*  
- (508) 543-1658 ... please email or call to let us know you are coming so we can plan for materials.

**Directions:** to the North Attleboro Middle School: Take Route 95 North or South to Exit 5. At the end of the exit turn left and travel 1/4 mile to a set of traffic lights. Turn left at the traffic lights onto Route 152 and proceed North for approximately 2 miles. At the traffic lights, take a left onto Landry Avenue. (You will pass the Joseph Martin Elementary School). The Middle School & High School entrance is about 1.5 miles on the left. The Middle School is the first building on your right. Through the main entrance, look for SEMSIG signs on the walls pointing toward the library.

## Assistive Technology SIG Wednesday, January 29

**Location:** Fiske Elem. School Library, 34A Colony Rd, Lexington  
**Time:** 5:30-7 PM  
**Topic:** Contact Myra Chang Thompson for topic.  
**Description:** The Assistive Technology SIG will continue to meet on the last Wednesday of each month.  
**Contact:** Myra Chang Thompson at: MThompson@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us for directions or information on speakers or topics.  
**Directions:** Fiske Elementary School is conveniently located close to Route 128. Contact Myra Chang Thompson for directions.  
**Topic:** *Using the Internet to Find Sources for our Space Enrichment Theme*  
**Description:** Join us to find internet sources to use for space enrichment theme (or whatever topic suits your needs). Door prizes!  
**SIG Leaders:** Martha Eaton, Sandra Hastings  
**Contact:** meaton@mail.northbridge.k12.ma.us  
**Directions:** please e-mail Martha at address above.

## Looking Ahead

### Palm Education Training Coordinator Training February 18, 19, 20

**Information:** See program information in this calendar.  
**Location:** Holiday Inn Worcester, 3 days, 3 nights  
**Deadline:** Applications must be in by December 15.

### Classroom Connect Conference

**Location:** Boston, MA

### Handheld Technology for School Leaders Friday, March 21

**Location:** Holiday Inn Worcester  
**Audience:** School Administrators and Tech Coordinators  
**Topic:** *Connected, Informed, and Caring Leaders*  
**Facilitator:** Mark Standley, Alaska Center for Excellence in Schools  
**Registration:** Details and registration information on back page of this calendar. More information will be mailed in early January.

#### STEM Seminars - UMass Amherst

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Institute's seminars are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM in room 138 Hasbrouck Lab. STEM programs begin at 4 PM; refreshments at 3:45 PM. Parking available at Campus Center Garage. For more information, contact STEM Ed Institute at 413-545-2016

## — JOBS —

The Massachusetts Department of Education's Virtual Education Space (VES) is a statewide set of free online, interactive applications, resources and tools for students, teachers and administrators.

#### **VES Customer Support Specialist:** (A full time contract position)

The VES Customer Support Specialist provides courteous and technical problem solving support to school district administrators, teachers, students and parents in the usage of VES and can explain VES features and benefits; greets end users, establishes rapport, projects professional tone, handles complaints, and records statistics on each call using help desk software and promotes excellence by providing superior service to each VES user; supports VES users by taking customer calls, analyzing reported problems, providing consultation and remote diagnostics and attempting to resolve problem or provide solutions; identifies and assigns un-resolvable problems to second level/subject matter experts for resolution; identifies and escalates all multi-user-impacting problems to appropriate sources as required.

#### **Training and Adoption Specialist** (A full time contract position)

The VES Training and Adoption Specialist will be responsible for conducting presentations and training sessions in Massachusetts' school districts to an audience of administrators, teachers and school support staff; help promote the effective use of the VES system in school systems, and will help generate interest and motivate stakeholders to adopt VES in their daily work life; support the VES team by assisting in writing and maintaining VES user documentation, website, promotional and training materials and internal documentation; gather feedback from stakeholders during training and promotional events and report any technical, usability and enhancement issues to the VES Adoption Manager; support DOE employees' learning needs and effective use of VES in their work. Travel within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will comprise between 60-80% of the Training and Adoption Specialist's workweek, the balance of time being spent on location in the Department of Education in Malden documenting weekly and monthly training schedules and maintaining an outreach database of school district contacts.

For complete information about these two jobs or to send a resume, contact:  
Jeffrey St.Germain, [jstgermain@doe.mass.edu](mailto:jstgermain@doe.mass.edu)  
Mass Dept of Education, VES Project Manager

### Literacy Matters

Literacy Matters is a professional Development program that combines face-to-face workshops and online learning. Program participants learn about research-based teaching methods and have opportunities to hear feedback on curriculum activities from fellow teachers. Teachers learn how to improve students' reading comprehension, assess students' reading abilities, locate guidelines for selecting adolescent literature, provide more support for struggling readers, and effectively integrate technology in reading programs. Funded by the Annenberg Foundation, these workshops are presented by the Education Development Center, Inc. and are held at selected technology centers throughout Massachusetts.

By participating in a series of activities, teachers can earn 18 PDPs for \$25 or 22.5 PDPs for one graduate credit for an additional \$55. The deadline to sign up for the program is January 15. The first Hands-on Kick-Off Workshop will be held at the Hampshire Educational Collaborative on Thursday, January 30.

For program and registration information, contact Joan Dunfey, 617-618-2187, [jdunfey@edc.org](mailto:jdunfey@edc.org), [www.edc.org/LiteracyMatters/](http://www.edc.org/LiteracyMatters/)

781-235-5332

masscue@tiac.net  
www.masscue.org



Massachusetts Computer Using Educators, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 812188  
 Wellesley, MA 02482-0015

First Class  
 Postage Paid  
 FRAMINGHAM, MA  
 01701  
 PERMIT NO. 87

## Handheld Technology for School Leaders: "Connected, informed, and caring leaders"

This one day workshop will guide school administrators through the stages of technology usage in professional and personal practice. Areas of professional practice include: access to student data management, faculty interaction, instructional leadership, community and parent relationships, finances, facilities, school safety, and professional learning. Areas of personal practices include: time management, health, and career management. This workshop focuses on the skills and knowledge for administrators to use handheld technology to be efficient and effective and school leaders.

Guest speakers and trainers will be Mark Standley, consultant and trainer from Anchorage, Alaska, and Norma Jean Loftus, Palm, Inc. trainer. Instructors will be MassCUE PETC Certified Trainers.

Participants will apply leadership standards to professional and personal tasks to become more effective as school leaders. This includes using handheld technology to become more informed and connected to information, interactions and achievement within the community of learners. Research used from Michael Fullan and others include acting upon "moral purpose" of visionary caring, creating a culture of learning, and positive relationships.

take your life  
with  
you.



**Each participant will receive a color Palm handheld computer with 8 MB of memory, a rechargeable battery, and a memory expansion slot.**

This workshop consists of a series of activities designed to apply TSSA standards to the use of handheld technology for administrators. The activities include leadership readings, use of handheld technology, reflections, and projects tied to professional and personal goals.

Follow-up activities beyond the workshop will include a listserv and web-based resources provided by the instructors and MassCUE.

- Date:** March 21, 2003
- Time:** Breakfast 8 AM — Program 8:30-4
- Location:** Holiday Inn Worcester
- Audience:** School Administrators and Tech Coordinators
- Facilitator:** Mark Standley, AK Center for Excellence in Schools
- Fee:** \$350 (Includes breakfast and lunch, Palm Handheld)
- Deadline:** Registrations with check or purchase order for \$350 need to be in by March 7, 2003.

**New Palm User:**

Will be introduced to all the basics and will leave with a new Palm Handheld Computer and project ideas.

**Experienced Palm User:**

Must know the basics and be ready to begin a project and will leave with a new Palm Handheld Computer, a completed project, and project ideas.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School System: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ New Palm User      \_\_\_\_\_ Experienced Palm User

Mail or fax (purchase orders) to:

MassCUE, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 812188, Wellesley, MA 02482

(Federal EIN Number 22-2831177)

*Space Limited to 200 School Administrators and Tech Coordinators*