

# MRVED UPDATE



**MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY EDUCATION DISTRICT**  
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December 2, 2011

## MELT UPDATE—JANUARY 16, 2011

The MELT is shaping up to be a great day with an assortment of technology classes, licensure track workshops, and exciting content related offerings. Registration will be out soon.

### Webinars:

The Personal Learning Network Webinar from this past Monday is archived on the MRVED website. Path—Staff Development—Tech Integration-Webinar Channel-Webinar Archive

### December dates and topics:

- ◆ December 5: iPad Apps for Science
- ◆ December 19: Cool new apps & Games to play over the holiday

**Reminder:** You can [submit your favorite websites](#) to Brandon via the MRVED website. We are trying to gather a collection of resources for each content area. Do your part today, and [submit](#) away.

### TIES 2011

TIES offers one of the best [Educational Technology conferences](#) in the state. The conference this year will be held December 10-13 in Minneapolis. Brandon would love to hear if you are going, so he can pick your brain when you return. If you are going to TIES, join the [MRVED Diigo group](#) so everyone may access your bookmarks from the event AND if you are a Tweeter, add Brandon and Karen so they can follow your TIES Tweets [@braymo22](#) and [@kakjacobson](#)

### Industrial Technology Best Practice Meeting

The Industrial Technology teachers gathered at the MRVED on Tuesday November 29, 2011. The meeting was very beneficial to all who attended. The morning was spent discussing what technology integration means to the Industrial Technology teachers and how they can continue pushing toward their integration goals. Some great ideas were shared amongst the teachers on how to integrate technology into their area. Pizza Ranch was a hit as usual. The afternoon consisted of idea sharing and identifying Power Standards and aligning curriculum maps. A great time was had by all!

## TIP/RESOURCE OF THE WEEK

- ◆ The other week, we provided a list of books to read if you were interested in starting a conversation about grading practices. There was a neat article in ASCD's Educational Leadership magazine about how some teachers are implementing changing their grading practices. [Give it a read](#), and assess your own grading practices.
- ◆ **Sophia**—As you scrounge around the internet looking for some ideas for your classes, check out [Sophia.org](#). **Sophia** is an expanding social network of credible resources for all content areas. It can be used as a supplement to a lesson or spur an idea for a lesson. This resource has expanded greatly in the past few months and continues to grow daily! Check it out today.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**December 7**  
MRVED Brd—**CANCELED**

**December 8**  
World Languages

**December 12**  
District Assessment Coordinators

**December 13**  
Language Arts

### IPAD APP OF THE WEEK:

Clickers in the classroom can be an expensive tool...not anymore! The Socrative App has finally arrived. **Socrative** is a web-based question/answer tool. It is fairly simple to sign up for an account and get started. One of the best features of Socrative, other than it is free, is that students do not need accounts. There is a [teacher app](#) and a [student app](#). The teacher app allows the teacher to create and start assessments, and the student app brings the student to the screen where they will put the teachers unique number in to access the assessments. Although there is an app for Socrative, it can be used via the web or any Smartphone. This is a great way to use formative assessments in your classroom. It is free for now...