

MRVED UPDATE



MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY EDUCATION DISTRICT
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October 14, 2011

NOVEMBER 4, 2011 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY—REMEMBER TO REGISTER

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Music Best Practice Summary

The MRVED music teachers met on Friday, September 30. The whole day was filled with teachers working together sharing resources and helping others solve classroom issues. During the morning, the teachers registered on the MRVED website and spent some time looking through everything the MRVED site has to offer. Brandon then took them on a tour around the site, and the teachers were very receptive to what the site has to offer. The discussion then moved to personally defining technology integration and articulating the MRVED goal. Conversations continued over a great lunch at Pizza Ranch. The afternoon was filled with teachers actively sharing curriculum ideas. Overall, the music teachers had a great meeting and were excited about the direction the MRVED is moving.

Webinar Update

Gmail webinar was held on October 10 at 3:20 p.m. with a number of people in attendance. Please spread the word about the webinars to your colleagues. If you have any suggestions for a webinar topic, let Brandon know. The next webinar will take place on October 24 with the topic being an introduction to Google Docs. Please see the MRVED website for a full description. Remember all webinars are archived on the MRVED site.

TIP/RESOURCE OF THE WEEK

Flipped Classroom Webinar

A couple weeks ago, the “Flipped” classroom was featured in the weekly update. We received a number of inquiries as to how this would work. If you are curious, and would like to hear from teachers that use the flipped classroom, Tech & Learning is offering a free webinar on November 1, 2011 about “What, Why, How, and Where” of the flipped classroom. Check it out and register today. Register [HERE](#).

Google+ In the Classroom

[Google+](#) was opened up to everyone a few weeks ago, and if you have not looked at it yet, do so today. Google+ is Google’s version of Facebook. Google+ does take some getting used to, but there are some really cool features that set it apart from Facebook. The Circles feature allows you to only share certain things with certain circles. Facebook has something similar now, but it is not as simplistic as Google+. The one feature that sets Google+ apart from Facebook is the Hangouts feature. Hangouts allow you to video chat with 10 people at once. Google+ Hangouts would be a great way to connect with other teachers in surrounding districts without having to drive or meet somewhere. Watch the videos (YouTube) below for a better understanding of Google+.

Idea: Keep Facebook as your personal social network and make Google+ your professional network.

[Quick Look at Google+](#)

[Google+ Hangouts](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

October 25, 2011
Business

October 26, 2011
Superintendents’ Council

October 27, 2011
Math

APP OF THE WEEK:

NOTE TAKING APPS:

GoodNotes: This app allows you to take notes with a notebook type interface. It looks and acts much like [iBooks](#), so if you are familiar with using iBooks you will be able to easily navigate through GoodNotes. At the time of this writing this app was \$3.99. I picked it up in [Freebies](#), so be sure to watch for it again.

MyNotebook: This is another note-taking app that came across Freebies this week. There is a lot to this app as it integrates Google Docs, Dropbox, Google Calendar, a diary, and shopping lists all into one app. There is also a place to upload photos, record sound, draw, type, and use handwriting. This app is now \$1.99, but watch for it in [Freebies](#) again.