



News From the IMC

Thinking About Nonfiction

The Concord Review, a history magazine whose content is created by teenagers, recently surveyed high school students to determine how many nonfiction books they read from start to finish. The books could be about any subject or books assigned for a class. The number of nonfiction books read was ZERO. Marc Aronson in *School Library Journal* commented that “this means that we’re

failing to give our young people any exposure to how a book makes an argument from its first page to its last.”

So why should students read nonfiction? Nonfiction provides an opportunity for students to develop the kinds of reading and critical thinking skills that are important for success on standardized tests, their future education and for life. It allows students to bypass the

superficial and gain a deeper understanding of people, events, and issues that shape their lives.

All subject areas lend themselves to nonfiction reading assignments and are appreciated by teachers. This can be seen in the number of Staff Picks that were nonfiction.

If you would like your students to read nonfiction, we can create lists based on your subject area or a specific topic.



We are thankful to all of you for using the resources of the IMC.

We wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The IMC Staff

More Web 2.0 - Social Networking Sites

Myspace and Facebook are social networking sites where millions of people share a virtual community. However, our savvy students are now using other social networking sites such as beby, XuQu, Xanga, LiveJournal, Espinthebottle, and Stickam. In fact, some students post information

on several sites. Educators have concerns about the safety and appropriateness of some of these sites which can lead to sexual solicitation and cyber bullying.

As educators, we cannot turn back the wheels of technology, but we can educate our students so

they can safely enjoy the web. Students should not post anything that portrays them in a negative way or post information that would make the individual easy to trace. This, along with the school’s AUP, should be discussed with the students.

To learn more about this topic visit the following Sites, check out:

www.isafe.org

www.netsmartz.org

www.safekids.com

**KEEP YOUR KIDS
SAFE Online**



Podcasting in the Classroom



A podcast is an audio broadcast - think radio - that anyone can produce. All you need is a computer, microphone and software. You can mix sound, music and audio. A podcast is easy to produce and is an effective tool for student learning. Podcasts promote higher thinking skills, creativity, and collaboration. Podcasts can be used in all subject areas and allow you to create authentic

activities that connect to the real world.
The following are examples of podcast activities:
 Historic Interviews
 Audio tours of museum, historic places and events
 Journals
 Media Reviews
 Memoirs such as the greatest day or event in your life
 Reenactments of plays, stories, events


Tutorials for math and science
 Language tutorials
 Fan Fiction - prequel, sequel, add a character
 When Worlds Collide - What if Rocky meets Yoda.

 The librarians can assist you in designing your podcast activities. We have the equipment and sites for music and sound effects

A Few Good Books

Do you have any new or gently used books laying around? Why not donate them to the Student Book Club's Great Read Book Sale. You may drop the books off in the IMC or the Core, 9-10 or 11-12 Main Offices.

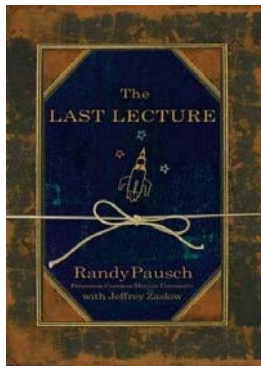
Proceeds from this sale will benefit the book club's literacy outreach program.



Check Your Email

We will email a list of the IMC's movies to you so you can check them out for the holidays.

Don't forget that new books are arriving daily. Stop in the IMC and find your next good book!

Staff Book Club

Tuesday, November 25, 2008, at 2:45 in the IMC

The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch

"When Randy Pausch, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give a last lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last, since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. But the lecture he gave - "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams" wasn't about dying. It was about the importance of overcoming obstacles, of enabling the dreams of others, of seizing every moment. It was a summation of everything Randy had come to believe.