

# Instruction & Technology Weekly Bulletin

Volume III, No. 37

March 12, 2012



“Beauty is truth, truth beauty, - that is all ye know on earth,  
and all ye need to know.

- John Keats

## Upcoming Events

- Sun., Mar. 11 – Daylight Saving Begins – 2:00 AM
- Fri., Mar. 16 – Superintendent’s Conference Day
- Sat., Mar. 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
- Tues., Mar. 20 – First Day of Spring
- Sun., April 1 – April Fool’s Day
- Thurs., April 5 – School Librarian Day
- Fri., April 6 – Good Friday and Passover Begins (All Staff Recess)
- Sun., April 8 – Easter
- Mon.-Fri., April 9 – 13 – Recess for 10 and 11 mo. Staff
- Sun., April 15 – Tax Day

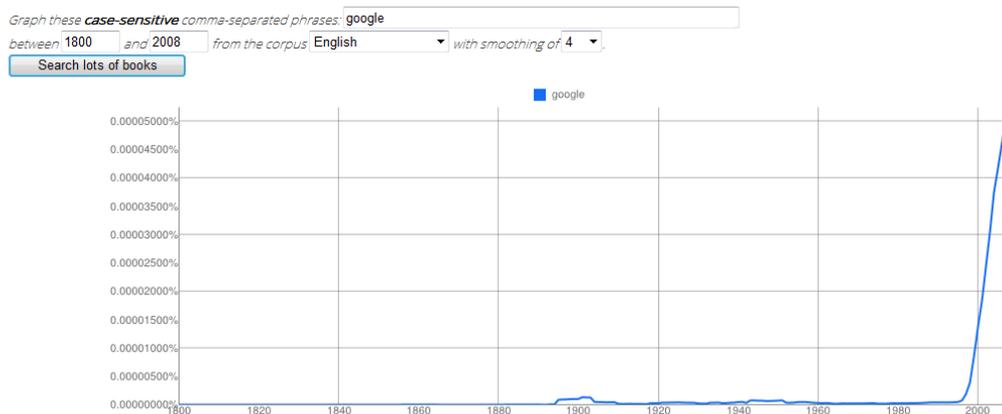
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## A Message from Mike

When you don’t know something, what do you do? For many of us, the answer is “Google it.” It’s amazing how the name of a search engine has become a verb to mean “look up on the Internet.” I used the Google books Ngram viewer, the site that shows how often a word has appeared in over five million books since the 1800. You can see from

Google books Ngram Viewer



the graph that appearances of the word “google” have increased dramatically in the last decade. The Pew Internet and [American Life Project](#) recently conducted a survey of 2,253 adults age 18 and over about their feelings about search engines and obtained the following results.

- 91% of search engine users say they always or most of the time find the information they are seeking when they use search engines

- 73% of search engine users say that most or all the information they find as they use search engines is accurate and trustworthy
- 66% of search engine users say search engines are a fair and unbiased source of information
- 55% of search engine users say that, in their experience, the quality of search results is getting better over time, while just 4% say it has gotten worse
- 52% of search engine users say search engine results have gotten more relevant and useful over time, while just 7% report that results have gotten less relevant

As I read the statistics above, I was very interested in the second bullet – “73% of search engine users say that most or all the information they find as they use search engines is **accurate** and **trustworthy**” – I got a little scared. It is more important than ever that we make sure students are prepared to analyze and evaluate the trustworthiness of information they find on the Internet.

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## www.AskCarolyn.info

- **Staff Kudos**

- ❖ On March 9, 2012, Mike received this email from Shaun Dulen.

*I wanted to send along praise for Paul Measday and John Lydum, as well as John Poland and Pam Gillette for initially trying to troubleshoot. We are doing the WBER fundraiser today, and we have always tried to continually post updates on Facebook as it's a great way to keep in touch with our listeners. Apparently, even though I was on the WBER wireless network, because I was logged into AD this was causing issues, or something along those lines and I wasn't able to get online and update our station page without using my phone. I'm sure Paul and John could provide a much more detailed explanation of the issue. But the two of them worked for over an hour to get this issue resolved and everything is working great now. I know both of them have full plates already but Joey and I wanted to pass on how much we appreciate their help with this. We know WBER is always outside of the normal box of the BOCES day to day support and appreciate everything that is done to keep it going. So a huge thank you to Paul and John, as well as John and Pam. I know it's already known, but they are some of the best we have in tech services. The positives don't get passed on often enough though. Thank You, Shaun*

- **Staff News**

- ❖ **Superintendent's Conference Day – March 16, 2012, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

- All staff hours begin at 8:00 AM. Staff will work 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM if attending both Session 1 and Session 2, **OR** 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, if attending only Session 1 and returning to your work location.
- All PSP staff must report to 15 Linden Park, CR 1 A/B for the People Skills and Styles Workshop
- All BUP staff must report to the Rochester Regional Library Center for the Common Core Workshop.
- Session 1 will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 10:00 AM. Snacks will be offered immediately following this session.
- Session 2 workshops will begin at 11:00 AM and end at 1:00 PM. Staff attending Session 2 workshops will be released for the day at 1:00 PM.
- If you are **NOT** planning on attending a Session 2 workshop, your day will end at 4:00. Please email me if you are not planning on attending Session 2.

Instruction and Technology Staff Superintendent's Conference Day Agenda:

- 8:00 AM – Dan White Opening Speech
- 8:15 AM – Patricia Anderson, People Skills and Styles (PSP Staff Only)
- 10:00 AM – Break/Snack
- 10:30 AM – Travel to Workshop
- 11:00 AM – Attend Selected Workshop
- 1:00 PM – Early Dismissal for those attending Session 2

- ❖ **Time and Attendance Procedures and Protocol** – On March 6, 2012, I sent an email with the time and attendance procedures and protocol. A hard copy was also distributed to each staff member. For a two

hour absence request for a medical appointment, staff will no longer need to send an email. Complete the two hour request form and submit it to Brenda. Once approved, Brenda will notify staff. As soon as the approval is received, staff should enter it into SEMS.

❖ **Feedback Meetings:** Please review the schedule below for upcoming open forum meetings with Mike.

Date	Time	Location 11 Linden Park
March 19	2:00 PM	A10
April 19	1:00 PM	H1
May 9	11:00 AM	A10
June 13	2:30 PM	A10

- Carolyn

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## Technology Tip of the Week

*Thanks to John Lydum for sharing this Tip of the Week:*

### Voice Mail Tips for CISCO phone users.

Want to access you voice mail from outside BOCES? Here are four easy steps to retrieve your voice messages.

1. Dial 383-6608 and wait for the "CISCO Unity Messaging System" greeting
2. Enter "\*" (Star)
3. Enter your ID (your extension), followed by "#" (Pound)
4. Enter your password, followed by "#" (Pound)

You can also dial your own number from the outside, and when you hear your voice mail prompt, press "\*" (Star) and follow steps 3, and 4 above. Lastly, from the inside you can press the Voice Mail button on any CISCO phone and when you hear the password prompt press "\*" (Star) and follow steps 3, and 4 above.



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## Steve's Space

Happy St Patrick's Day a little early! If you are going to the St Patrick's Day Parade, look for the Green Machine. We are in the parade this year!

In about a month, the Green Machine will be back on the road visiting districts in and outside of Monroe County. We will be in Naples, Pittsford, Brighton, East Rochester, East Irondequoit, the city, and hopefully additional districts as time goes on. We have also begun to develop a second scenario for the laboratory that is focused on the Living Environment. This scenario will be ready by late September. If you are at the parade, wave to us 😊!

-Steve

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## Up to the TASC

Often times, as RSE-TASC members provide training to area teachers on explicit instruction, strategy instruction or even writing quality IEPs and measurable annual goals, people are disappointed. They are often looking for a magic bullet, something new and different. They sometimes leave feeling like "I already know this." In many cases, they are correct, they do "know" what components make up good first instruction, or that annual goals on an IEP must be written in measurable terms. Yet somehow in our work with local districts, we still come across classroom instruction that is not explicit, strategies being given to students with little or no instruction and annual goals that make no sense or are not measurable.

What do folks mean when they say “I already know that?” If we look at the concept of weight loss, the vast majority of people looking to lose weight “know” that in order to do so they must create a calorie deficit typically by eating fewer calories and exercising to burn more. Yet, we are all too familiar with people who “know” how to lose weight but are unable to do so without external supports and some type of progress monitoring or accountability such as Weight Watchers, a personal trainer, or even premeasured meals.

The point here is that we all may need some external supports in order to be successful even when we “know” what to do. Our teachers are no different, “knowing” something and being able to systematically apply that knowledge to produce results requires explicit instruction, some measure of accountability as well as checks for understanding along the way.

-The TASC Team