

The Arts: The Core of the Matter

Join Bill to learn a variety of strategies for transforming your classroom by engaging student readers and writers in a time of rapidly changing and developing literacies. These strategies are even more important in support of the Common Core State Standards which include mentions of new literacies throughout. Each instructional idea shown in this session will be matched with a Standard Statement from the Core, giving evidence that arts-related new literacies are, indeed, easily supported and even necessary if we are to be fully teaching the Core. These are activities that need to be embedded into daily 21st century classroom life.

This session will show how many new media instructional ideas actually have their roots in the Arts in Education movement. Learn how technology can be used to maximize your students' multimodal potential, including assignments that allow kids to "write" in different forms, such as video and audio, composing with sound effects and music. Drawing from his work with districts across Ohio and the country, Dr. Kist will demonstrate effective methods for facilitating your curriculum and instruction transition into the 21st century with an emphasis on the arts. Various documents such as: the Common Core State Standards; the Partnership for 21st Century Skills; the ACT College Readiness Standards; and the new South Carolina Arts Standards (including media arts and media literacy) all support the integration of multiple forms of representation in a way that allows for students to fully participate in work, leisure, and democracy in the 21st century.

Starting with very simple strategies that help students navigate the blogosphere, this session will progress to include showing how to set up wikis that can house research projects, literature circles, and various multimodal projects. These strategies can be implemented in a wide range of classrooms, from the technologically barren to the technologically advanced. It will be shown that these assignments do not take time away from "important" classroom activities, but rather are integral to teaching the Common Core standards in a meaningful way for the 21st Century. These activities are also tremendously motivating to the struggling reader and writer.