



HCDE Instructional Technology News

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Digital Learning and Instructional Technology

Podcasting in the Classroom

[Education Podcast Network](#)

View many educational applications of podcasting at the Education Podcast Network. Podcasts are organized in topics such as English/Language Arts, Math, and Science. View the EPN at <http://www.epnweb.org/index.php>.

[Carlton/Farmer's Branch ISD Podcasts](#)

View how Texas district Carlton/Farmer's Branch is using Podcasting at <http://www.cfbisd.edu/pages/index.cfm> then click on "Video on Demand."

Creating Video Podcasts




Video podcasting can be easily done with a computer's web cam and "Windows Movie Maker" (part of Windows). In Windows Movie Maker, click "Capture from video device." Convert files to MP4 format using the below resource.

[MediaConvert](#)

MediaConvert is an online audio and video converter. It can be used to convert .WMV files to .MP4 for video podcasting, as well as converting .WAV files to .MP3 for audio podcasting. Access MediaConvert at <http://media-convert.com>.

Online Courses at HCDE

Online Instructor's Training

 Online Instructor's Training, Part I, II, and III—required of all TxVSN teachers (Cohorts starting October 6 and November 3) - Six weeks/30 hours. More information at <http://www.via-tx.org> (\$480).

HCDE Online Courses—Can be taken at any time

- Online Course Development—12 CPU hours (\$200)
- Podcasting in the Classroom—3 CPU hours (\$50)
- Brain Research—Using Technology to Support ADD/ADHD Learners—3 CPU hours (\$50)
- Brain Research—Using Technology to Support Delayed Learners—3 CPU hours (\$50)
- Marzano's Instructional Strategies and Technology—Similarities and Differences—3 CPU hours (\$50)
- Marzano's Instructional Strategies and Technology—Summarizing and Note-taking—3 CPU hours (\$50)



Register at <http://wms.hcde-texas.org>.

Texas Virtual School Network

The state of Texas will begin the TxVSN in the Spring semester of 2008/2009. Provider districts will offer online courses to grades 9-12. Go to <http://www.txvsn.org> for more information.



[Texas Education Agency](#)

The Texas Education agency provides information about the TxVSN legislation at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/technology/txvsn/>.

[TETN Video Conferences](#)

TETN will provide video conferences on subjects such as "What is TxVSN? How will it help my students?" (September 5), "The 411 for TxVSN Site Coordinators" (October 27). Go to <http://www.txvsn.org> for more information.

[Instructional Technology Newsletters](#)



Hyperlinked copies of this newsletter, as well as past newsletters, are available at <http://www.hcde-texas.org/default.aspx?name=instructtechhome>.

Grants and Contests for the Classroom

[Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant](#)

K-12 schools can earn up to \$5,000 for school projects such as a reading garden, landscaping, or nature trail. Only 1,500 applications are accepted (open at this time) until 10/17. Apply at <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/index.html>.



[Washington Mutual Grants](#)

WaMu provides grants of \$10,000, and more, to K-12 schools for professional development and school improvement in schools where a majority of students are on free or reduced lunch. Apply at <http://www.wamu.com/about/community/grantsguidelines/k12publiceducation.htm>.



[TechLearning—Portraits of Learning Contest](#)

Students in grades K-12 are invited to compete in the TechLearning photo contest. Students are asked to capture and share their unique vision of the world. Prizes include a digital camera and Adobe Photoshop Elements as well as prizes for the school. Apply at <http://www.techlearning.com/portraits/>.

