

Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools

Digital Academy – Year 2

Digital Academy 2 will be offered for those teachers who have participated in Digital Academy during 2008-2009. Participants of Digital Academy 2 will select a topic that they will explore in-depth throughout the year. Graduate credit from Ashland University will be made available for participation.

Participants will be able to:

- Become highly proficient with the technology tools relevant to their chose topic
- Build personal learning networks to develop expertise in their topic
- Meet with participants in other topic areas

Digital Academy 2 participants will then work as teacher leaders to share these strategies with their peers to accelerate the use of technology integration strategies throughout the district. Graduate credit will be made available for participation.

Expectations of Digital Academy 2 participants:

- Participation in quarterly topic-specific professional development sessions plus two sessions (1 in August and one in May) that bring together participants from all topic areas (six face-to-face sessions in all)
- Participation in online learning environment to collaborate with colleagues between sessions
- Develop and implement lessons and curriculum units that integrate their chosen topic into instruction
- Share their experiences with their chosen topic with others; possible sharing venues include: contributions to a district technology wiki, staff meetings, Digital Academy 1 sessions, and the February staff development day

Participants in the academy will receive the following:

- Funding has been allocated for enhancing resources. Participants will be able to submit brief proposals for materials appropriate for their selected topics.

Specialty topic areas: The intent of DA II is for a participant to pursue a topic of relevance in depth. These are some suggested topics; however, participants may have another topic in mind. We will cohort based on topics and / or content areas. (Please note that the specific topics for each specialty area will be developed with the input of participants, so the actual curriculum may vary from these descriptions.)

- Global Collaboration: How can our students communicate and collaborate with peers around the globe? Participants will network with educators around the world and will find partners to develop projects that enable students to work collaboratively with international peers. Possible technology tools include Ning, Skype, ePals or Gaggle, and wikis.
- Digital Storytelling: Participants will create lessons and units that have students work with digital storytelling, a way of incorporating images, text, narration, and music to tell a story or share information. Possible technology tools include digital cameras, Voicethread, Photostory 3, and Windows Movie Maker.

- Podcasting: Participants will create lessons and units that incorporate podcasting, in which students record short audio programs. Possible technology tools include Audacity and Gcast.
- Edu2.0: Participants will become comfortable with all of the features available in this free online course management program.
- Blogs and Wikis: Participants will develop lessons or units that incorporate blogs and/or wikis. Possible technology tools include blogger, edublogs, wikispaces, pbworks, and the blog and wiki features of Edu2.0.
- Assessment: Participants will learn ways that technology can help with assessment and monitoring data. Possible technology tools include using an online gradebook, creating digital portfolios, and the assessment features of Edu2.0.
- Mimio: Participants will become mimio “experts” through extensive training and practice and will have the opportunity to complete the mimio Masters program. More information about the program is available at <http://www.mimio.com> > training > mimio masters.

Year 2 Application:

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Digital Academy. To apply, please answer the questions below and email your responses to Chris Sobolewski at chris.sobolewski@chagrinschools.org by Monday, June 1, 2009.

Name:

Building:

Grade Level and Subject Area:

Preferred Specialty Topic Area:

Write a brief paragraph to respond to the following:

1. Describe why you chose your preferred specialty topic area.
2. How will your learning about this topic benefit you and your students?