

Area Teachers Learn to Use Technology to Excite and Engage Students

Louisville, KY – Four hundred sixteen teachers from Clay, Crittenden and Union County School Districts invested their time this summer to learn how to use the latest technological tools to improve student learning.

Teachers participated in a half-day, introductory workshop to improve their computer skills and worked for three full days to gain hands-on experience creating individual websites that contain video projects, photos, blogs and student work. These teachers are now ready to make classroom experiences more exciting and productive for students this fall.

The training will help teachers to create lessons with technology students are using in their everyday lives or to introduce students who have limited exposure and access to technology to a whole new world of hi-tech tools.

“My students are going to enjoy creating new projects with the movie making software I learned to use,” said Joyce Bowling of Manchester Elementary School who participated in the three-day advanced training. “We can bring learning to life on video and engage students in new and interesting ways.”

"It is great to see this technology available to the students of Clay County," said Sen. Robert Stivers (R-Manchester). "I was proud to help budget coal severance dollars to improve these tools available to our young people in school. It will not only boost their academic future, but also help their future employment potential.”

Kentucky-based Dataseam provided the training to more than 450 teachers from several different school districts this summer teaching educators to create and share digital media that makes learning more interesting and relevant to today's students.

Dataseam offers a continuum of training for teachers that begins with the half-day course designed to help educators get more familiar with computers and work on their basic skills. The advanced, three-day course then aids teachers in using the computers their schools earn from their participation in the Dataseam program and engage their students in collaborative, project-based learning.

Each teacher earns computers for his or her classroom as part of the Dataseam workshops. Teachers have earned more than 1,000 new computers for their classrooms this summer through Dataseam training.

In total the company has trained over 4,500 teachers, administrators and technicians and expects teachers to have about 525 classroom-based websites up and running this fall as a result of the recent Dataseam training. View teacher websites from across the state at www.kydataseam.com

“People and companies use all types of new technology to communicate and get work done in our global economy,” said Brian Gupton, Dataseam CEO. “The teachers are creating individual class web sites, which help transform education and prepare our children for the future.”

Dataseam has provided more than 15,000 new computers in 49 Kentucky school districts in the last five and one half years. The computers are linked together into the nation’s largest managed computing grid of its kind. Researchers at the University of Louisville’s Brown Cancer Center are using the computing power in Kentucky school districts to create the nation’s largest potential cancer drug development pipeline.

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