

# Tech Tidbits



## TIPS & TRICKS

~Email~

Outlook & Webmail have some great customization options and tools to make organizing & keeping up with email easier.

Check out this [video](#) on Account Options

Check out this [video](#) on View & Tag Options

## APPS & ADD-ONS THAT MAKE LIFE EASIER

[Evernote](#) ([handout](#))

Evernote is a great online notebook/filing cabinet for all your notes & planning. When I switched from paper notebooks to Evernote, life changed dramatically. All my notes were synced to all my devices & available from any computer with Internet access. Additionally, all notes are easily searchable by keyword, tag, & even location.

[Download the App for any computer/device for instant access to all your files.](#)

[Keepvid](#) ([handout](#))

Keepvid is one of the best tools for downloading videos from YouTube and other online video sources. Grab a video to share in class, embed in a PowerPoint, or include in a SMARTboard lesson. The videos fully download so there is no more worry about how well it will stream during class. Just remember you don't own the video so please don't re-upload it somewhere on the web.

[Click here to save the Bookmarklet for easier downloading.](#)

*Did  
you  
know?*



GCF Learn Free offers great tutorials on many technology resources. Topics range from Microsoft Office to Google to iPhone Basics to Mac & Windows OS. They even offer tutorials on Facebook and Pinterest.

Each Topic is broken into easy to follow sections & available free to work through at your own pace or jump around as needed.

[Click Here to Check Out the Topics](#)

## CONNECTING & COLLABORATING

### Building your PLN

Developing a PLN (Personal Learning Network) is a great way to connect with other educators across the globe who teach similar subjects or have similar interests or areas of expertise as you. PLNs provides a place for educators to learn from one another through sharing and collaboration.



[What is a PLN?](#)

[Education Week Article](#)

One of the largest beaming vehicles currently for Educator PLNs is Twitter. Create a Twitter account & check out some of the weekly chats & hashtags featured to the right. Follow a few great educators & hashtags & you'll be amazed at how fast your PLN grows.

Some other avenues to explore for PLN connections include [Google+](#), [Diigo Groups](#), [NING](#), [Edweb](#), & [Discovery DEN](#).

### Education Chats

(click on a chat for details)

[#edchat](#)

[#edtechchat](#)

[#gtchat](#)

[SO MANY MORE](#)

### Education Hashtags

(click to explore)

[#education](#)

[#edtech](#)

[#edchat](#)

[#isedchat](#)

[#elemchat](#)

[#kinderchat](#)

[#mathchat](#)

[#msmathchat](#)

[#scichat](#)

[#sschat](#)

[#makerED](#)

[#flipclass](#)

[iPadEd](#)

[#BYOD](#)

[EVEN MORE](#)

Another great tool is [#TAGBOARD](#)- hashtag search engine

(Tagboard searches a wide range of social media tools for any hashtag you type in)

*"ALONE WE ARE SMART. TOGETHER WE ARE BRILLIANT."*

*Steven Anderson, Educator*

### Teacher Spotlight

*Authors & Illustrators  
Coming to Life at the Junior  
School Library*

*Phyllis Guering & Karen Sandora have transformed an ordinary bulletin board display in the Junior School library into an interactive adventure for students. Using the iPads provided, students can scan any of the author or illustrator images displayed on the board & VOILA: the image is brought to life with a video overlay playing on the iPad.*



*Parents and students have been fully intrigued by the bulletin board. As the year progresses, the bulletin board will become a book showcase with student created Auras for their favorite books.*

*Phyllis & Karen used the "Aurasma" app to create this augmented reality experience for their students. Using the Aurasma app, the user chooses a target object/image & creates an Aura. The Aura is a layer (video, animation, audio, graphics, or 3D content) which comes to life when the Aurasma app is used to scan the object/image. [Check out some other ways Aurasma is being used in education.](#)*

