

# The Blue Skunk Blog



*Leaving readers confused at a higher level since 2005*



Doug Johnson

Why librarians should  
be in charge of  
educational technology

Blast From the Past, February 20, 2011.  
Originally posted February 20, 2006.

<http://doug-johnson.squarespace.com/blue-skunk-blog/2011/2/20/bftp-why-librarians-should-be-in-charge-of-educational-techn.html>

If you want well and appropriately used educational technology in your school, turn its planning and implementation over to your library media specialists because they have...



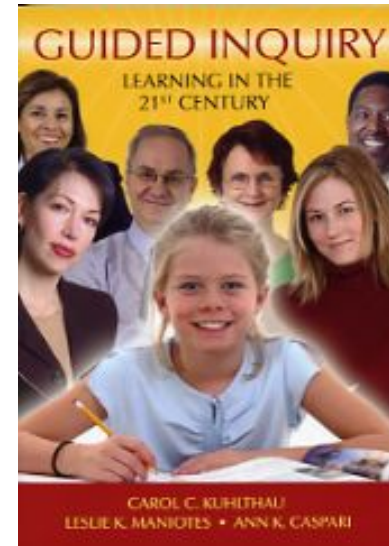
Doug Johnson

1. A healthy attitude toward technology.

Not just HOW,  
but WHY!



## 2. Good teaching skills.



Guided Inquiry: Learning in the 21st Century  
C. Kuhlthau, A. Caspari, L. Maniotes

Understanding and empathetic  
when technologically related  
stress occurs in the classroom.

3. An understanding of the use of technology in the information literacy process and its use in fostering higher level thinking skills.



## 4. Experience as skill integrators and collaborators.

How do you think we can have students collaborate online, using technology to build understanding of this concept?



## 5. Been models for the successful use of technology.

Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

**CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
Father Ronald J. Cote Library Information Centre

[HWCDSB Home](#) [Library Site Home](#) [School Home](#)

**Library Links**  
Library Catalogue  
Library Resources  
Inquiry & Research Process  
Readers' Corner  
Learning Links  
Library News & Events  
Search Engines  
Directories

**Web Links**  
First Class  
Homework Help  
Pathways to Success  
MediaNet  
4ReSrch  
Back to Main Page



[Library Catalogue](#)



[Dictionaries](#)



[Online Encyclopedias](#)



[Databases](#)



[Other Library Catalogues](#)

Long history of offering resources & services online.

## 6. Providing in-building support.

Tech questions, instructional application



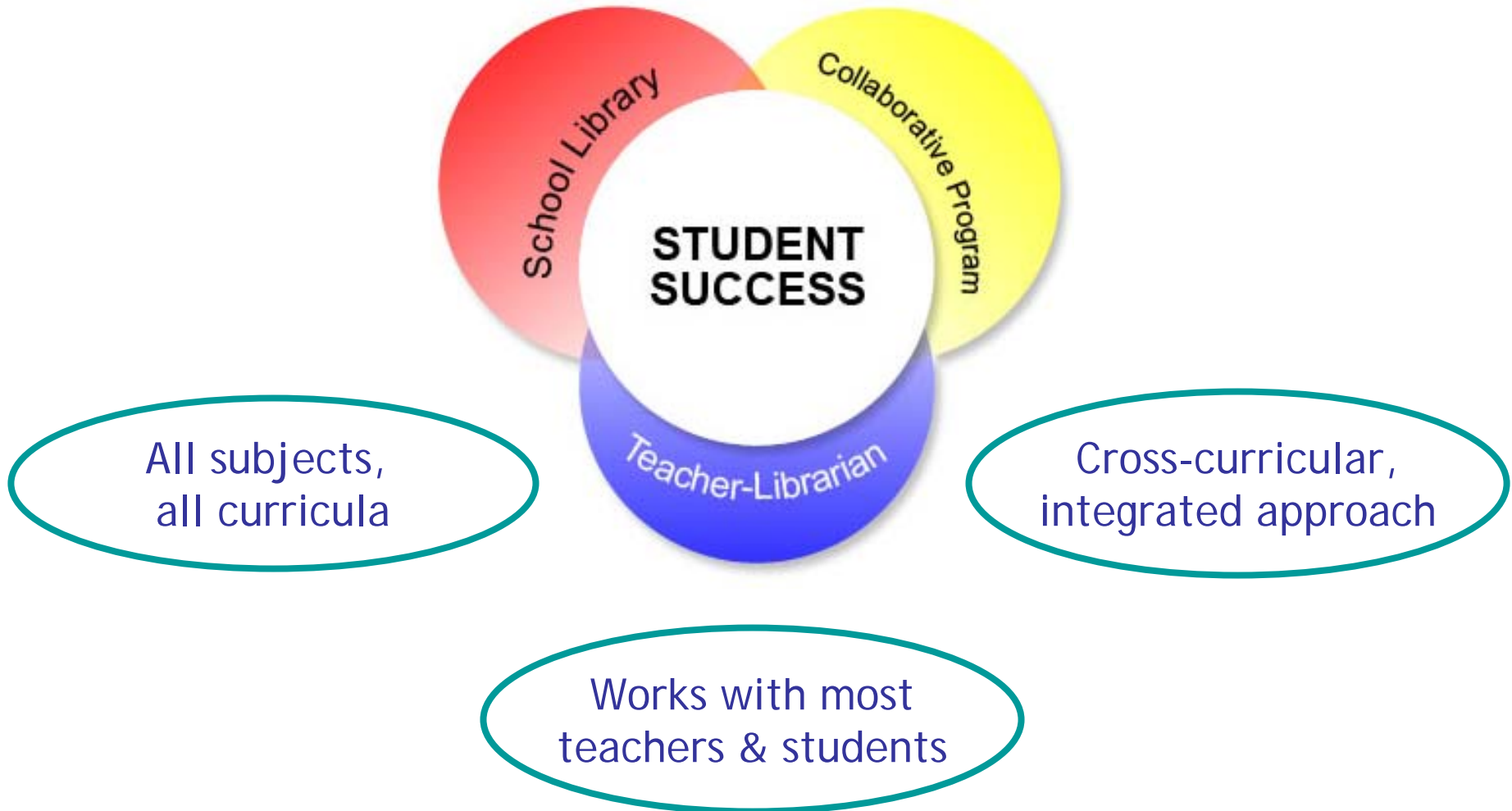
In the library, lab or classroom

Flexible schedule

Staff development leadership



## 7. A whole school view.



# 8. Concerns about the safe and ethical use of technology.

## Code of Digital Conduct

Acting Responsibly in a Digital World  
I will act with integrity.

**Respect Yourself**

- I will respect myself through my actions.
- I will ensure the privacy of my own information.

**Protect Yourself**

- I will not post information that will put me at risk.
- I will report any attacks or inappropriate behaviour directed at me.
- I will protect my passwords, accounts and resources.

**Respect Others**

- I will show respect for others.
- I will not use electronic media to insult, bully, harass or stalk other people.
- I will not visit sites that are degrading, pornographic, racist or inappropriate.
- I will not access other people's personal spaces or areas.

**Protect Others**

- I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate communications or materials.

**Respect Property** (Intellectual and Technological)

- I will verify the accuracy of information.
- I will request permission to use resources and cite all references, websites, books, media, etc.
- I will use Board technological property only for legal activities.
- I will not disrupt the activity of Board equipment.
- I will not violate the security of Board equipment.

**Protect Property** (Intellectual and Technological)

- I will purchase my music and media and will refrain from distributing media in a manner that violates licensing.

I understand that failing to follow this code will include consequences consistent with the school's code of behaviour and the Acceptable Use Procedures (AUP).  
<http://www.wrdsb.ca/aup>

## Citation: What You Need To Know!

Research help from the Waterloo Region District School Board Library Learning Commons  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca>

**WHAT DOES CITATION MEAN?**

When conducting research you collect information, ideas and inspiration from many sources. You must acknowledge each source with a citation.

**WHY MUST I CITE?**

**IT'S ABOUT MORAL ETHICS!**  
Contact or copyright owners that the creator of a work has the right to be acknowledged by name. The creator of a work also has the moral right to the integrity of their work. To protect it, authors will use copyright law to ensure that their work is not used without their permission.

**IT'S ABOUT ACADEMIC HONESTY!**  
When helping your studies, you should acknowledge others to give the acknowledgment credit for their work. It is more than a reward for their hard work and integrity. It also shows that you are a responsible and ethical student.

**WHAT MUST I CITE?**

**YOU MUST ACKNOWLEDGE:**

- Direct quotes
- Statistics
- Images, charts, graphs, media files
- Paraphrased information or ideas
- Specialized information

**KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SOURCES!**  
Keep track of what information you get from each of your sources. Our note-taking templates can help you with that! <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/100-asking/>

**GATHER THE RIGHT INFORMATION!**  
You need to record key information about each source. Use the authors name, the title, date or publisher, publisher or web address, etc. Use a citation template to help you keep track of your sources! <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/academic-honesty/plagiarism/what-must-i-cite/>

**USE THE CORRECT CITATION FORMAT!**  
Citations must be formatted so that it is easy for people to trace your research footsteps to the your sources.

**HOW DO I CITE MY SOURCES?**

Style guides for formal academic writing:  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/100-cite/>

Formal citation guides for research paper:  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/100-cite/>

**CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS!**

If you see it, you must get it. That means words, images, music - EVERYTHING!

CONVICTION - PENITENTIARY WORK NOT NEAR CITATION - NO! - CHECK THE TERMS OF USE!

MADE FOR ADULTS - NOT FOR CHILDREN - DIRECT EXTERNAL - USE IT NOW!

**NOT TYP!**  
NO USE OF SOURCES FOR COPYRIGHT MUSIC AND VIDEO MUSIC AND IMAGES. WE HAVE A LIST OF SOURCES FOR YOU TO USE. <http://www.watkins.ca>

© Waterloo Region District School Board, 2011.  
All rights reserved. This work may be reproduced for educational purposes.

# 1. A healthy attitude toward technology.

The Learning Commons can build on the entertainment value that students find in social media to further learning opportunities for critical and creative thought.

p. 12



## 2. Good teaching skills.

In the Learning Commons, the teacher-librarian designs multiple literacy experiences with teaching partners.

p. 18

An effective Learning Commons will accommodate all learners and address multiple learning styles and learning levels.

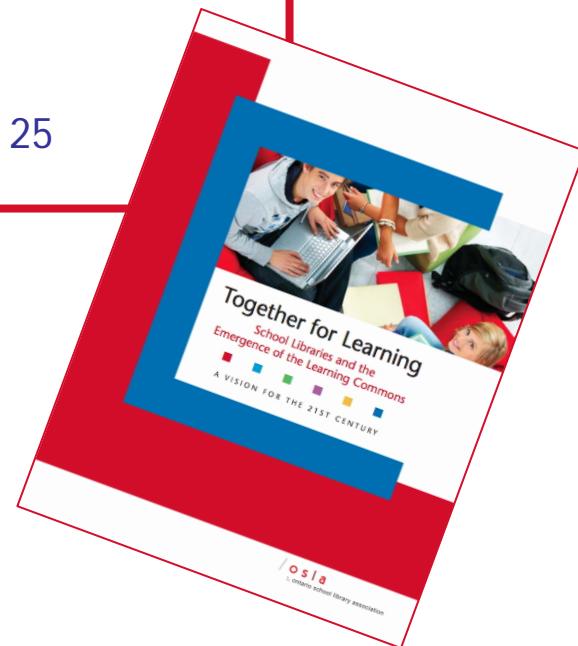
p. 12



3. An understanding of the use of technology in the information literacy process and its use in fostering higher level thinking skills.

Effective application of an inquiry model can transform novice learners into interdependent and independent learners, confident of their information power.

p. 25



## 4. Experience as skill integrators and collaborators.

Technology-enabled learning partnerships foster the mutual exploration of ideas, and lead to innovation and creativity. Both parallel the social ways by which today's students are naturally choosing to learn and network.

p. 11



## 5. Been models for the successful use of technology.

The Learning Commons' information-rich and media-savvy environments facilitate learning to learn. p. 27



Technology and media are an intrinsic, integrated and seamless part of learning.

p. 39



## 6. Providing in-building support.

Remember that equitable access to qualified library staff – not as pre-scheduled set periods but on an as-needed basis during and outside the school day – is just as important as access to resources.

p. 10





## 7. A whole school view.

In embracing the Learning Commons, a school library plays a pivotal role. It is already established as a physical and virtual cross-curricular space. A school library already has a multi-grade focus and a mandate to support the needs of all learners. It can model and facilitate the enriched learning opportunities inherent in the Learning Commons.

p. 9



## 8. Concerns about the safe and ethical use of technology.

Issues such as plagiarism, privacy and copyright require surprisingly complex and deep understanding, as do bias, stereotyping and gender. A successful Learning Commons promotes values such as intellectual curiosity, respect, responsibility and initiative - all essential to personal and social growth.

p. 32



Your reasons why to turn tech over to librarians?



Presentation: Anita Brooks Kirkland, Consultant, ITS, K-12 Libraries, Waterloo Region DSB

Images used under license from iStock Photo: <http://www.istockphoto.com>