

From: Lisa Read <lread@sd79.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Updates from Lisa
Date: 25 January, 2015 9:15:00 AM PST

3 Attachments, 68 KB

Hello everyone, and this update brings you not only good wishes for 2015, but some opportunities as well. I've been thinking a lot about what that means, opportunity. Sometimes we use it kind of facetiously, like "living in interesting times" and "no good deed goes unpunished", but today I mean it in the no-strings-attached, I-want-to-give-you-some-stuff-for-free way.

Firstly, the Technology, Literacy and Aboriginal Education Departments have teamed up to create an innovative and unique way to put valuable tools in the hands of teachers. You should have seen the email from Glen last week. It came along with a poster and an application form for IpLitAbInq-- which is our kind-of acronym for: iPad + Literacy + Aboriginal World View + Inquiry. Please check it out-- the deadline to apply is Tomorrow-- you get some AMAZING free stuff from us! Email me to hold your spot!

IpLitAbInq

Next, I have a really exciting series of FREE courses for you. Please check out [EdTechOpen](http://edtechopen.com/). These mini-courses (all less than 7 days) are hosted in Moodle and cover a wide variety of topics. The facilitators and the coordinator of the project, Sandy Hirtz, are all well-known figures in the eLearning, Open Textbook and online learning community. Topics for this season include: "Engaging Online Learners", "WordPress Bootcamp", "iPad Integration in the classroom", "Must-have iPad apps", "Exploring open education and the OER", "Master your Moodle" and "Building an Online/Blended Course". Facilitators include Dr Dave Porter, Clint LaLonde, and Verena Roberts, to name a few (oh... and me!!). Courses are free, you can self-register here: <http://edtechopen.com/> and the first one starts Jan. 30th. For those of you looking forward to our own Moodle upgrade (it's coming, I promise!)

any of these Moodle weeks will give you a really good idea of how to manage content in that environment-- so it's kind of TWO opportunities in ONE! You're welcome!



Speaking of Free, a big shout-out to Lisa Hermants who pointed me to a really neat little app (and more) that works EXACTLY like Senteos or iClickers. It's called Plicker, it's free, and works with iPad or iPhone. You do create an account, upload class lists (and this is a US site, so PLEASE don't add students full names in your class roster--it's super easy to use code names or initials). Next you write either Multiple Choice or T/F questions and print off the student Plicker sheets. The app uses your phone or iPad camera as a QR-style scanner, and reads and records all the student responses. The sheets are each unique--up to 60, and you can have as many class sets as you like, and they can be used over and over. Drop me a line if you want me to come in and do a demo-- it's SWEET! I made my 15-year-old do a test run for me and even he thought it was neat. (Poor teacher-kids....)



And finally, let me remind you that I welcome the opportunity to work with teachers, staffs and students. Recently I've been doing Book Creator and Stop Motion lessons in several classes. Let me know if you'd like a classroom visit, or some lunch-time or after school coaching. As I wrote in a recent blog post, I will meet you where you are (metaphorically and geographically).

Until next time, thank you as always for reading, for your feedback and requests, and for making me look forward to great things for all of us in 2015.

Virtually yours,

Lisa

Lisa Read

District Information Technology Coordinator
School District No 79 (Cowichan Valley)
2557 Beverly Street, Duncan, BC
V9L 2X3

Email: ditc@sd79.bc.ca

Phone: (250) 748 0321 ext 281

Cell: (250) 510 2483

Fax: (250) 748 3497

Check out my **blog:** [The Uncoordinated Coordinator](#)

And find me on **FaceBook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Sd79Technology>