

New Computer Technology at Greenwood Mennonite School

Greenwood Mennonite School is excited to announce a new computer technology partnership with School Technology Programs in association with Boston University and the University of Richmond.

School Technology Programs has been helping schools implement integrated technology programs since 1992. They are currently partnering with over 130 private schools. There is a lot of excitement as G.M.S. prepares for advancing our students' skills in preparation for post high school careers and service! This new partnership will establish Greenwood Mennonite School as a center of technology education for our area.

We are pleased to move forward this school year with new computer technology classes for students in grades 1-8. Our partnership with School Technology Programs will provide curriculum and staff training enabling us to integrate technology into classroom studies. Our students will use the computer to develop projects and presentations.

Beginning in the second term, students in grades 1-8 will learn 350 objectives in 9 different computer technology areas. The technology areas will include: word processing, spreadsheets, databases, graphic design, desktop publishing, web page design, operating systems, internet navigation and multimedia to complete a project.

At the conclusion of each project integrated project books will be printed and sent home with the students. The integrated project books will include a project cover, parent letter, research sheets, color projects and an assessment lesson. There are 4 new projects each year, 1 for each quarter.

School Technology Programs in association with Boston University and the University of Richmond provide resource support for the school to assist teachers, students and parents. The resources include university web links to 1,800 of the best educational websites. The support has a Student Electronic Resource Center that includes research paper and college essay formats, resume writing and interview guides, Microsoft applications help guide, Cornell note taking system, lab formats, hot links to related web sites and downloadable templates. They also provide access to hundreds of educational resource links through the University of Richmond's virtual library.

The program provides for comprehensive ongoing support for technology coordinators and teachers. It includes project orientation sessions for computer technology teachers, computer lab support visits, open lab support time, unlimited e-mail and phone support, and C.E.U. credit from Boston University and the University of Richmond.

We are planning to begin this program this year for grades 1-8 and to expand to go through the high school grades next year. We are well on our way to fully funding this program with no additional cost to parents.

Celebrating 80 years of Christian education, Greenwood Mennonite School serves a multi-denominational student body in grades Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12. Our students are representative of 30 different local churches in surrounding communities. We are a member of the Mid-Atlantic Christian School Association, The Mennonite Elementary Education Council and the Peninsula Athletic Christian Conference.