

# NORTH CAROLINA TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Volume 1, Issue 1

August, 2011

## STEP SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

The 2nd Annual STEP (Sustainable Transportation Education Program) State Competition took place on the campus of North Carolina State University on May 21, 2011 at The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation. Six (6) high schools and seven (7) middle schools participated in the event. The program served more than 700 students. Program sponsors included Progress Energy, National Science Foundation, and the U.S. NAVY.

The 2011 Plug-In Conference was held in Raleigh, NC and STEP took advantage of the opportunity. STEP presented at the conference as the first ever education component. Our involvement helped to generate

interest and awareness among both industry executives and business owners to the benefits related to the educational aspect associated with the electrification of transportation movement. The program has scheduled the 3rd Annual STEP State Competition for May 5, 2012 and expects to have ten (10) high schools and twenty (20) middle school participants.

For more information please contact Michael G. Thornton, STEP Outreach Coordinator, at [michael\\_thornton@ncsu.edu](mailto:michael_thornton@ncsu.edu).

\*The Sustainable Transportation Education Program (STEP) is a collaborative effort with North Carolina State University's NC Solar Center in the College of

Engineering and the College of Education. STEP is a program educating middle and high school students on sustainable transportation and the current shift towards the electrification of transportation. The purpose of the STEP program is to prepare students to become immersed in learning about the electrification of transportation and careers. The program provides teacher training and curricula on electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), Smart Grid, alternative fuels, and careers in science, engineering, and technology while providing application to the automotive and supporting infrastructure. The STEP curricula is a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) based program that includes problem-solving, critical thinking, and inquiry-based learning with relevance to real world issues. Submitted by Michael Thorton.





Winners are not born. They are made.

« All successful people men and women are big dreamers. They imagine what their future could be, ideal in every respect, and then they work every day toward their distant vision, that goal or purpose. »

Brian Tracy



## A Effort to Counter the Media Lies

We want our kids to be savvy when it comes to the media and the internet. They should be safe first of all, and effective in determining accurate information so they can make rational decisions that lead them to an effective and meaningful career and life.

Media also regularly gives a false impression about life. Much of it is fantasy but I think kids buy it. The message is life is meant to be fun, easy, with few consequences for poor decisions. Other messages include: do what you want, even if you are instructed to do otherwise. Rude is cool. The more insulting you are, the funnier you are.

Once in a great while, you hear about a student in the news that graduates from high school with few skills, and then sues the school system for not doing their job. Give me a break, please. Adults know the real world is, well, real. And we sometimes shake our heads and wonder where kids get the screwy ideas they come up with.

I teach middle school Career and Technology Education. Over the years, I've tried to integrate lessons into the curriculum that talk about the "soft skills" needed to succeed in a career. I've had posters on the wall meant to teach success. I would occasionally verge off the main topic to talk about the importance of being responsible or persevering when the going gets hard. This year, I am more direct. We are starting the year

with activities directly related to what makes successful people successful.

Let me explain. Every teacher, if given a nickel for every time they heard one of the following phrases from their students would double their income. "But that's hard." Or "I can't" or "but that takes too long". Too many suffer from the misguided idea that life should be easy and plentiful rewards for effort akin to fogging a mirror.

What are the concepts? Be patient please. First, I want to explain that the concepts are taught and learned in a fun way, using pantomime, sign language, rap like rhythm, memory techniques, and if it isn't obvious, lots of fun. I borrowed these ideas from a world renowned speaker Brian Tracy.

And here are the "Beliefs Unique to All Peak Performing Men and Women"

1. Winners are not born. They are made.
2. The dominant force in your existence is the way you think.
3. You can create your own reality.
4. There is some benefit to be had from every hardship.
5. Each one of your beliefs is a choice.
6. You are never defeated until you stop trying.
7. The only limits are ones that you impose.

8. You have the potential to excel in one key area of your life.

9. There can be no great success without great commitment.

10. You need the support of other's to achieve your goals.

One could argue that there exceptions to these concepts, and I assure you, students love to come up with exceptions, surely you will agree that generally, these are true. Winners in life get that way through consistent and solid effort, believing in themselves, disciplining both their body and their mind to learn, and persevere in the face of challenges. Along the way, they accept help from others, and provide help to others that need it.

This is not a straight memorization exercise. We discuss examples in our lives where these concepts apply. I'll spare you the examples I came up and save that for another time.

For a few weeks though, students will be working with these concepts, integrating graphic arts and multimedia. When someone expresses frustration over the difficulty of a task, or a desire to quit, we will be better equipped to provide the encouragement necessary to persevere.

At the very least, we can refer to the poster on the wall, and have the class recite, in unison, the concept.

Submitted by Richard Tidyman.

## The Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1— Does it Leapfrog the Apple iPad?



Apple iPad 2 (9.5 x 7.3 x 0.36 inches)

Samsung Tab (10.1 x 6.81 x 0.31)

Apple introduced its first iPad in April of 2010. Just like the iPhone

before it, the Apple iPad was an instant sensation and Apple sold three million iPads in less than three months. In the consumer electronic field being first out of the gate with a new product doesn't guarantee that you will be able to hold your lead when your competitors introduce competing products.

The question becomes can Apple keep its lead as other companies introduce tablet products?

For the consumer the best thing about product competition is that it forces companies to push product enhancements into new models while staying competitively priced. In my opinion the strongest current iPad challenger is the Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1. I believe your past experience with Apple and Android products will definitely influence which product is best for you.

The outward appearance of the two tablets is so close that anyone viewing both at the same time might think that they are two different models produced by the same manufacturer. They both use the same hand gestures for scrolling, zooming, and selecting screen items. So when it comes to their outward appearance, functionality, and ease of use, in my opinion they are a tie.

Apple agrees that the Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 matches their

iPad when it comes to the above features. However, in current lawsuits Apple's lawyers identify the reason for these product similarities as Samsung's patent infringements of Apple patents. Samsung agrees with Apple's contention that patent infringements have occurred. Samsung only differs on who is infringing on whose patents. So Samsung lawyers have filed lawsuits against Apple claiming that the Apple iPad, iPhone, and

iPod were all constructed using design features that were covered by Samsung patents that were filed while Samsung worked as an Apple partner working on the development of these Apple products.

Experts expect that both companies will eventually settle with cross licensing agreements that cover each others patents. You can read about the lawsuits at <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-06-29/samsung-files-patent-suit-against-apple-over-iphone-technology.html>

The problem is how do you decide which is the better machine for you. If you are an iPhone/iPod Touch enthusiast you probably already love everything Apple and iTunes. So the best choice for you probably an iPad. To me one of the strongest Apple selling points is the fact that you can walk into an Apple store and have a real person help you figure out how to get your different

### Technology Today Product Review

Apple devices to follow your commands.

If you are a PC and Android phone user you will probably be happier with the openness of the Android Honeycomb platform. You won't find Adobe Flash on an Apple iPad. Adobe Flash is on the Samsung Galaxy Tab and it enhances the streaming of video, the playing of games, the appearance of on-screen animation, and your general interaction with the device when you are running Android Marketplace or Samsung apps. Samsung indicates that there

**"Can Apple keep its lead as other companies introduce tablet products?"**

are 175 million compatible Adobe Flash games and video sites on the Internet and Samsung feels that their inclusion of Flash in their operating system

will make your user experience much more pleasurable.

When all is said and done Samsung's Galaxy Tab 10.1 is a hair lighter and also a hair thinner than the Apple iPad II. Both machines have front and rear facing cameras. The Samsung has a flash for you to take pictures in poor lighting, the Apple regrettably doesn't. Both machines have 1 GHZ dual-core processors and they both handle multi-tasking extremely well. Having spent a great deal of time testing both units my conclusion is you won't be making a mistake whichever one you chose.

Reprinted with the express consent of Alan J. Pierce EdD.

**NCTEA**



Strength is in Teamwork and Numbers. Let us endeavor together to strengthen our field for the future of our students.

For Additional Information Please Contact Us Individually or through:

NCTEA  
c/o Nancye Hart, Executive Secretary/  
Treasurer  
12300 Kane Alexander Drive  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
agnes1@adelphia.net .  
Phone 704.948.8741

**Who Can Join?**

Individuals interested in Technology Education find reasons to join NCTEA. Primary members are Technology Education, Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Science teachers. Others are business and industry people who support Technology Education through sales, support and initiatives. Ultimately, the average member recognizes value in the membership and by way of individual support, professional development, networking, and representation.

**Benefits of Joining**

Many benefits accompany membership in NCTEA. Friendships are made through professional development efforts. This creates a support system of great value that encourages growth, development and excellence. Further, representation at the State and National levels are included through affiliation with ACTE and ITEA. The following is a list of direct benefits gained from membership:

- Professional development
- Individual support
- Networking opportunities
- Direct communications
- Representation at the State and National levels
- Awards

Name	Position	email	Phone	Location	
Kim Fann	President	<a href="mailto:kfann@clinton.k12.nc.us">kfann@clinton.k12.nc.us</a>	910-552-0335 910-550-5337	Clinton City Schools	Clinton City Schools 907 Colark Dr. Clinton, NC 28328
Nancye Hart	Secretary Treasurer	<a href="mailto:nahove.hart@cms.k12.nc.us">nahove.hart@cms.k12.nc.us</a>  <a href="mailto:agnes1@roadrunner.com">agnes1@roadrunner.com</a>	704-948-8741 704-261-3249	Huntersville	Nancye L. Hart, NCTE Hough High School 12300 Kane Alexander Dr Technology Education Teacher 8944 Hillstone Ct., Cit. NC
Nicole Penn	Awards Committee	<a href="mailto:pennonn@bellsouth.net">pennonn@bellsouth.net</a>	School 336-370 8240	Greensboro	<b>Kiser Middle School</b> 716 Benjamin Parkway Greensboro, NC 27408
Kim Kibauk	Bylaws	<a href="mailto:kim.kibauk@mqsd.k12.nc.us">kim.kibauk@mqsd.k12.nc.us</a>	704-663-3641 704-660-0206	Moorestville	Technology Education Moorestville Middle School 130 Comata Road Moorestville, NC 28117
Thelma Kartl	Newsletter Executive Board	<a href="mailto:thelmakartl@ASHE.K12.NC.US">thelmakartl@ASHE.K12.NC.US</a>  <a href="mailto:thelma.kartl@YAHOO.COM">thelma.kartl@YAHOO.COM</a>	336-977-9049 (cell) 336-364-3591	Ashe County Middle School	ACMS PLT00 tractor P.O. Box 259 Warrenton, NC 28694
Keith Smith	Public Information Web Page	<a href="mailto:ksmith2@carolina.rr.com">ksmith2@carolina.rr.com</a>	704-261-7022	Charlotte	Math and Science Teacher 4413 Lazy Dr Charlotte, NC 28215
Brian Moye	Professional Development	<a href="mailto:B.Moye@dpl.state.nc.us">B.Moye@dpl.state.nc.us</a>	919-807-3886 919-807-3899 fax	Raleigh	NC DPI 7133 Missionary Ridge Rd Raleigh, NC 27610
Rae Ingle	Resolutions	<a href="mailto:ringl@mc.k12.nc.us">ringl@mc.k12.nc.us</a>	910-693-1550 910-724-6189	Southern Pines	255 HILDE Rd Southern Pines, NC 28387
Jerriane Taylor	Ways & Means	<a href="mailto:taylorj@apps.tate.edu">taylorj@apps.tate.edu</a>	828-263-8819 828-262-6352 336-692-4794 Fax: 828-265-8696	Boone	Assistant Professor & Technology Education Coordinator Department of Technology Appalachian State University Boone, NC 28608
Kathleen Squibb	Awards Chair	<a href="mailto:ksquibb@dpl.state.nc.us">ksquibb@dpl.state.nc.us</a>	910-892-0389	Clinton	NCTEASAE Advisor
Mark Hoepfl	LISTSERV	<a href="mailto:hoepflm@apps.tate.edu">hoepflm@apps.tate.edu</a>	828-262-3122	Boone	