

## **What**

A MOOC to explore, examine and reflect on the enormous impact that computers are having on K-12 education. We will look back a bit, consider current best practices, and try to peer into the misty future.

Working from the premiss of Stuart Firestein's [Ignorance: How It Drives Science](#) it might be productive and fun to base this MOOC around what we DON'T know about technology and education. What are the big questions?

[Possible categories for discussion. List of those considering presenting in the MOOC.](#)

## **Why**

As Mark Gutkowski, a NJ high school Latin teacher, recently tweeted.

“There is something profoundly reassuring 4 us, as educators, to remember that we only have a vague notion where this is all going.”

Ignorance may provide a kind of reassurance, but perhaps, by sharing our knowledge and insights, making new connections, and complexifying our networks, we can all work together to improve our collective understanding of how K-12 education will be shaped by information technology in the years ahead

As part of the process of sharing and connecting -of exploring and tinkering- we will all construct new knowledge about digital tools and collaborative processes for working more productively together.

## **Where & How**

The MOOC will have a home base on Google sites or some equivalent wiki type platform. However, this will be just a hub into which all the tools available on the Internet will be able to connect. Collaborative documents, discussion forums, videos, blogs, twitter, etc. will all be used to allow MOOC participants to explore, share, and connect the dots.

Structure will be provided by weekly presentations/discussions by educators and students sharing their knowledge and perspectives.

## **When**

Eight to ten weeks during the winter of 2013.

Note: A video of Stephen Downes talking about a college level version of a MOOC on this subject. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eNoTC5jRqs>

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The following are emails posted to ISED related to announcing and planning this MOOC.

July 29th

Happy summer all.

It's been about 30 years since computers started to seriously invade our schools. (See a brief history on [ISE Wiki](#) under the **Independent School Computing History** heading)

I thought it might be a worthwhile endeavor to take some time this year to examine and reflect on the enormous impact that computers are having in education. To do this in the spirit of the times I'm proposing that we collectively create a [MOOC](#) this year, using last summer's higher ed focused [EduMOOC](#) as a model.

Wondering if any others might be interested in helping to organize and/or lead a session in the first indy school MOOC?

I've created an editable list of possible topics in a Google Doc [here](#). Please feel free to add topics that I missed.

Thanks for considering.

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July 31st

Some additional thoughts on a possible EdTechMOOC.

The MOOC that was led by Ray Schroeder last summer, [EduMOOC](#), serves as a possible model. EduMOOC was run over 8 weeks and each week was kicked off by a discussion by a panel of experts, who were different each week.

If you would be willing to participate in a panel on one of the topics that are on the list

being developed [here](#) (or know someone who you think would be great for a panel) please get in touch.

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August 2nd

Hi All,

There seems to be some interest in moving forward with this idea. (See the great comments and offerings to help [here](#).)

As much as possible the content of this MOOC should come from the interests/needs of the community. (Much like the [unConference](#) model.)

If you would be interested in presenting on some topic related to information technology and schools (or have a topic you would like to have presented) please consider adding your name [here](#). (Presenter responsibilities will be to participate in one or more online panels, to develop resource references on their panel topics, and to participate in online discussions related to their panel topics.)

It would be great to have subject area teachers who are doing excellent work using technology in their courses participate, so please consider asking those teachers to consider the MOOC!

One last thought for now. It would also be really interesting to have a panel of students. As we move forward please keep an eye out for those students who are particularly articulate and thoughtful about computers and education.

If you have questions, please ask.

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August 8th

Hope everyone is having a relaxing and calm August before the rough seas of September are upon us.

Thanks to those who have added their names and interests to a list of possible presenters

in an Ed Tech MOOC running sometime during the coming school year. (Adding your name does not commit you, but is simply an indication of possible interest!)

Here is the list:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/14fcCKX1Dvp1hLjgIMS\\_11msJ7Zvz06OeaBdkiKJmIaw/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14fcCKX1Dvp1hLjgIMS_11msJ7Zvz06OeaBdkiKJmIaw/edit)

Please consider adding yourself.