



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Reserve Public Media Offers Innovative “Camp” for Educators

KENT, Ohio — June 5, 2009 — For more than 30 years, Western Reserve Public Media’s Department of Educational Services has been training teachers and administrators to use the latest educational technologies. This summer, the learning will take an innovative, fun form with Camp Google for Educators, a new three-day professional development program. Four Camp Google sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on these Tuesdays through Thursdays: June 16 to June 18; June 23 to June 25; July 28 to July 30; and Aug. 4 to Aug. 6.

The educational experience, funded through a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, will allow teachers to explore Google tools that focus on three core areas of 21st-century learning skills: communicate, collaborate and create. The sessions will highlight Google tools such as Google Docs (an online application allowing for collaborative development of word processing, presentation and spreadsheet applications); Picasa (a photo editing and online sharing application); SketchUp (a computer-assisted drawing application); G-mail; Google Forms; Google Earth; and many other free resources.

“From collaborative uses to creation of 3-D objects to digital imaging processing, Google offers 21st-century learning tools that are bursting with educational possibilities,” said Jeff Good, Western Reserve Public Media’s director of education. “Our new Camp Google is a fun, light approach to helping teachers discover exciting new ways to use Google tools in the classroom.”

The cost of the seminar is \$50 per participant. One hour of graduate credit will be available from Kent State University at an additional cost of \$125. Also, registered participants have the option of purchasing a netbook for an additional \$350. Educators who wish to register online or who would like more information can visit WesternReservePublicMedia.myworkshops.com or call 330-677-4549.

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About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. Western Reserve PBS, a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio. It is available to 1.8 million households and 4.4 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average week, over 500,000 households tune in. Through funding from eTech Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

About Western Reserve Educational Services

Western Reserve Educational Services, a service of Western Reserve Public Media, is funded by the State of Ohio through eTech Ohio and serves K-12 students and educators in eight Ohio counties (Carroll, Columbiana, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull and Wayne). This includes 92 public school districts and 134 nonpublic schools, 256,700 students and over 21,000 educators. For over 30 years, Western Reserve Educational Services has been training teachers to use the latest educational technologies in their classrooms. Educators also use the station's instructional television programming; our locally produced multimedia curriculum projects to help students prepare for and pass Ohio's proficiency tests; and our in-school technology and instructional television consultation services.

In the 2007-08 school year, Western Reserve Educational Services' Professional Development Center staff of educational technology consultants delivered 233 technology workshops to 2,108 educators and presented 59 workshops on the integration of our multimedia curriculum kits to 916 teachers. In all, we provided 5,265 contact hours with educators and over 6,250 hours of consultation services.

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