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Dawson.IT.E. (Dawson IT in Education) is a weekly newsletter compiled by Rafael Scapin with the latest news in IT and Education. Please send your comments and suggestions to rscapin@dawsoncollege.qc.ca

DawsonITE Website: <http://dawsonite.dawsoncollege.qc.ca>

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Textbooks could be history as schools switch to free online learning

Garnet Valley is one of a handful of Philadelphia-area districts, and three in northern New Jersey, that are in the vanguard of a nationwide movement to ditch traditional textbooks for open-source educational resources on the web.

<http://www.philly.com/philly/education/History-books-could-soon-be-history-as-schools-switch-to-free-online-learning.html>

Microsoft's first-ever desktop PC blows away the Mac

It's tempting to compare the Surface Studio to Apple's iMac all-in-one PCs. They do share a certain design sensibility. But, in my opinion, the Surface Studio is so much more.

<http://uk.businessinsider.com/microsoft-surface-studio-review-2017-3>

Canadian Maggie MacDonnell wins \$1-million award for teaching excellence

The Global Teacher Prize recognizes one exceptional teacher a year who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession.

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2017/03/19/canadian-maggie-macdonnell-wins-1-million-award-for-teaching-excellence.html>

Updated Differentiation with Google Forms!

One of my favorite features allows us to differentiate a form for students, meaning we can send students to different questions and pages of information based on how they answer each question.

<http://www.shakeuplearning.com/blog/shut-the-front-door-digital-differentiation-with-google-forms/>

Google Classroom: Now open to even more learners

Google just announced that they are opening up Google Classroom to users without G Suite for Education accounts. You could only use Classroom with people from your own school so far, but from now on schools will be allowed to invite students and teachers that don't necessarily are part of their organization.

<https://www.blog.google/topics/education/google-classroom-now-open-even-more-learners/>

10 Ways That Professors Can Use Social Media

Not only will taking advantage of social media help reduce the amount of paper used, but it will also benefit both the professor and the class. By doing so, professors can create a learning environment that becomes an advantage to students and help them learn more networking and collaborative skills for their profession.

<http://www.thetechadvocate.org/10-ways-that-professors-can-use-social-media/>

Best Practices for Improving Online Courses Using Student Feedback

To create successively improved iterations of a course, you need know what's missing or lacking from the current version. The best method for doing this is to solicit student feedback from past courses, and then use that feedback to improve future courses. Here are some best practices to help you accomplish that objective and make sure your eLearning courses are providing students with top-rated experiences.

<https://coursearc.com/best-practices-improving-courses-using-student-feedback/>

How this Opera co-founder is building a browser to replace all the browsers out there

Tetzchner says most of the browsers today try to be as easy to use as possible for the "average user". This means that any functionality that is not being used widely gets axed. However, in his own honest opinion, there are really no "average users".

<http://techmoran.com/opera-co-founder-building-vivaldi-replace-browsers-world/>

Microlearning: What It Is Not and What It Should Be

Microlearning may not be an optimal solution for complex tasks in workplace learning, but its nature seems well aligned with learner-centered models such as personal learning plans and professional development interests. Finally, like most learning strategies, microlearning fits well if the tasks involved and their cognitive loads are carefully considered.”

<https://www.learningsolutionsmag.com/articles/2255/microlearning-what-it-is-not-and-what-it-should-be/pageall>

How Technology Can Benefit Physical Education Classes

Being part of the Ed Tech movement doesn't stop once you enter the school gymnasium. Here's how applying modern technology can benefit students and enhance cross-curricular engagement.

<http://www.thetechedvocate.org/how-technology-can-benefit-physical-education-classes/>

Three challenges for the web, according to its inventor

Here's a message from the web inventor Sir Tim Berners-Lee on how the web has evolved, and what we must do to ensure it fulfils his vision of an equalising platform that benefits all of humanity.

<http://webfoundation.org/2017/03/web-turns-28-letter/>

IT and Education in Québec

If you want to be up-to-date with what's happening in IT and Education in Québec, please visit these two websites:

ProfWeb: <http://www.profweb.ca/en>

La Vitrine Technologie-Éducation: <http://vteducation.org/>

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