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PRESS RELEASE

Blackfoot Sponsors A FREE Technology Conference to Cooperative K-8 Schools

May 12, 2010 Missoula, Montana - Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative (Blackfoot) will be hosting the first annual Education Technology Conference: Technology Tools for Inspiring Young Minds, for K-8 educators, superintendents, and schools administrators on August 3-5, 2010 at the University of Montana in the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences Building.

The main conference goal is to help rural schools integrate effective teaching technology into their classrooms that bring "lessons to life." As a technology company that provides connectivity to many western Montana communities, Blackfoot will be offering all schools within their service area: Alberton, Alta, Arlee, Avon, Charlo, Clinton, Condon, Dixon, Drummond, Haugan, Noxon, Ovando, Philipsburg, Plains, Potomac, Powell (ID), St. Ignatius, St. Regis, Seeley Lake, Superior, and Thompson Falls, the opportunity to attend the three-day conference for free. Educators outside of Blackfoot's service territory are welcome to attend. The cost for attending the three day conference is \$150.00 per person and includes lunch.

Those attending the conference will learn how distance and classroom technologies can bring lessons to life and tools to keep students safe on the Internet and engaged in the classroom. Tools like video conferencing that enable students to experience a virtual field trip to the Smithsonian or NASA as well as how to implement technology tools like Smart Board, Apple iPad, hand-held devices and much more into your curriculum. Attendees will also qualify for OPI Renewals and UM Graduate Credits.

Featured Speakers at the Conference

Mike Ribble, National Speaker on Digital Citizenship

Dr. Dan McCormack and Patrick Benko, Apple Inc.

Ryan Alter, Alter Enterprises

Shara Blair, T.E.S.T., Inc.

Kay Fladstol, VisionNet

Tom Gallagher, College of Technology

Lisa Blank, University of Montana

Christopher Bunt, Realtime Underwater Discovery

Dr. Marci Delaney, NASA

Martin Horejsi, University of Montana

Dr. Ann Minckler, Helena Flats School District

Court Perry, Rachal Edwards, Amanda McGill, Erin Nevers, Tim Rose, Lydia Perry, Clinton School

For more conference information and to register for the Education Technology Conference, visit www.blackfoot.com/etc or e-mail etcinfo@blackfoot.com. Connect Globally. Partner Locally. Blackfoot.com.

About Blackfoot

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