

Blogs, Wikis, and Online Groups

TICAL Conference
Little Rock, AR
February 27, 2006

Welcome!

A scenic landscape photograph showing a calm body of water, likely a lake or bay, under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, there is a rocky and pebbly shoreline with some green grass and reeds. The water extends to a distant shoreline with rolling green hills. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Workshop Overview

- What does the research say?
- Online groups
- Web-based collaborative writing
- Membership in an online community

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Research

Rapid feedback on curriculum planning, facilities and computer repair, and just-in-time learning is possible when administrators and teachers communicate online.

Teachers & Technology: Making the Connection, 1995

Research

When administrators use electronic technology to communicate with teachers, they model a willingness to innovate and they begin to identify with the challenges, frustrations, and expectations that teachers develop as they learn to use technology.

Teachers & Technology: Making the Connection, 1995

Research

Email increases communication between administrators and teachers and extends dissemination of vital information.

Netschools Evaluation, 2002

In other words...

Effective administrators lead by example.

“The leader who expects to see technology used in the classroom but does not use e-mail or find information on the Internet sends, at best, a mixed message.”

Lessons Learned, 2001

Online agenda

www.sjbrooks-young.com/id98.html

When do you use an online group?

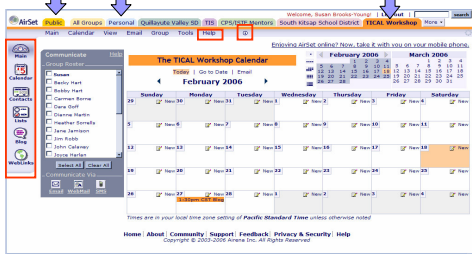
Any time you:

- Have specific information you need to ‘push’ out regularly
- Are working on a specific project that requires regular communication among team members


AirSet



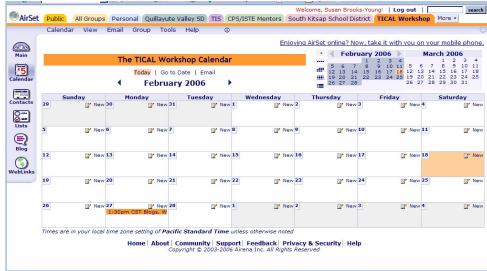
Main page



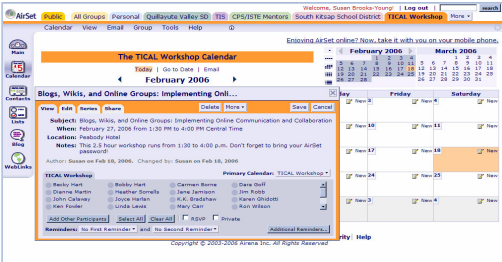
AirSet Help

- You can access Help at any time by clicking on the link in the gray toolbar.
- The Help link leads to several options.
- The Help icon () links directly to the overview for the tool page you are viewing.
- Click on the icon now to read about the Main page.

Calendar



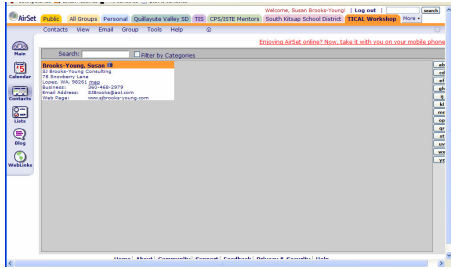
Calendar



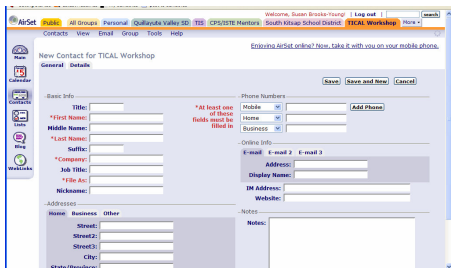
Calendar

- Click on the Personal tab
- Click on the Help icon (H) to read about the Calendar
- Add one event to your personal calendar
- Set reminder(s)

Contacts

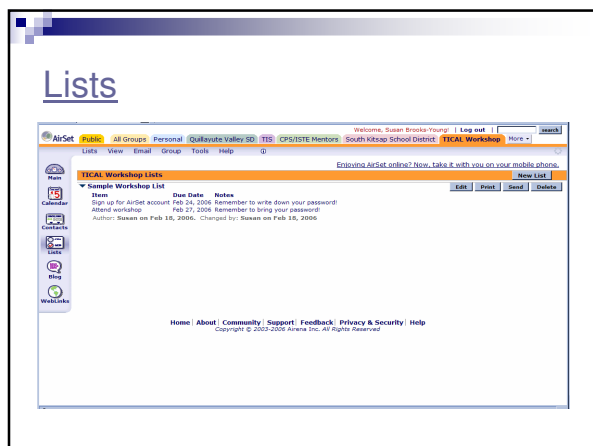


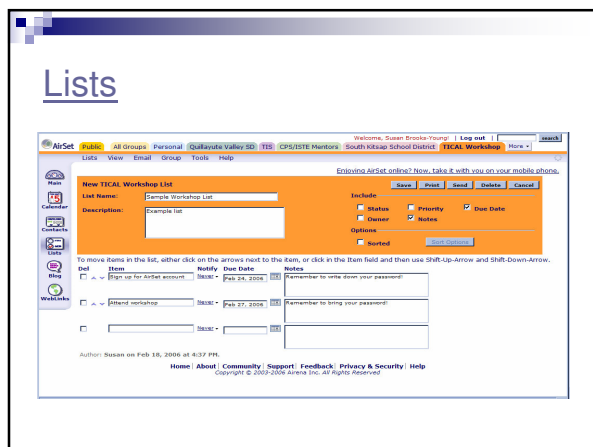
Contacts

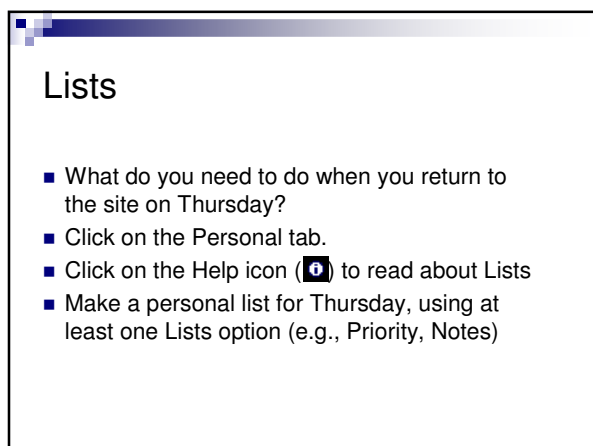


Contacts

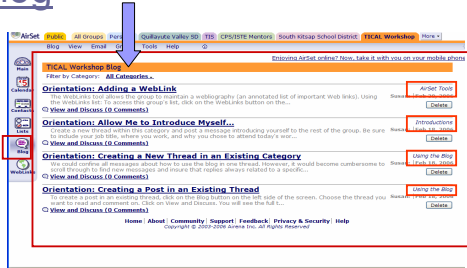
- Click on the TICAL Workshop tab
- Click on the Help icon (H) to read about Contacts
- Add yourself to the Contacts list







Blog



How many threads in the 'AirSet Tools' category?

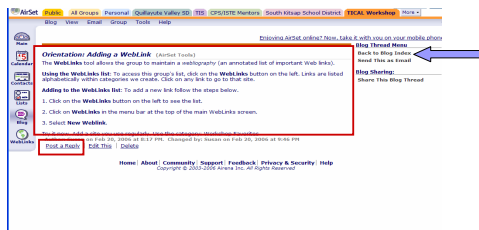
How many threads in the 'Using the Blog' category?

Anatomy of a Comment

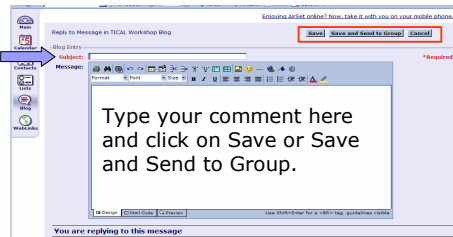


Click here to view entire post
and to write a comment.

Read and reply to a post



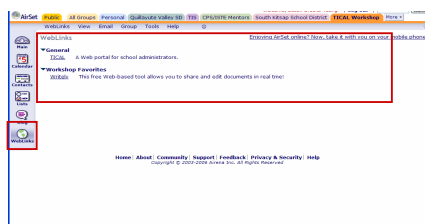
Writing a Reply



Blog activities

- Click on the Help icon (i) to read about the Blog
- Filter by Category to read the posts about Using the Blog.
- Complete the activity Creating a Post in an Existing Thread.
- Complete the activity Creating a New Thread in an Existing Category.

WebLinks



WebLinks

- Click on the Help icon () to read about WebLinks
- Click on the Blog button, Filter by Category to read the comment about AirSet Tools.
- Follow the posted directions to add a link on the WebLinks page.

What's a wiki?

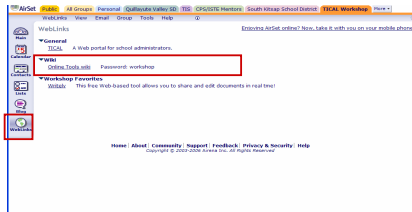


When can you use a wiki?

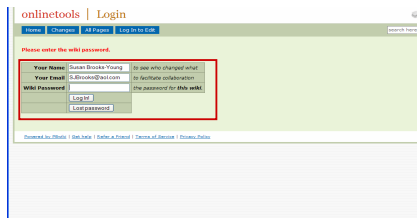
Any time you need to collaborate on a written project such as:

- A school plan
- District competencies
- Peer-reviewed projects

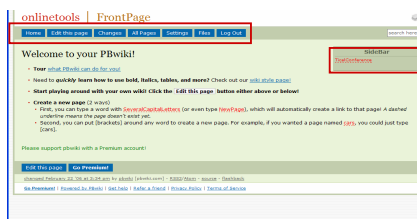
Where's the Online Tools wiki?



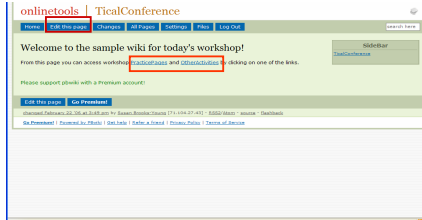
Using the wiki



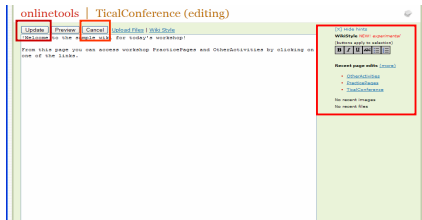
Using the wiki



Using the wiki



Using the wiki



Using the wiki

- Click on TicalConference in the SideBar
- Click on PracticePages
- Find the link for your name and click
- Use this page to practice entering and formatting text
- Click on the WikiStyle link to see how to format
- Click on Update when you finish

Using the wiki

- Form teams
- Click on TicalConference in the SideBar
- Click on OtherActivities
- Find the link for your team and click
- Brainstorm ideas for how you could use a wiki at work
- Click on Update when you finish

Blog and wiki challenge

- Use the AirSet blog to post a comment about at least one session you attend during the conference. Do this by posting a reply to the thread in the Challenge category.
- Post a comment on the WikiChallenge page. Access this by clicking on OtherActivities and then on WikiChallenge.

Building online communities

There's more to it than just logging on...

- Access to computer and Internet
- Access to software
- Internet navigation skills
- E-mail skills
- Software application skills

Building online communities

Wait! There's more...

- Group must have a specific purpose
- Scaffold activities
- Time management
- Online etiquette

Thank you!

- Questions?
- Susan Brooks-Young, SJBrooks@aol.com
