Busy principals, you can breathe a sigh of relief. Susan Brooks-Young has updated her popular book, *101 Best Websites for Principals*, with new sites, revised descriptions, and resources for Web 2.0 tools that will help you increase your personal productivity and technology skills. Organized by topic, each section highlights a number of websites and explains how as a principal you can take advantage of the information and resources available.

Chapter 16, “Technology Use,” features websites that help you with school technology implementation.
Chapter 16

Technology Use

Many educators struggle with technology use that goes beyond simple automation of basic tasks. Your leadership is vital to helping teachers implement technology as an instructional tool. The websites in this section provide background information to help you:

- develop or refine your own vision for technology use at your school
- implement technology-based instruction, taking costs into account
- review research related to technology use in schools

Additional instructional technology-related sites are listed in this directory in the sections titled Professional Organizations, Professional Reading, and Research Institutes and Education Centers.
# Quick Reference Chart: Technology Use Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF SITE/INTERNET ADDRESS</th>
<th>PRIMARY AREA OF EMPHASIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology Use in the U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Applied Research in Educational Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://caret.iste.org">http://caret.iste.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consortium for School Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.cosn.org">www.cosn.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nmc.org/horizon">www.nmc.org/horizon</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Educational Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pew Internet &amp; American Life Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.pewinternet.org">www.pewinternet.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Tomorrow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.tomorrow.org">www.tomorrow.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.portical.org">www.portical.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Center for Applied Research in Educational Technology
http://caret.iste.org

SITE DESCRIPTION. The Center for Applied Research in Educational Technology (CARET) is a searchable database of research studies and other information about technology use in education. Developed by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) in partnership with Educational Support Systems (ESS) and the Sacramento County Office of Education, the effort was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. You can access the information in several ways. By clicking on Questions & Answers, you’ll find links to research focused on student learning, curriculum and instruction, online teaching and learning, professional development, and assessment and evaluation. Click on the topic area of interest, and you’ll find a list of hyperlinked questions. By clicking on a question, you’re taken directly to information answering the question. For example, learn more about how teacher technology standards can be met by clicking on Professional Development and then clicking on the question about teacher technology standards. You can also access information by using the search option, which returns results based on keywords you enter or study characteristics you select.
Consortium for School Networking

www.cosn.org

**SITE DESCRIPTION.** The mission of the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) is to “empower K–12 school district technology leaders to use technology strategically to improve teaching and learning.” While much of the material is directed toward district, state, and national levels, four areas of interest to school principals are listed in the Initiatives area of the site:

- Budgeting with Total Cost of Ownership
- Calculating the Value of Investment
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Participatory Learning in Schools: Leadership & Policy (Web 2.0 in Schools)

**HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS.** Visit the areas mentioned above. Budgeting with Total Cost of Ownership offers an overview of the concept of total cost of ownership (TCO) and how it affects schools. The links on the left side of the page within this area feature downloadable materials, including a report, a chart for determining your TCO needs, and a PowerPoint presentation you can use with staff or planning groups. Similar materials are available in the Calculating the Value of Investment section. Data-Driven Decision Making offers publications and tools to help educators better understand how to use data as a tool to increase student achievement. Web 2.0 in Schools: Policy & Leadership provides a report and other resources for site leaders who are grappling with the use of Web 2.0 tools on campus.
Horizon Project

www.nmc.org/horizon/

SITE DESCRIPTION. The Horizon Project charts the course of emerging technologies in a series of reports dating back to 2002. In recent years, the project has published a K–12 education edition in addition to the regular report.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. Horizon Reports are a treasure trove of information for school leaders. Each report is published under a Creative Commons license and may be downloaded and shared. The reports look at emerging technologies and discuss those likely to become mainstream tools in less than a year, in 2–3 years, and in 4–5 years. A must-have resource when updating your shared vision statement or technology plan.
Office of Educational Technology
www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/

SITE DESCRIPTION. The Office of Educational Technology provides leadership in leveraging use of technology to improve education. This department is responsible for developing education technology policy at the national level and ensuring that all technology initiatives within the U.S. Department of Education are aligned with one another to support federal programs.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. Three areas of this site are of special interest to principals. The Grant Programs link takes you to a listing of federal grants that support technology in schools. Visit the Research and Reports area to review current and past national education technology plans, surveys, research, and evaluations. The Internet Safety area offers links to sites that emphasize online safety and provide resources for educators.
Pew Internet & American Life Project
www.pewinternet.org

SITE DESCRIPTION. This project explores the impact of Internet use on American life. Reports examine changes in family life, home and work, education, communities, and more. The project also monitors the evolution of the Internet itself.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. Internet use continues to be one of the most rapidly growing forms of technology use. While it’s possible that schools can help bridge the “digital divide” when students have limited home access, it’s also true that many educational institutions are themselves lagging behind, even when the infrastructure is in place. This website is an excellent resource for current information about the Internet and its impact on American society. In addition to accessing reports, you’ll find online presentations, data, and Pew’s latest findings on trends.
Project Tomorrow
www.tomorrow.org

SITE DESCRIPTION. This non-profit organization believes that schools can help students hone their critical thinking and problem-solving skills through innovative use of science, math, and technology. Project Tomorrow conducts national research and supports replication of successful model programs.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. Originally called NetDay, the Speak Up project has collected and reported national data on education technology since 2001. These reports are free and available on the site. In recent years, students, teachers, parents, and administrators have participated in the Speak Up survey, providing important information about how technology is actually being used to support instruction. Visit this site to review reports and learn how your school can participate.
Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership

www.portical.org

SITE DESCRIPTION. A special project funded by the California Department of Education, the Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership (TICAL) website targets school administrators and their technology needs. Hundreds of resources reviewed by experienced educators are available. These include:

- **Features.** From the listing on the left, visit the Expert Opinion link for articles and presentations on topics such as data-driven decision making, curriculum integration, financial planning, and operations. Tools & Templates provide ready-to-use productivity tools you can download or access online.

- **Find Resources.** The heart of this site has search capabilities or point-and-click tables for searching specific resources for technology implementation at your school.

- **Community.** Also accessible from the left-hand menu, Interact offers online surveys and forums as well as opportunities to provide feedback and ask questions.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR PRINCIPALS. In Tools & Templates, you will find many useful items. Search for Quick Takes to find a series of web-based presentations on a variety of technology topics. Try the Matrix Search under Find Resources (go to Search Resources, then scroll down to find the Matrix Search option) to take the guesswork out of locating online resources geared to your technology needs. Just specify the topic you’re interested in and the type of resource you’re looking for. One matrix page is aligned to the National Educational Technology Standards for Administrators (NETS•A).
Susan Brooks-Young has been involved in the field of instructional technology since 1979. Before establishing her own consulting firm, she was a teacher, site administrator, and technology specialist at a county office of education. She is the author of Digital-Age Literacy for Teachers, Making Technology Standards Work for You, Second Edition, and The Digital Briefcase for Administrators.

March 2011
145 pp. 8½ x 11
Product code: 101WP3
978-1-56484-269-5

Order now by phone, by fax, or online. Single copy price is $34.95. ISTE member price is $24.45. Special bulk pricing is available. Call 1.800.336.5191 (U.S. and Canada), 1.541.302.3777 (International), or go to www.iste.org/101wp3.