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"1950s House of the Future" by James R. Powers via [Plan59](#)

10 Ways to Help Students Become

UPCOMING EVENTS

[ICE Conference](#), "Welcome to the Future"

February 23rd through 26th

[IllinICE Coffee & Tech Talk @ Panera North](#)

March 9th, 4 pm

[Spring ICE Chip Mini Conference](#)

March 12th

[NICE Meeting: iPads, Chromebooks, and Google](#)

March 17th



Tech & Learning is bringing Tech & Learning Live back to Chicago on Friday, May 6 featuring keynote speaker Chris Lehmann. This full day of workshops and discussions is specifically designed to "train the trainers" with shared best practices, workshops, and discussions that attendees can take back to their districts and put into action.

ICE members get a \$100 discount for T&LLive Chicago. Just click [here](#) and enter the code "CH16ICE."

Program details here:

<http://tinyurl.com/TLChicago16>

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'Future Ready'

By Matt Miller

Educators have a daunting task. It's our job to help students prepare for a workforce that we can't describe. Today, people have jobs that we couldn't dream of several years ago; for example, managing social media for companies, arranging work-from-home or telecommuting, and optimizing websites for search engines.

People all over the world are doing these jobs. Many of them are probably making more money than lots of us in education. If someone told us a decade ago that someone could make a living doing these jobs, we might have laughed at them.

Ken Robinson puts it this way in his wildly popular TED Talk, *Do Schools Kill Creativity?*:

"So you were probably steered benignly away from things at school when you were a kid, things you liked, on the grounds that you would never get a job doing that. Is that right? Don't do music, you're not going to be a musician; don't do art, you won't be an artist. Benign advice - now, profoundly mistaken. The whole world is engulfed in a revolution."

The workforce will look different when our students enter it. We can't keep teaching as if the world is static and will always look like it did for us.

I think there are certain skills that are timeless that we can help students develop that will serve them no matter what the future will look like. I think these skills can help students become "future ready" (whatever that really means).

Here are 10 ways we can help students prepare for the workforce of the future:

[Continue reading...](#)

Planning for the Tech-Rich Classroom

By James Tieken

The future is now, my education friends! The time has come for us to accept that technology is taking a revolutionary role in the classroom. Going 1:1 gives you the ability to do something different, to reach students you couldn't reach before.



However, teachers are feeling overwhelmed with the changes that accompany the switch. Here are some suggestions that can help teachers cope with the tech-rich classroom environment:

Start Gradually

Go slow. Teaching in a different environment takes time. Use friendly and community rich tech review sites like Graphite to help you integrate tech. Graphite is a great place to find new tech and view teacher lesson plans from all over!

Learn from Failure

Listen, you will fail. It's going to happen, and its okay! Try new things, take what works, and fix the rest.

Loud Class

This threw me for a loop, I expected the class to be a dead zone while students were using iPads in class. But surprisingly, they are excited to share new knowledge, work in groups. Basically, if it isn't loud, learning isn't happening!

Class Management

Circulate around the room, use tech only when it is needed, and have some sort of way to get eyes on you. Implement "Ask three before you ask me" which has the students support each other as you will not be able to support all devices in the room.

Have a Plan B

Technology isn't perfect, it never will be. So anticipate it failing at the worst times! Always have a "low-tech" backup plan that keeps the students on task/busy.

Keep in Mind

Having technology in a lesson does not automatically make the lesson any better. If you can teach a great lesson without using tech, that's great. But if you can add a tech element that takes a great lesson to the next level, that's also great!

James Tieken is currently a TECH/STEM teacher at St. Benedict Prep

ICE Leader You Should Know: Margaret Johnson

Margaret recently retired from her role as Executive Director of ICE after nearly five years. Prior to ICE, Margaret was an elementary, middle school, and high school teacher. She taught students at all grade levels from K-12 during 20 years in the classroom. Margaret also spent 15 years in school administration, serving as an elementary principal, Director of Information Systems and Organizational Development and Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning.

She earned a Master's in Technology in Education and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from National Louis University. She taught graduate classes in the Education Administration program for Governors State University. She looks forward to returning to teaching graduate classes, travel, writing, and consulting.



Still Inspiring after 30 Years of ICE!

By Amber Heffner, ICE Executive Director



Welcome to the Future...ICE conference 2016! By the time you receive this many of you will be at the conference or will soon be arriving. I am confident that you will not be disappointed as there are so many incredible things planned to ensure your time is productive and enjoyable! You will be surrounded by encouraging and supportive educators who are dedicated to offering the best professional development possible.

In the short 7 weeks that I have had the incredible opportunity to be in the role of Executive Director, I continue to be inspired by the support and dedication of everyone involved in our organization. As you may know, this is the 30th Anniversary of ICE and many of those pioneers from 1986 continue to be involved in various roles within the organization. Keeping in mind that ICE is a volunteer organization... this says a lot! I recently read an anonymous quote: "Success isn't just about what you accomplish in your life. It's about what you INSPIRE others to do." I believe this accurately represents those committed educators from 1986 who found a purpose in coming together to promote technology in classrooms. And I believe it continues to represent those dedicated educators who are with us today carrying on that legacy. As we "Welcome (you) to the Future" we will also celebrate our past and all the inspiration and growth that has been created over the last 30 years and continues moving us forward.

On that note, I'd also like to offer one very big thank you to one of those dedicated educators who has given so much to ICE over the years. Thank you, Margaret Johnson, for all your time, energy, support and passion for Illinois Computing Educators. You truly have inspired so many.

If you have an opportunity to see Margaret during #ICE16, please wish her the best!

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STAY CONNECTED



The ICE Newsletter is co-edited by [Amanda Pelsor](#) and [Michael Johnson](#)

