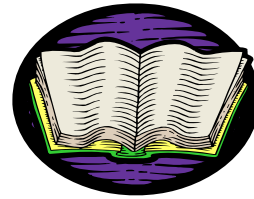




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# TECHNOLOGY & DISTANCE LEARNING NEWS

**AEWD Technology & Distance Learning Update**

**December 2009**

## Redesigned SMART Curriculum

The SMART (Skills to Make Adults Ready to Succeed) curriculum has been redesigned to include the academic components of SMART Reading, SMART Math, SMART Writing and the nonacademic Life Skills Management component. Adult students that TABE test at reading level grade 4 – 7 are eligible to use these materials at no cost.

SMART Reading and Math will be on the web based e-Literacy New York Learning Management System by January and SMART Writing by the Spring of 2010. The Life

## Technology Integration Resources

- Outreach Technology Assistance Network (OTAN) website: [www.otan.us](http://www.otan.us)
- Technology Study Circles - digital workshops
- Introduction to e-Literacy NY Learning Management System)
- Google group - On-line discussion groups, Best Practices and portfolios,
- Use of technology in professional development

### Distance Learning Updates

Skills Tutor teachers have been trained. 1000 seats distributed  
Skills Tutor Train the Trainer training will take place in early 2010.

**Please Note: No assessments are to be sent home to students including the Official Practice Test for GED**

Skills component is in .pdf format available for download.

A Train the Trainer training session took place on December 3 & 4<sup>th</sup> in the Yonkers Public Library. This training resulted in four New York State Certified SMART trainers.

## e-Literacy NY piloted in Literacy Zones

The e-Literacy New York Learning Management System will be piloted in Literacy Zones throughout the state. This electronic platform houses several web based, interactive adult education curriculum including: Crossroads Café, GED Connection videos, SMART, and customized production software tutorials. This LMS may also be used by agencies that are not part of the Literacy Zones both in distance learning and in the classroom. Training will be available in January and February of 2010. Contact your RAEN Director in your region since they will coordinate training.

## Quality Framework – Technology Standards

The technology surveys are completed and

December 2009

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results are in. RAEN Directors will need to meet with the program managers in their regions to review the survey results and design a professional development plan and use the technology study circle model to share best practices. The state technology group will identify required skills sets, additional resources, best practices and a means of communicating and sharing information collaboratively so that we will have a consistent statewide initiative.

Program Managers are asked to provide leadership in the integration of technology into the teaching/learning process by understanding the technology in order to manage effective, quality adult education programs, and provide resources and training to their teaching staff.

## Web 2.0 Technologies

The Internet is the new frontier. Web 2.0 technologies empower people to connect, collaborate and innovate while working faster and more effectively.

Web 2.0 tools include blogs, podcasts, wikis, social networking and change the way we interact. They drive skills and knowledge sharing.

Web 2.0 tools are designed for social networking to create communities, find profiles, work in forums, participate in collaborative activities, and maximize the power of participation. They allow you to do more, do it faster and more effectively.

New technologies will be integrated into the curriculum and used in our Literacy Zones to communicate, collaborate, and share information, data, and participant's creative ideas.