

## More News...

### Article

#### [Using Virtual Reality to Explore the World \(and Beyond\)](#)

Posted on 02/21/2019

The next wave of technology that is making its way into education is virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR). Merriam-Webster defines virtual reality as "an artificial environment which is experienced through sensory stimuli (such as sights and sounds) provided by a computer and in which one's actions partially determine..."

#### [The 21st Century Textbook](#)

Posted on 02/19/2019

In their recent annual letter, Bill and Melinda Gates reflected on surprises they learned in 2018 and what the future might hold for 2019. One of the surprises has to do with the state of textbooks – that textbooks are becoming obsolete. Although Bill Gates is an avid reader, he...

#### [Our office will be closed Monday, February 18th in observance of Presidents Day.](#)

Posted on 02/18/2019

#### [The Conundrum for College Students](#)

Posted on 02/14/2019

Our HSD and HSE adult ed teachers are working hard with students to help them earn their high school diplomas and equivalency certificates to move onto college and post-secondary opportunities. The academic environment that these students are transitioning to, however, is changing in response to the shifting landscape of work...

#### [Congratulations to the Adult Literacy XPRIZE Winners!](#)

Posted on 02/12/2019

Recently, the winners of the Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPRIZE were announced. Congratulations go to the two winning teams that will share the \$3 million grand prize: Learning Upgrade based in San Diego, and People ForWords based in Dallas, TX. The competition began when the Barbara Bush Foundation for...

#### [Our office will be closed Monday, February 11th in observance of Lincoln's Birthday.](#)

Posted on 02/11/2019

#### [Working to Make Online Content Accessible](#)

Posted on 02/08/2019

Did you know that up to 20% of the population is potentially excluded if your website is not fully accessible? That means that people with disabilities will not be able to get information available on your website about your agency and the programs and services that you provide to the...

#### [Registration for OTAN's Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is Still Open \(But Closing Soon\)!](#)

Posted on 02/06/2019

OTAN's annual Technology and Distance Learning Symposium (TDLS) will take place March 1 and 2 at the Hacienda La Puente Adult Education – Willow Center. Registration for TDLS is still open but we are getting close to our registration max of 200 participants! TDLS will offer relevant and new information,...

#### [Using Online Resources to Celebrate February Events](#)

Posted on 02/04/2019

February is a busy month when it comes to observations and celebrations. In addition to Groundhog Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and Presidents Day, February is also Black History Month. Over the years, OTAN has compiled a number of online resources that teachers can use to add content and...

#### [OTAN Tech Talk on LinkedIn for Adult Education Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 02/01/2019

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, February 8 from 1pm to 2pm. This month's Tech Talk is on LinkedIn for Adult Education by Karla Frizler, an OTAN Subject Matter Expert. In this OTAN Tech Talk, adult educators will explore how to maximize LinkedIn to showcase professional...

#### [Teaching in the 21st Century](#)

Posted on 01/30/2019

One of the important impacts of technology in schools is how tech has changed and continues to change instructional practices. (Going, going...) Gone are the days of the "sage on the stage" who relied on a lecture-based format to impart knowledge in favor of a new style of "guide on..."

#### [OTAN Webinar on Pilot Program with i-Pathways Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 01/28/2019

The i-Pathways project (a web based high school equivalency prep curriculum) is pleased to partner with OTAN to provide California adult education agencies receiving WIOA Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act supplemental funds access to this online curriculum. The modules include Basic Writing, Basic Math, Math, Language Arts,...

#### [Reasons to Implement Blended Learning \(and Your TDLP\)](#)

Posted on 01/24/2019

The Technology and Distance Learning Plan, or TDLP, is an annual deliverable due to the California Department of Education on Thursday, January 31. Hopefully, your agency is close to finishing the TDLP in time for submission next week. If you have any questions about your TDLP, please contact us at...

#### [Nominate a Deserving Student for the Adult Education Students Succeed Program](#)

Posted on 01/22/2019

The nomination period for the 2019 Adult Education Students Succeed Program is now open. OTAN invites nominations of adult education learners who are successful as a result of the education received at California WIOA funded adult education agencies. This is a great way to recognize the hard work that an...

#### [OTAN is closed Monday, January 21st in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day](#)

Posted on 01/20/2019

#### [Registration for OTAN's Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is Open!](#)

Posted on 01/17/2019

OTAN's annual Technology and Distance Learning Symposium (TDLS) will take place March 1 and 2 at the Hacienda La Puente Adult Education – Willow Center, and registration for TDLS is open! TDLS will offer relevant and new information, dynamic presentations, and hands-on skill development to start or grow your blended/distance...

#### [Soft and Hard Skills That Are in Demand](#)

Posted on 01/14/2019

The start of 2019 brings with it lists for the new year. One such list comes from LinkedIn in the form of in-demand soft and hard skills that employers desire most in current and potential employees. According to the LinkedIn data, here are the top five soft skills bosses are...

#### [OTAN to Present at the Upcoming EL Civics Conferences](#)

Posted on 01/10/2019

OTAN is excited to present at the upcoming EL Civics Conferences that will take place across California in January, February, and March. The conferences are organized by CASAS and are scheduled as follows: Friday, January 18 – Pasadena Friday, February 1 – Sacramento Friday, February 22 – Anaheim Friday, March...

#### [Take Advantage of OTAN Curriculum Offers](#)

Posted on 01/07/2019

As the new year begins, OTAN wants to remind you about curriculum offers available to adult education teachers who work at WIOA-funded agencies in California. OTAN works to negotiate the best free or reduced-cost special offers for online curriculum licenses and professional development resources suggested by our OTAN Advisory Committee...

#### [Two OTAN Online Events Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 01/04/2019

Please join us for an OTAN webinar on Tuesday, January 8 from 1:00 to 2:00. The topic is SMART Goals for the Technology and Distance Learning Plan, presented by Karla Frizler. SMART goals are defined as Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Results-focused, and Time-bound. In this webinar, participants will learn how to...

#### [Registration for OTAN's Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is Now Open!](#)

Posted on 01/02/2019

OTAN's annual Technology and Distance Learning Symposium (TDLS) will take place March 1 and 2 at the Hacienda La Puente Adult Education – Willow Center, and registration for TDLS is now open (as of 12noon on January 2)! TDLS will offer relevant and new information, dynamic presentations, and hands-on skill...

#### [OTAN will be closed for the holiday December 24th, 2018 - January 1st, 2019](#)

Posted on 12/22/2018

[Thank You, Joyce and Congratulations!](#)

Posted on 12/20/2018

Thursday, December 20 is the last day of work for our OTAN Director, Joyce Hinkson, and the start of her retirement. We are sad to see Joyce leave but are excited for the new adventures she has planned in her post-OTAN life! Joyce came to work at OTAN in October...

[Overcoming Fears About Social Media](#)

Posted on 12/18/2018

Do you find social media intimidating or overwhelming or a time waster? Are these fears or reservations preventing you from getting started with social media for professional purposes? Facebook has been around since 2004 and Twitter began in 2006, but some people still are unsure of the value of social...

[Web-based Class Activities on the OTAN Website](#)

Posted on 12/13/2018

Each month, OTAN publishes information about a web-based class activity. These are articles written throughout the year by adult ed teachers in the field on how they use online resources and integrate technology into general topics in their teaching. When new articles are posted, they may include a combination of...

[Making Edtech More Effective](#)

Posted on 12/11/2018

In our push to add more and more technology into our classrooms and schools, we should always be mindful of how to make the most effective use of the technology. It isn't just having technology for technology's sake; according to Jack Lynch, the CEO of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, edtech should...

[OTAN Tech Talk on Revolution English: Free English Coaching and Immersion Technology for Your ESL Students Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 12/07/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, December 14 from 1:00-2:00. This month's Tech Talk is on Revolution English: Free English Coaching and Immersion Technology for Your ESL Students by Laura Liibbe, Partnerships Manager at Revolution English, and Yvette Rothe, ESL instructor at Mt. San Jacinto College...

[Getting Connected and Staying Connected](#)

Posted on 12/05/2018

In addition to providing face-to-face and online training, OTAN attends a number of conferences throughout the year. OTAN is pleased to attend and present at the CATESOL Annual Conference in Anaheim on December 7 and 8. You can view the OTAN sponsored sessions by clicking on this link: <https://catesol2018.sched.com/exhibitor/support77> Going...

[Computer Science Education Week Begins](#)

Posted on 12/03/2018

December 3 to 9 is Computer Science Education Week, a time to highlight the importance of computer science education and encourage students to take an interest in computer science. The first CSEdWeek was in 2009, and it includes December 9 to honor the birthday of Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, one...

[Personalized Learning: The Latest Fad or Here to Stay?](#)

Posted on 11/30/2018

According to a recent survey by the news service Center for Digital Education, personalized learning is currently the No. 1 educational technology priority around the country. In the article "The Future of Learning? Well, It's Personal," Anya Kamenetz presents two ideas about what personalized learning is: At your own pace...

[The Continuing Debate: Should Students Be Allowed to Use Cellphones in Class?](#)

Posted on 11/28/2018

A recent article explored teachers' opinions about student use of cellphones in the classroom, a topic that has been discussed for a few years now and remains contentious. The ubiquity of handheld devices compels teachers and schools to have policies in place, either for or against or somewhere in the...

[Demand for Accessible Ed Tech is on the Rise](#)

Posted on 11/26/2018

When we hear the term accessibility, we tend to think of making technology available to students with disabilities. However, there are a number of scenarios that can make technology inaccessible to students – for example, in addition to students with disabilities, students whose second language is English, students who do...

[Our office will be closed from November 21st-23rd to celebrate Thanksgiving.](#)

Posted on 11/20/2018

[The Future Includes Good \(Human\) Teachers](#)

Posted on 11/19/2018

Artificial intelligence (AI) is slowly beginning to change the world we know. China made the news recently when it introduced the world's first AI "male" newscaster at an Internet conference. The AI newscaster learns from data from live broadcasts that is entered into the AI system. The newscaster, unlike "his"...

[Mobile Learning and the Changing Face of Education](#)

Posted on 11/15/2018

At the State Education Technology Directors Association 2018 conference, Apple Education executive Jon Landis told attendees that the future of education is mobile learning, and teachers and schools should change their instruction to better align with 21st century mobile learning. Landis noted the growing predominance of the mobile internet as...

[What Online Teachers Have Learned from Teaching Online](#)

Posted on 11/13/2018

Online teaching has been around for a while now, stretching back to the 1990s. Given the first 20 or so years of online teaching, what are the lessons learned for others in the field who are looking to get started, still relatively new, or interested in getting better? In an...

[Our office will be closed Monday, November 12th in observance of Veterans Day.](#)

Posted on 11/09/2018

[Using Different Types of Engaging Visuals in the Classroom](#)

Posted on 11/07/2018

Content delivery these days is not limited to textbooks and handouts. With technology comes the ability to create content easily and in a variety of ways. It also gives students the ability to become more involved in content creation, helping them develop 21st century skills for the workplace, school, and...

[Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2019 Call for Proposals Closing Soon!](#)

Posted on 11/05/2018

Plans are underway for OTAN's Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2019, scheduled for March 1 and 2 at Hacienda La Puente Adult Education - Willow Center. The call for proposals is still open for two more weeks. You are invited to present and share your favorite technology tools and/or best...

[OTAN Tech Talk on Using Quizlet for Practice and Assessment Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 11/02/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, November 9 from 1:00-2:00. This month's Tech Talk is on Quizlet for 24/7 Practice and In-class Formative Assessment by Barry Bakin, ESL Teacher and Instructional Technology Teacher Advisor at LAUSD Division of Adult and Career Education. This Tech Talk will...

[Preparing Educators to Teach Tech Skills](#)

Posted on 11/01/2018

A recent survey regarding technology in K-12 schools asked the question: are we preparing our kids for the jobs of tomorrow? Although the report surveyed over 2,000 K-12 educators, the findings give those of us in adult education an opportunity to step back and reflect on our own efforts to...

[The Work of Adult Education in California State Prisons](#)

Posted on 10/29/2018

If you are considering work in the adult education field, take a look at job opportunities in the corrections system. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Office of Correctional Education offers various academic programs to inmates in the state's prison facilities to provide education and career training in...

[Looking for the Right Tech Tool?](#)

Posted on 10/26/2018

When you are looking for a tech tool or two to use in your classroom with your students, where do you turn for information on the right tool to pick? There is so much information on the Internet that it can sometimes feel like searching for a needle in a...

[Using Students to Help with Tech Support](#)

Posted on 10/24/2018

As schools incorporate more technology into classrooms and offices, they find that the need for tech support grows as more devices are added, sometimes straining an already overtaxed IT staff. Some schools, though, have looked inward for help to fill the gaps, namely at their student body as a potential...

[The Work of the Future Relies on Technology](#)

Posted on 10/22/2018

Every year, we see articles about employment trends, hot jobs, and predictions for the future of work. A recent article reporting on data collected by CareerBuilder says that the hottest job in the next five years will be home health aide, followed by other healthcare positions in addition to customer...

[OTAN's Digital Leadership Academy 2018-2020 Begins](#)

Posted on 10/19/2018

OTAN kicked off the second cohort of its Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) on Thursday, October 18. The two-year project includes teams from seven adult education agencies across California: Corona-Norco Adult Education El Monte-Rosemead Adult School Escondido Adult School Hacienda La Puente Adult Education Los Angeles Community College District Mt. Diablo...

[Are You Ready for the Great California ShakeOut?](#)

Posted on 10/17/2018

The Great California ShakeOut will take place on Thursday, October 18 at 10:18am. This is the 10th anniversary of the ShakeOut, which started in Southern California in 2008. There is a website devoted to the Great California ShakeOut with numerous resources you can use to prepare your students, staff, and...

[Digital Citizenship Week Celebrated in California](#)

Posted on 10/15/2018

October 15 to 19 is Digital Citizenship Week across the US. According to the website [digitalcitizenship.net](#), there are nine, interrelated elements of digital citizenship: Digital access – ensuring that all have access to full electronic participation in society Digital commerce – being an effective consumer in the electronic buying...

[Curriculum Offers: Focus on NROC](#)

Posted on 10/10/2018

One of the things that OTAN does on behalf of adult education is to negotiate the best free or reduced-cost special offers for online curriculum licenses and professional development resources suggested by our OTAN Advisory Committee and adult educators in the field. You can see our current offers on this...

[Using Formative Assessment to Check for Understanding](#)

Posted on 10/08/2018

Formative assessment is a practice good teachers use to continually monitor student progress, determine where student misunderstanding is, and make corrections to instruction to address the gaps students face. Formative assessment need not be quizzes and tests; there are a number of alternative assessments teachers can utilize, both simple and...

[OTAN Tech Talk on Using Learn360 in Your Classroom Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 10/05/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, October 12 from 1:00-2:00. This month's Tech Talk is on Enhancing the Learning Experience with Learn360 by Susan Coulter, ABE/ASE Instructor at Baldwin Park Adult and Community Education. Learn360 offers more than 160,000 videos, interactives, and maps to enhance your...

[Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2019 Call for Proposal Invitation!](#)

Posted on 10/03/2018

Plans are underway for OTAN's Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2019, scheduled for March 1 and 2 at Hacienda La Puente Adult Education - Willow Center. The call for proposals has opened. You are invited to present and share your favorite technology tools and/or best practices with your adult education...

[AB 2098 Immigrant Integration Framework Passes!](#)

Posted on 10/01/2018

Last week, Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 2098 (McCarty and Thurmond) into law! AB 2098 adds "immigrant integration" to the list of existing outcomes, mainly centered around college and career transitions, that may be reported by the 71 California adult education consortia. According to the Alliance for Language Learners' Integration,...

[Students Say Thanks to Adult Education](#)

Posted on 09/28/2018

During Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, we highlight the achievements of adult education students who overcome struggles to reach their goals. We applaud students who succeed in their lives after putting in the hard work at adult education agencies despite numerous personal, professional, and life challenges. Students are extremely...

[Strengthening Family Literacy Throughout the School Year](#)

Posted on 09/26/2018

Even though we are celebrating Adult Education and Family Literacy Week for one week in the second half of September, the work of strengthening family literacy continues throughout the school year. TESOL International Association has published a Community and Family Toolkit, a guide to engaging the families of English learners...

[2018 Adult Education and Family Literacy Week Begins with Award-Winning Advice](#)

Posted on 09/24/2018

As we begin Adult Education and Family Literacy Week in California and across the US, we want to congratulate one of our colleagues for a recent recognition. Elizabeth Detwiler, a teacher at Oakland Adult and Career Education, was selected as the 2018 Toyota National Center for Families Learning Teacher of...

[Student-Created Videos in the Classroom](#)

Posted on 09/21/2018

As the use of video continues to make inroads into instruction, teachers are shifting from students as consumers exclusively to a mix of students as consumers and producers. Video provides another means for students to demonstrate learning and a deeper comprehension and understanding of the material. Students can use video...

[September Digests and Web-Based Class Activity Are Now Available](#)

Posted on 09/19/2018

Now that the school year has begun, OTAN is working hard to keep the field informed of the latest news and tools that you can use in the classroom and at your agency. Each month, OTAN publishes two digests: a Teachers' Digest and an Administrators' Digest. The Teachers' Digest includes...

[Getting Ready for Adult Education and Family Literacy Week](#)

Posted on 09/17/2018

The week of September 24 to 29 is Adult Education and Family Literacy Week across the US. This is a great opportunity to highlight the substantial work that is being done at adult education agencies across California to benefit students and communities. There are a number of events and activities...

[Three Kinds of Jobs that Will Thrive as Automation Advances](#)

Posted on 09/13/2018

Are you worried about a machine taking your job some day? Technology is transforming our economy, and as technology becomes more pervasive and disruptive, we can see the implications of this development – technology that that can be used to automate routine, low-skilled, manual labor, as well as "knowledge" work...

[OER Initiatives Help Lower College Textbook Costs](#)

Posted on 09/10/2018

Two recent articles point to the success that open education resource (OER) initiatives across the country have had in lowering the costs of college textbooks. An article from Diverse: Issues in Education details OpenStax, a nonprofit initiative started by Rice University in 2012. The university recently announced that more than...

[OTAN Tech Talk on Evaluating Websites Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 09/06/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, September 14 from 1-2. This month's Tech Talk is on Evaluating Websites by Sachiko Oates, ESL Faculty Liaison at the Santa Barbara City College School of Extended Learning. Do your students find information or do research online? Why is it...

[Last Call to Apply for OTAN's Digital Leadership Academy 2018-2020!](#)

Posted on 09/04/2018

The application deadline for OTAN's Digital Leadership Academy (Cohort 2) is this Friday, September 7! The Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) combines OTAN's previous Academies (Technology Integration Mentoring Academy and the Online Teaching Academy), and OTAN offers the program for a full two years to ensure agencies can meet projected goals....

[Our office will be closed Monday, September 3rd in observance of Labor Day.](#)

Posted on 08/31/2018

[Back-to-School Series: OTAN Teaching Tools and Resources](#)

Posted on 08/29/2018

This is the fifth and final in a series of news items that will provide information about essential features of OTAN for you to know as you and your colleagues begin the new school year. OTAN has a number of teaching tools and resources that adult ed educators can utilize...

[Back-to-School Series: OTAN YouTube Channel](#)

Posted on 08/27/2018

This is the fourth in a series of news items that will provide information about essential features of OTAN for you to know as you and your colleagues begin the new school year. Today's news item highlights OTAN's YouTube Channel. First, please consider subscribing to our YouTube channel to stay...

[Back-to-School Series: OTAN News Items and Social Media Sites](#)

Posted on 08/24/2018

This is the third in a series of news items that will provide information about essential features of OTAN for you to know as you and your colleagues begin the new school year. In addition to having an OTAN account and receiving periodic emails from OTAN, two of the best...

[Back-to-School Series: OTAN Trainings](#)

Posted on 08/22/2018

This is the second in a series of news items that will provide information about essential features of OTAN for you to know as you and your colleagues begin the new school year. OTAN offers trainings in both face-to-face and online formats on a variety of educational technology topics throughout...

[Back-to-School Series: Create an OTAN Account](#)

Posted on 08/20/2018

This is the first in a series of news items that will provide information about essential features of OTAN for you to know as you and your colleagues begin the new school year. We encourage adult educators to create an account on the OTAN website. Creating an account is the...

[Four Ways Augmented and Virtual Reality Can Transform Your Lesson Plan](#)

Posted on 08/17/2018

Our personal and professional lives are becoming intertwined with the digital environment that is evolving around us. So, it makes sense that educators are working to bring technology into classrooms and schools that mirrors our everyday lives. The latest technology focus is on virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR)...

[Can Online Courses Help Fix Teacher Professional Development?](#)

Posted on 08/15/2018

Back-to-school for teachers usually means back-to-school meetings, meant to rally and inspire the staff for the start of a new school year and the return of the students to campus.

The response to back-to-school meetings, though, is sometimes mixed. Many back-to-school professional development workshops that teachers attend are one-and-done affairs,...

#### [Survey: Video Makes Students Happier with Learning](#)

Posted on 08/13/2018

Most people in education believe that video usage on campus increases student satisfaction with their learning experiences; more than nine in 10 respondents (92 percent) said just that to a recent research project on the topic. The survey was done by Kultura , a company that sells products and services...

#### [Education Group Fights Misinformation Via Wiki](#)

Posted on 08/10/2018

Newspapers may have their own printing presses, but at a time when credibility of online information is increasingly questioned, it's important for hometown publications to have a Wikipedia page, too. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), in partnership with a Washington state college professor, is helping to...

#### [11 Online Education Trends Institutions Should Track](#)

Posted on 08/08/2018

According to a report tracking online learning trends, career aspirations continue to drive students' decisions to enroll in online programs. The report surveyed 295 online program administrators and 1,500 students, including prospective, current, and past students, to gauge their experiences in online education programs. Trends identified in the survey can...

#### [Consider Applying to Participate in OTAN's Digital Leadership Academy 2018-2020](#)

Posted on 08/06/2018

The Digital Leadership Academy (Cohort 2) applications are open and now being accepted! OTAN announces an opportunity for adult education agencies through the Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) 2018-2020. This program combines OTAN's previous Academies (Technology Integration Mentoring Academy and the Online Teaching Academy), and OTAN offers the program for a...

#### [OTAN Tech Talk on Tech Resources and Ideas to Support the ABE, ASE, and ELL Job Seeker Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 08/03/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, August 10 from 1-2. This month's Tech Talk is on Tech Resources and Ideas to Support the ABE, ASE, and ELL Job Seeker by Marisol Richmond, Teacher on Special Assignment at San Juan School for Adults. In this OTAN Tech...

#### [People with More Education Have a More Positive View of the Internet](#)

Posted on 08/01/2018

The share of online adults who say the internet has been good for society is on the decline. While 76 percent in 2014 said the internet has been "mostly" good, by 2018, the proportion sharing that sentiment had dropped to 70 percent. Among older adults, those 65 and older, the...

#### [16 Tools to Promote Inventiveness in the Classroom](#)

Posted on 07/30/2018

Invention is the creation of a product or the introduction of a process for the first time, while innovation occurs if someone improves on an existing product or process. The link between those two, educational technologist Kathy Schrock says, is inventiveness—the ability to brainstorm, to be flexible, to elaborate, and...

#### [Survey: Funding for Ed Tech Still Encumbers 21st Century Learning](#)

Posted on 07/27/2018

An education technology company has released results from its latest teacher survey. Among the findings: funding for ed tech is the biggest issue for most schools; augmented and virtual realities are not really only with pundits, not classrooms; and Google is a top choice. According to the 2018 Kahoot edTrends...

#### [Survey: Employers Complain of Growing 'Talent Shortage'](#)

Posted on 07/25/2018

With the unemployment rate hovering just above record lows, employers are complaining that they can't find the talent they need to fill existing jobs. But if you spent four years and tens of thousands of dollars getting a college degree, you might not be the workers employers are looking for....

#### [Report: Smartphones Swing Up Following Recent Decline](#)

Posted on 07/23/2018

Worldwide shipments of smartphones grew 1.3 percent, year over year, in the first quarter of 2018 following a decline in sales the previous quarter, according to a report from Gartner . Smartphones made up 84 percent of the total mobile phone market, accounting for nearly 384 million of the 455...

#### [Will Virtual Reality Drive Deeper Learning?](#)

Posted on 07/20/2018

Though no hard numbers are available yet on how many classrooms are using virtual or augmented reality, new estimates suggest the technology could reach 15 million students by 2025 . Many people, though, still aren't sure exactly what virtual reality (VR) is, and the definition is continually evolving. For VR...

#### [Most Teachers Say Tech Tools Improve Teaching and Learning](#)

Posted on 07/18/2018

Eighty-two percent of teachers in a recent survey say they believe tech tools have enhanced teaching and learning, and most say they have access to the tools they want. The survey from MidAmerica Nazarene University queried 1,000 teachers with a minimum of 5 years in the classroom to gauge the...

#### [House Appropriations Committee Passes 2019 Labor, Health, Education Spending Bill](#)

Posted on 07/16/2018

The House Appropriations Committee late Wednesday approved its 2019 spending bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. The vote marked a critical step forward as lawmakers race to get all 12 appropriations bills through the full Congress before the next government funding deadline at the...

#### [Renewing Media Literacy Education](#)

Posted on 07/13/2018

If you read any news story in the past year and a half about fake news, then you likely also saw a reference to media literacy. There is a tremendous interest now in providing teachers with media literacy training and students with media literacy skills. Those news stories that called...

#### [Using Technology to Increase Participation for Introverts](#)

Posted on 07/11/2018

Who are you hearing from in your class? We know students learn in different ways and are working to develop in their zone of proximal development . Teachers regularly differentiate and personalize learning for students' dispositions, abilities, interests, backgrounds, and personality types. But it has taken the education community quite...

#### [Consider Applying to Participate in OTAN's Digital Leadership Academy 2018-2020](#)

Posted on 07/09/2018

The Digital Leadership Academy (Cohort 2) applications are open and now being accepted! OTAN announces an opportunity for adult education agencies through the Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) 2018-2020. This program combines OTAN's previous Academies (Technology Integration Mentoring Academy and the Online Teaching Academy), and OTAN offers the program for a...

#### [OTAN Tech Talk on LinkedIn for Adult Educators Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 07/05/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, July 13 from 1-2. This month's Tech Talk is on LinkedIn for Adult Educators by Karla Frizler, who presented earlier this year on social media safety tips. In this OTAN Tech Talk, adult educators will explore how to maximize LinkedIn...

#### [Our office will be closed Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.](#)

Posted on 07/03/2018

#### [Social Media: Users and Where to Find Them](#)

Posted on 07/02/2018

As adult education agencies do more with social media, it's important to spend time analyzing the latest trends in social media usage. You want to target the right audience on the platform where you're apt to find them. Teenagers, who are the heaviest users of social media, are changing their...

#### [Integrating Technology and Pedagogy: A Starting Point](#)

Posted on 06/29/2018

Continuing the theme of confronting the challenges of implementing technology in schools, Cisco has published two documents that can help those thinking about how to successfully marry technology and pedagogy and transform their institution. The first document is a white paper from Cisco's K-12 Executive Council entitled "Mastering Organizational Change..."

#### [How to Gain Staff Support for New Classroom Initiatives](#)

Posted on 06/27/2018

Have you tried to implement a new technology initiative at your school, to little or no avail? In addition to the nuts and bolts of the project itself, the right approach can help ensure the success of efforts to integrate more technology into instruction. Here are some things to consider...

#### [Making the Most of Visual Aids](#)

Posted on 06/25/2018

Visual aids encourage students to make associations between pieces of information, soak up chunks of course content quickly, and function as a memory aid. Here are three strategies for using visual aids without sacrificing course content. Sharing Intent Directly communicate to students what we hope for them to see (or...

#### [Digital Shift in Education is Escalating](#)

Posted on 06/22/2018

Currently, 29 states have defined instructional materials to include digital versions; 30 allow the implementation; and six have required the use of digital curriculum. The latest update to the State Education Technology Directors Association's analysis of the digital learning landscape offered these metrics and others to highlight how state policies...

#### [Research: People Remember Information Better Through Virtual Reality](#)

Posted on 06/21/2018

A study from the University of Maryland found that people recall information better when it is presented to them in a virtual environment, as opposed to a desktop computer. The

researchers asked 40 volunteers to familiarize themselves with printouts of well-known faces, such as Abraham Lincoln, the Dalai Lama, Arnold...

#### [How Podcasts Can Improve Literacy](#)

Posted on 06/18/2018

Studies such as that conducted by Emma Rodero, confirm that a story told through dialogue "stimulates listeners' attention" more than a traditional narration, or as one learner put it, "Listening to the words puts the visualization in my head." If you're considering whether or not you want to explore...

#### [Has Video Killed the Red Grading Pen?](#)

Posted on 06/15/2018

Teachers are experimenting with video feedback as a replacement for traditional written mark-ups. Feedback is a funny beast. We all need pointers on our performance, but giving and receiving feedback can be fraught with misunderstanding. Take red pens. Social psychologists and sociologists have found that, as opposed to blue ink,...

#### [Four Digital Tools for Teacher Mentors](#)

Posted on 06/13/2018

Remember how nerve wracking your first day, week, month or year of teaching was? If you could only go back and share what you know. Unfortunately, we can't go back in time. We can, however, provide better assistance to new teachers, thanks to a number of digital tools now available....

#### [Google Science Journal: A lab in your pocket](#)

Posted on 06/12/2018

Sometimes an app truly demonstrates the power of mobile. Google's Science Journal app transforms your mobile device into a little science laboratory, encouraging students to conduct authentic experiments, collect and visualize data and record observations from the world around them. Use it to enhance learning in your classrooms and in...

#### [Two OTAN webinars coming up on Friday, June 15!](#)

Posted on 06/08/2018

In our ongoing effort to keep the field informed of resources that may be of interest, OTAN is presenting two webinars on June 15 – please consider registering for one or both! OTAN Tech Talk Join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk from 1:00-2:00. This month's Tech Talk is on...

#### [The New California Adult Education Website Has Launched!](#)

Posted on 06/06/2018

The new AEBG website has just launched with a whole new look and feel that is easy to navigate. The site address is [www.CalAdultEd.org](http://www.CalAdultEd.org). The new site has been developed with resources and information specifically for students, educators, and AEBG administrators. Content from the existing website has been migrated...

#### [Newsela PRO Offers a Great Licensing Deal for WIOA-funded Adult Education Agencies \(Psst: It is a 50% savings!\)](#)

Posted on 05/31/2018

Over the past year, OTAN has partnered with Newsela to provide a pilot for WIOA-funded adult education agencies to use Newsela PRO for a full year. During that time, over 175 teachers signed up for the pilot project. Through surveys and other data sources, teachers saw significant use of Newsela...

#### [How to Buy AV: 6 Keys to Consider](#)

Posted on 05/29/2018

Today's presentation displays are far more high-tech than the overhead projectors and transparencies of the past. And while this technology seems to be moving at light speed, it is imperative for school administrators to step back and review their classroom needs to ensure the technology they purchase today works well?...

#### [Our office will be closed Monday, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.](#)

Posted on 05/25/2018

#### [OTAN Tech Talk on Using Chromebooks Coming Up!](#)

Posted on 05/23/2018

Please join us for OTAN's next Tech Talk on Friday, May 25 from 1-2. This month's Tech Talk is on Chromebooks for Beginning Literacy and Beginning Low students by Alisa Takeuchi, EL Civics Coordinator and ESL Instructor at Garden Grove Adult Education. This webinar presentation will show teachers how to...

#### [Tips for Getting Started with Blended Learning](#)

Posted on 05/21/2018

Enter with the right perspective. The key word that people miss in blended Learning is "blended." Technology will not replace the great work you already do in your classroom. It should reduce the mundane, repeatable tasks that bog down your class time. Technology helps us become better teachers by identifying...

#### [Happy Anniversaries, Adult Education!](#)

Posted on 05/18/2018

We want to take a moment to congratulate adult education agencies across California that are celebrating significant anniversaries this spring. The Pittsburg Adult Education Center is celebrating its 90-year anniversary on Friday, May 18. PAEC was started five years before the formal creation of the Pittsburg Unified School District in...

#### [Watch the Live Stream Presentations of Our Digital Leadership Academy Teams!](#)

Posted on 05/16/2018

OTAN invites you to attend the Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) team presentations scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2018 at the Sacramento County Office of Education. You are welcome to attend virtually via a live online streaming video feed. Please bookmark this URL to join the live streaming feed of the...

#### [The latest brain hack to get ahead in Silicon Valley](#)

Posted on 05/14/2018

Eager to keep up with the pace of change, some Silicon Valley researchers are embracing a grade-school technique to enhance their cognition and memory. Michael Nielsen, a research fellow at Y Combinator Research, a division of Silicon Valley's top startup accelerator, took to Twitter recently to explain his approach: flashcards...

#### [The Teachers Who Inspire Teachers](#)

Posted on 05/10/2018

As we conclude Teacher Appreciation Week, it's a good time to stop and remember the teachers who inspired us to become teachers and work in education. This article from the Chalkbeat blog includes stories and recollections from top educators about the teachers who stand out in their minds as beacons...

#### [Thank You Teachers!](#)

Posted on 05/08/2018

Today is the first day of Teacher Appreciation Week, traditionally celebrated during the first full week of May. This is an opportunity to thank teachers everywhere for the hard work that they do every single day of the school year. Adult education teachers provide so much to their students -...

#### [Digital Leadership Academy 2018-2020 Applications Are Now Open](#)

Posted on 05/02/2018

The Digital Leadership Academy (Cohort 2) applications are now open! OTAN announces an opportunity for adult education agencies through the Digital Leadership Academy (DLAC) 2018-2020. This program combines OTAN's previous Academies (Technology Integration Mentoring Academy and the Online Teaching Academy), and OTAN offers the program for a full two years...

#### [Welcome to the Post-Text Future](#)

Posted on 04/30/2018

I'll make this short: The thing you're doing now, reading prose on a screen, is going out of fashion. We're taking stock of the internet right now, with writers who cover the digital world cataloging some of the most consequential currents shaping it. If you probe those currents and look...

#### [Report: It's Time for Ed Tech to Tackle the Adult Learner](#)

Posted on 04/27/2018

A new report funded by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education and produced by Luminary Labs explores how technology could make an impact for adult learners. The intent is to push investors to fund development of technology that could be used by the adult...

#### [Top Tips for Financial Literacy Month](#)

Posted on 04/25/2018

April is Financial Literacy Month. There's still time to share these top tips with your students that they can use all year round. These tips come from the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information. Create a budget to find out how much money you take in and how much you spend...

#### [Four Ways to Get More for Your EdTech Dollar](#)

Posted on 04/24/2018

Finding the budget and time to do large technology refreshes will always be stressful, but there are a few ways IT directors can lessen the burden and get more for available dollars. Use current technology to buy down the new fleet. When it's time to refresh devices, first look to...

#### [National Library Service Offers Free Braille and Talking Book Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped](#)

Posted on 04/20/2018

National Library Service (NLS) is a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness, or a physical disability that prevents them from reading or holding the printed page. Through a national network of cooperating libraries, NLS offers books in braille or...

#### [Tips for Launching OER in Schools](#)

Posted on 04/18/2018

It has been almost three years since the launch of the United States Department of Education's #GoOpen movement - the commitment to expand and accelerate the use of openly-licensed educational resources in schools across the country. The commitment is to replace at least one textbook with open educational resources (OER)...

#### [How is Technology Changing the Role of the Teacher?](#)

Posted on 04/16/2018

Advances in technology have meant a world of change in schools. Yes, proponents of "disruption" tend to argue that students are basically sitting in time capsules from the industrial era, but technology has made schools look and run very differently, both on the operations side and the instructional side. Computers,...

### [Adult Education Week Celebrates Student Success](#)

Posted on 04/13/2018

The most important part of any adult school is the students who the school serves. Adults ages 18 and older come from all walks of life, from the United States and all corners of the globe, to achieve their academic, professional, and personal goals. Many overcome struggles and difficulties, or...

### [How Adult Schools Celebrate Adult Education Week](#)

Posted on 04/11/2018

During Adult Education Week, adult schools across California plan events to celebrate the work being done at their locations and the success of the adult students who have overcome difficulties to achieve their goals and dreams. The theme for Adult Education Week at the San Mateo Adult School this year...

### [Adult Education Week Begins!](#)

Posted on 04/09/2018

This week is Adult Education Week. This is a time to highlight the vital work being done across California to help adults in a number of realms: teaching English to second language learners and preparing them to obtain citizenship, helping an adult student obtain a high school equivalency certificate or...

### [Keys to Creating the Ultimate School Culture](#)

Posted on 04/03/2018

The best administrators know that a positive school culture is based upon the overall satisfaction and safety of the students, staff, and community members—and they also know that if they don't intentionally lead the shaping of the school culture, others will! So how can you build a culture where everyone...

### [3D Printing to Grow by Double Digits Through 2021](#)

Posted on 03/30/2018

Spending on 3D printing will reach nearly \$12 billion this year, up 19.9 percent over 2017, according to a new report from International Data Corp. (IDC). Looking further out, the market research firm predicts that growth will continue at a 20.5 percent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) through 2021,...

### [Adult Education Week – April 9-13, 2018](#)

Posted on 03/28/2018

Adult Education Week is a good time to build awareness of your programs within the community. Ask your mayor, city council or county board of supervisors to declare one day during the week as "Adult and Continuing Education Day." Plan events for the week and let your local media know...

### [Differentiated Instruction: Extending the Silence](#)

Posted on 03/23/2018

Several studies have looked into the effect that the amount of time teachers pause after asking a question has on learners. For example pausing for three or more seconds showed a noticeable positive impact on learning. Yet the average length that teachers pause was found to be 0.9 seconds. In...

### [How to Help Learners Remember What They Read](#)

Posted on 03/16/2018

Learners sometimes complain that they don't remember what they read. When asked about reading practices they often recounted that they would get to the bottom of a page of text and realize they had no clue about what they had just read. Here is a strategy that uses Post-It Notes to...

### [Salinas Adult School Celebrates 100 Years of Service to the Community](#)

Posted on 03/13/2018

Salinas Adult School Celebrates 100 Years of Service to the Community Changing Lives, Building Community Salinas, California, March 7, 2018: The Salinas Adult School is celebrating its 100th year of providing quality education to the adults in Salinas. The celebration will take place on Thursday, April 12th from 6:00 to...

### [Subject: Register Today for CALPRO's Online Courses – March 2018](#)

Posted on 03/09/2018

It's not too late to take advantage of three facilitated online courses CALPRO is offering in March. These classes are just 4 weeks long and require about 3 hours a week of your time. Enrollment is limited, and they fill up fast. Check the CALPRO Event Calendar to learn more...

### [U.S. Department of Education Open Licensing Rule Now in Effect](#)

Posted on 03/08/2018

Starting in FY 2018, education resources created with Department of Education discretionary competitive grants (\$4.2 billion in FY 2016) must be openly licensed and shared with the public. This announcement comes after years of work by Department of Education staff, multiple civil society organizations, and individual open education leaders. This...

### [Steps Students Can Apply to Fact-check Information](#)

Posted on 03/05/2018

These days, statements of all stripes are bombarding us via broadcast and social media. The trick is classifying them correctly before we swallow them ourselves, much less before we hit "Like," "Share" or "Retweet." And that's the goal of an educational initiative that will be adopted by 10 universities across...

### [TDLS Registration is Open for California Adult Educators](#)

Posted on 02/26/2018

Symposium registration is now open! <https://www.otan.us/tdlsymposium/register-online> To download, print, and/or share the TDLS 2018 flyer click here. The Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is for all California adult education teachers, coordinator and administrators at WIOA-funded agencies. This yearly event shows how to enhance technology integration in the classroom and how...

### [Digital Learning Day – February 22, 2018](#)

Posted on 02/22/2018

The annual Digital Learning Day, started in 2012, gives educators an opportunity to collaborate with peers, share ideas, and try out new digital tools. The grassroots effort blossomed into a massive nationwide celebration as teachers realized that Digital Learning Day is not about technology, it's about learning. Digital learning is...

### [Librarians Leading the Way During Times of Rapid Social Change](#)

Posted on 02/20/2018

2017 was a lively year for libraries. National issues and trends impacted our nation's libraries, and librarians rose to the challenge, promoting media literacy, protecting the freedom to read, advocating for equity, diversity and inclusion and responding to the needs of their patrons. At the beginning of the year, librarians...

### [Our office will be closed Monday, February 19th in observance of Washington's Birthday](#)

Posted on 02/16/2018

### [Public Comment Period – Modifications to California's State Plan](#)

Posted on 02/14/2018

The California Workforce Development Board (State Board) is seeking public comments on modifications to California's Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan (State Plan). As required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), after the first two-year period of the State Plan's implementation, the State Board must modify the plan to...

### [Librarians Leading the Way During Times of Rapid Social Change](#)

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### [SCOE Closed Monday, February 12th for Abraham Lincoln's Birthday](#)

Posted on 02/09/2018

### [Open Educational Resources Set to Become an Essential Teaching Tool in 2018](#)

Posted on 02/06/2018

Open educational resources (OER) have long been touted as "the next big thing" in higher education, but the drawn-out hype has led many educators and administrators to wonder if it would ever live up to its expectations. Those days are over. Until recently, the use of OER—digital educational materials that...

### [California Could Introduce an Online-Only State Community College](#)

Posted on 02/05/2018

California has 114 community colleges across the state, but Gov. Jerry Brown wants one more, and he wants it completely online. Inside Higher Ed reports that the purpose of the college would be to reach unemployed and underemployed adults who California Community College officials say the system isn't reaching at...

### [TDLS Registration is Now Open for California Adult Educators](#)

Posted on 01/25/2018

Symposium registration is now open! TDLS To download, print, and/or share the TDLS 2018 flyer click here. The Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is for all California adult education teachers, coordinator and administrators at WIOA-funded agencies. This yearly event shows how to enhance technology integration in the classroom and how...

### [How to Use Universal Design to Create Inclusive Classrooms](#)

Posted on 01/22/2018

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a set of principals for curriculum development that aims to provide all students an equal opportunity to learn. It can be used by educators at any grade level or subject area. According to the National Center on Universal Design for Learning, "UDL provides..."

### [Report: Internet of Things \(IoT\) to Tip 41 Trillion by 2020](#)

Posted on 01/16/2018

The "Internet of Things" refers to the increasing number of Internet-connected devices with Wi-Fi capabilities and built-in sensors. Connected items can include anything that has an on and off switch: cellphones, coffee makers, headphones, lighting fixtures, washing machines, personal wearable devices and machine components. The IoT is a giant network...

### [OTAN is closed Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Day](#)

Posted on 01/12/2018

[Getting started with video Coaching](#)

Posted on 01/05/2018

By Adam Geller Video coaching is no longer a professional development buzzword or novelty, in part because of the accessibility of devices in today's world makes it a convenient choice for educators looking to improve their practice. Today all it takes is a smartphone with a high-quality camera to get...

[Jobs of the Future will Focus on Intellectual Capitalism](#)

Posted on 01/02/2018

"The jobs of the future will be those that focus on intellectual capitalism, not commodity capitalism," said Futurist, Physicist and Bestselling Author Michio Kaku during the recent 2017 EDUCAUSE conference keynote, held in Philadelphia, PA. This was the big reveal to the thousands of EDUCAUSE attendees ranging from college and...

[OTAN will be closed for the holiday](#)

[December 25, 2017-January 1, 2018](#)

Posted on 12/22/2017

[The December Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 12/19/2017

The December issue of OTAN's Administrators' digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link below: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links to more...

[TDLS Registration is Now Open for California Adult Educators](#)

Posted on 12/18/2017

Symposium registration is now open! TDLS Register Page The Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is for all California adult education teachers, coordinator and administrators at WIOA-funded agencies. This yearly event shows how to enhance technology integration in the classroom and how to start or grow your blended/distance learning programs through...

[Google Commits \\$1B in Grants to Train U.S. Workers for High-tech Jobs](#)

Posted on 12/12/2017

The search giant has regularly expressed a desire to help stem some of that negative impact, and now it's putting its money where its mouth is to the tune of \$1 billion. CEO Sundar Pichai announced Grow with Google at an event held in Pittsburgh, PA. Over the next five...

[White House Advocates for Increased Focus on and Efforts to Expand STEM Education](#)

Posted on 12/06/2017

The White House in September announced plans to spend \$200 million a year on grants meant to boost STEM education in an effort to close a widening skills gap that, some say, has left Americans out of the running for scientific and technical jobs. Bay Area powerhouses Facebook, Google and...

[A Barrier Removed for Low-income Parents Seeking Education](#)

Posted on 12/01/2017

There's a new law on the books in California that will remove a barrier for low-income parents aiming to access education. Under a bill signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown on October 12, 2017, poor parents enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) or high school equivalency courses...

[Turning Your Students into Web Detectives](#)

Posted on 11/27/2017

A recent study from the Stanford History Education Group confirms that students today are generally pretty bad at evaluating the news and other information they see online. Now more than ever, our students need our help. And a big part of this is learning how to fact-check what they see...

[Our office will be closed from November 22-24, 2017 to celebrate Thanksgiving](#)

Posted on 11/21/2017

[National Skills Coalition Releases State Policy Toolkit](#)

Posted on 11/17/2017

Many states have enacted policies to increase the scope of work-based learning that combines instruction at a worksite with classroom learning. Few of these state policies, however, focus on low-skilled populations of out-of-school youth or disadvantaged adults. National Skills Coalition's (NSC's) scan, for example, found that among the 14 states...

[California Program Looks for Solutions to Skills Gap](#)

Posted on 11/13/2017

A statewide program known as "SlingShot" aims to improve career opportunities and fill needed jobs The program is part of an employment initiative through the Workforce Development Board (CWDB). It aims to solve regional employment challenges in California through partnerships among government, employers, schools and other groups. Program Overview The...

[How Listening to Podcasts Helps Students Read and Learn](#)

Posted on 11/08/2017

High school English teacher Michael Godsey's favorite work by William Shakespeare is Hamlet. But a few years ago, he stopped teaching his students about the centuries-old classic in favor of a story that was unfolding in the fall of 2014: Serial, the podcast. When he first started teaching with...

[Report: Most Educators are Aware of OER, Don't Understand OER Licensing](#)

Posted on 11/06/2017

A new report examines who the decision-makers are in curriculum adoptions and finds that a sizable percentage of schools have chosen open educational resources in the last three years. Most school districts, 77 percent, have made at least one full-course curriculum adoption decision in the last three years, according to...

[Digital Promise Partners with Facebook to Offer Micro-credentials for Adult Learners](#)

Posted on 11/01/2017

Digital skills are in high demand. According to a Burning Glass report, eight in 10 middle-skill level jobs require digital skills, such as online communication and productivity tools. Adult workers often do not have this training, and increasingly employers report difficulty finding qualified workers with digital middle skills. Unfortunately, this...

[Adults and Community College Degrees](#)

Posted on 10/27/2017

Adults are coming to community colleges seeking a different approach to education, says Jim Jacobs, and that will require institutions to pay attention to a few important design features. Most community colleges have adopted the mission of serving low-income, underprepared students who are in need of postsecondary education for any...

[The October Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 10/25/2017

The October issue of OTAN's Administrators' digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link below: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links to more...

[2017 COABE Virtual Conference -- FREE](#)

Posted on 10/24/2017

Thanks to the California Council for Adult Education (CCAEE) you can attend the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Virtual Conference October 25 & 26th 2017 for FREE! Here are the Next Steps for California: You must register individually for the COABE Virtual Conference, selecting the \$50 member rate. Use...

[How Teachers and Schools Can Help When Bad Stuff Happens](#)

Posted on 10/19/2017

The following is an excerpt from the article. The full version can be accessed here. Joy Osofsky, professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at Louisiana State University: "I would recommend that they address issues from the beginning. Talk to the students about: You know, we've all been through a..."

[EdTech Pilot Framework](#)

Posted on 10/16/2017

It's the beginning of the year, there are new classes, new projects, new students and maybe even new equipment! It's an exciting (and exhausting) time of year. If you are looking for ways to successfully integrate and manage an edtech pilot, check out the "Edtech Pilot Framework" offered from Digital...

[Week of The California School Administrator](#)

Posted on 10/10/2017

In observance of the importance of educational leadership at the school, school district, and county levels, the second full week in the month of October of each year shall be designated as "Week of the School Administrator" (California Education Code Section 44015.1). Schools, school districts, and county superintendents of schools...

[The Learning Innovation Cycle: How Disruption Creates Lasting Change](#)

Posted on 10/06/2017

by Terry Heick Disruption is an interesting topic for the same reason that cowboys, gangsters, and villains are interesting. It's unpredictable. Problematic. Against the grain. It's kind of aging as a buzzword in the "education space," but it's other-worldly powerful, and there are few things education needs more. How exactly...

[10 Current and Emerging Trends in Adult Learning](#)

Posted on 10/05/2017

What Do Harvey and Irma have to do with learning? When (what we thought were) once in five hundred year storms hit every other week, it suggests there is something new going on--and another sign that we live in a world where the unexpected is the norm. As more of...

[The September Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 09/29/2017

The September 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available. The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information about professional...

[Why California is Investing Over \\$200 Million in Vocational Education](#)

Posted on 09/20/2017

More Americans are going to college than ever before. The most recent census found that 33.4 percent of adults over the age of 24 have earned a bachelor's degree or more. Kurt Bauman, Chief of the Education and Social Stratification Branch for the U.S. Census describes this as, "a significant..."

[Adult Education and Family Literacy Week](#)

Posted on 09/25/2017

National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week raises public awareness about the need for and value of adult education and family literacy. Its goal is to leverage resources that support access to basic education programs for the 36 million U.S. adults with low literacy skills. Advocates across the country use...

[The September Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 09/21/2017

The September issue of OTAN's Administrator's digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link below: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links to more...

[Free Digital Equity Action Toolkit by CoSN](#)

Posted on 09/21/2017

Ensuring all students have equal access to educational technology—both in the classroom and at home—often requires innovation. Educators can find cost-effective solutions in new technologies such as open-educational resources and by partnering with the business community. "The vast majority of superintendents agree with the premise that digital equity is..."

[Newsela PRO license offer still available!](#)

Posted on 09/20/2017

OTAN is offering up to 200 Newsela PRO licenses to adult education teachers who teach at a WIOA-funded school site. Licenses will be valid for the school year through June 30th, 2018. Newsela provides stories on current events tailor-made for classroom use. Indexed by broad theme (e.g. War and Peace,...

[Jobs for the Future and Persistence Plus Launch Initiative Using Behavioral Science to Help Students Complete Community College and Earn a STEM Degree](#)

Posted on 09/19/2017

"Nudges" for STEM Success Will Engage 10K+ Students over Text Messaging In August 2017, Jobs for the Future (JFF) and Persistence Plus launched Nudging to STEM Success, a joint initiative funded by the Helmsley Charitable Trust that leverages behavioral science and mobile technology to increase community college completion, particularly...

[CALPRO: Defining On-Ramps to Adult Career Pathways](#)

Posted on 09/15/2017

As part of CALPRO's monthly updates on research-based practices, featured below is a report that highlights a menu of career pathways 'on-ramp' services and partnerships that can be used to develop program models. Although the focus of the report is on Minnesota, it illustrates how a state can move its...

[OTAN Webinars for AEBG TAP](#)

Posted on 09/13/2017

OTAN worked with AEBG Technical Assistance Project to share information on topics of educational technology in adult basic education. Please join us for the two webinars in September. Teaching Vocabulary with Technology presenter: Kristi Reyes Wed, September 13th, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Adult students need a strong vocabulary foundation...

[CALPRO: Integrated and Contextualized Workforce Skills Online Workshop Series](#)

Posted on 09/07/2017

In September and October CALPRO is offering a series of online workshops on Integrated and Contextualized Workforce Skills. These interactive workshops are delivered entirely online and are free and open to any adult educators in California who are employed by WIOA, Title II: AEFLA-funded agencies. Integrated and Contextualized Workforce Skills...

[A Conversation with an Adult Education Director: Ensuring Student Success through Guided Pathways](#)

Posted on 09/05/2017

Jobs for the Future (JFF) is a national nonprofit that builds educational and economic opportunity for underserved populations in the United States. JFF develops innovative programs and public policies that increase college readiness and career success and build a more highly skilled, competitive workforce. With over 30 years of experience,...

[Serving English Language Learners, Immigrants, Refugees, and Farmworkers in the Workforce System](#)

Posted on 08/31/2017

The California Workforce Association (CWA), the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) and The Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA) hosted two webinars on serving English Language Learners, Immigrants, Refugees and Farmworkers in the Workforce System. The webinar recordings and other resources are available through the CWDB English Language Learners Immigration...

[Report: Educator Confidence in Technology Increasing](#)

Posted on 08/29/2017

Sixty-five percent of educators expressed confidence in using digital technology in their classrooms, a 7 percent increase over last year, according to a recent survey commissioned by education and publishing company Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH). While 98 percent of educators reported using digital materials in their work, teachers still said...

[Annual IDEAL Institute August 22-23, 2017](#)

Posted on 08/24/2017

The IDEAL Consortium, a project of the EdTech Center at World Education, Inc., is working to develop effective distance education programs for adult learners, raising the quality of blended and distance online learning across the United States through new educational technology innovations and collaborative research and practice. For 15 years,...

[CASAS Summer Institute 2017 California Consortium Meeting Notes Now Posted](#)

Posted on 08/22/2017

The California Consortium Meeting at the CASAS National Summer Institute addressed opportunities and challenges the state is facing as it implements the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Adult Education Block Grant (AEBG). Pat Rickard, CASAS President, began the Consortium by welcoming the meeting participants. Christian Nelson, Adult Education...

[The August Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digests is Available](#)

Posted on 08/21/2017

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[Newsela PRO license offer](#)

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[CALPRO: Implementation of Accelerating Opportunity: Final Implementation Findings with Lessons from the Field](#)

Posted on 08/15/2017

The Accelerating Opportunity (AO) initiative was developed to support students with low basic skills in their efforts to obtain credentials and well-paying jobs as well as sustain rewarding careers. The report shares the accomplishments of the initiative over its three years of implementation and provides an understanding of the process...

[Lessons Learned from Supporting Student Success: Adult Education and Remedial Education Reform in Community Colleges](#)

Posted on 08/10/2017

OCTAE, Manhattan Strategy Group, July 2017 As part of OCTAE's Supporting Student Success project, Manhattan Strategy Group produced three videos demonstrating promising practices in adult education and developmental education alignment within community colleges. Supporting Student Success through Professional Development Managing Community College Change Blending Adult Education and Developmental Education: A...

[Google and Digital Promise Reimagine Teacher Tech Training with New National Program](#)

Posted on 08/08/2017

In July 2017, Google, in concert with Digital Promise and EdTechTeam, announced the start of the Dynamic Learning Project (DLP), a national program to help educators in low-income communities build advanced classroom technology skills. Google is giving Digital Promise a \$6.5 million-dollar grant to research and implement a professional...

[Evaluating Digital Learning for Adult Basic Literacy and Numeracy](#)

Posted on 08/04/2017

Can digital learning technologies increase the capacity of ABE programs by providing more efficient and effective learning opportunities to better serve the adult learning needs in their communities? The magnitude of the problem of unskilled labor for the U.S. workforce is known. More than 36 million adults in the United...

[Serving Immigrant Families through Two-Generation Programs: Identifying Family Needs and Responsive Program Approaches](#)

Posted on 08/01/2017

By addressing the needs of poor or low-income parents and their children simultaneously, two-generation programs have great potential to uplift whole families and break cycles of intergenerational poverty. Generally speaking these programs seek to weave together high-quality early learning opportunities for children with initiatives directed at their parents, including adult...

[Field Testing Cities Announced in the Adult Literacy XPRIZE](#)

Posted on 07/27/2017

The global leader in designing and operating world-changing incentive competitions, today announced eight semifinalist teams are advancing in the \$7M Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPRIZE presented by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, a global competition challenging teams to develop mobile applications for existing smart devices that result in the...

[XPrize Semi-finalists Announced](#)

Posted on 07/25/2017

Semi-finalists were announced this week for the Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPrize, a global competition in which 109 teams competed to develop mobile applications for smart devices that result in the greatest increase in literacy skills among participating adult learners in just 12 months. The eight semi-finalist apps...

Posted on 07/21/2017

Whether your school, district or state has a stand-alone educational technology plan or integrates this plan into its cycle of improvement planning, it's good to start with the essentials. What are the essentials, you may ask? The ISTE Essential Conditions are a research-based set of 14 critical elements necessary to...

[I-DEA National Conferences Announced](#)

Posted on 07/18/2017

Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges is pleased to offer four regional Integrated Digital English Acceleration (I-DEA) training conferences around the country. The conferences, held in collaboration with The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will equip English language faculty and administrators with practical information and hands-on tools to...

[Beyond the unemployment rate: Meet the out-of-work](#)

Posted on 07/13/2017

Brookings Metro shows the diversity of jobless adults at the local level and offers strategies to connect them to employment. A new report from the Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program provides a first-ever view of adults ages 25 to 64 who are out-of-work in 130 large cities and counties across...

[The Five Principles of Adult Learning Pioneered by Malcolm Knowles](#)

Posted on 07/11/2017

In her article on Thought.Co Deb Peterson explains that the teacher of adults has a different job from the one who teaches children. If you're teaching adult students, for the best results it's important to understand and practice five principles espoused by Malcolm Knowles, a pioneer in the study of...

[Center for Law and Social Policy Report on AEBG Implementation Released](#)

Posted on 07/06/2017

The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), a national, nonpartisan, anti-poverty organization, released Prosperity Through Partnership: Opportunities for AEBG to Strengthen Systems and Communities. The report was supported by funding from the State AEBG Office and included contributions by the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), California Department...

[Integrated Education and Training: A Career Pathways Policy & Practice](#)

Posted on 07/03/2017

This report by Judy Mortrude, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), published in April 2017 summarizes the findings of a national survey of adult education providers that the Center for Law and Social Policy and the Texas Workforce Commission conducted to learn more about Integrated Education and Training (IET)...

[Web-based Activity: TED-Ed for Interactive Video Lessons](#)

Posted on 06/30/2017

In the June 2017 Web-based activity article, Kristi Reyes posits that "thought-provoking lectures by various experts and authorities in a wide range of disciplines and walks of life to spread ideas that "have the power to change attitudes, lives, and ultimately, the world." Some of the most powerful of these...

[Using the PIAAC Framework for Problem Solving in Technology-Rich Environments to Guide Instruction: An Introduction for Adult Educators](#)

Posted on 06/22/2017

This brief is an invitation to practitioners to engage in the work of teaching problem solving in technologically-rich environments. The author, Jenifer B. Vanek, encourages the readers to start by teaching the problem-solving process and embedding it into units of study enhanced by the process. Along the way, teachers will...

[The June Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 06/21/2017

The June issue of OTAN's Administrator's digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link on this page: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links...

[Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Hosts Career Pathways Podcast](#)

Posted on 06/19/2017

Pennsylvania Secretary of Corrections John E. Wetzel recently hosted the podcast "Bustin' Walls." Produced by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC), the podcast "breaks through the walls and fences of ... state facilities to provide listeners with a real look inside the field of corrections with one of the top...

[CALPRO: Designing Programs for Adults with Learning Disabilities Courses](#)

Posted on 06/14/2017

CALPRO is pleased to announce two professional learning opportunities for educators and administrators serving adults with learning disabilities (LDs): our brand new self-directed course and a newly revised facilitated online course. Designing Programs for Adults with Learning Disabilities, Session I, Awareness for Adult Educators Self-Directed Online Course Available NOW! This...

[Change in CDE leadership in the Adult Education Office](#)

Posted on 06/14/2017

Dear Adult Education Colleagues, I am writing to inform you of a change in leadership in the Adult Education Office at the California Department of Education (CDE). This change was necessitated by a reduction of funding for personnel in the Career and College Transition Division at the CDE. As a...

[National Skills Coalition Releases New Fact Sheet: "The Business Case for Upskilling"](#)

Posted on 06/12/2017

According to a new fact sheet recently released by the National Skills Coalition (NSC), "The Business Case for Upskilling," "companies that invest in their workers' skill building can see payoffs not only for the workers themselves, but for the business bottom line." The publication highlights the NSC's findings on...

[Register for the Next Advancing Career Pathways Regional Meeting!](#)

Posted on 06/08/2017

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education's (OCTAE's) Advancing Career Pathways project is a two-year federal investment dedicated to strengthening and expanding the role of CTE in career pathways systems development at the state and local levels. As key service providers and stakeholders, CTE programs...

[2017 Effective Transitions in Adult Education Conference](#)

Posted on 06/05/2017

Connect and engage with colleagues from across the country at the National College Transition Network's 11th annual conference on Effective Transitions in Adult Education on November 13 - 15, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza at the Crossings, Providence (Warwick), RI. Our conference is a time to join with adult education...

[Become a Champion for Adult Literacy XPRIZE](#)

Posted on 06/01/2017

The Adult Literacy XPRIZE is in the phase of testing literacy apps for adult learning across the U.S. in three cities: Dallas, Los Angeles and Philadelphia. They need your help to make this very important mission a success. Become a Champion today to make a difference in the lives of...

[The May Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 05/30/2017

The May issue of OTAN's Administrator's digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link on this page: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links...

[EdSurge: Why Moodle's Mastermind, Martin Dougiamas, Still Believes in Edtech After Two Decades](#)

Posted on 05/30/2017

As many adult educators in California agencies funded through WIOA Title II/AEFLA funds know, OTAN hosts a platform for online and blended learning that is available to the field to use. There are a number of courses available on adult education topics to use for free. Some courses can be...

[The May Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 05/25/2017

The May 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available. The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information about professional...

[Web-based Activity: Formative Assessments](#)

Posted on 05/22/2017

In the May 2017 Web-based activity article, Susan Coulter posits that formative assessments are a quick snapshot of student learning, which then allows you to change the course of the lesson to address those gaps in understanding. Formative assessments are used to differentiate learning and guide instruction. In this article...

[Badge Launch at Riverside About Students April 19th 2017](#)

Posted on 05/19/2017

The Digital Badges launch event showcased the work of the Riverside About Students Consortia members and partners who spent the last year working and collaborating on a system-wide implementation of a digital badging program for adult education programs. The origins of this project came as a solution to the challenges...

[Using Technology and Motivation to Reach Adult Learners](#)

Posted on 05/17/2017

"Teaching adults is not exactly like teaching younger students," writes Mary Murphy from Sweetwater Union High School District, Division of Adult Education in a March 2017 article on Getting Smart Web site. She goes on to explain that: "Teaching adults is not exactly like teaching younger students. Adult learners don't..."

[Common Sense Education: Protect Your Students' Data and Privacy](#)

Posted on 05/15/2017

Common Sense is the largest independent nonprofit organization committed to helping kids, teachers, and families manage media and technology in life and learning. Common Sense Education provides high-quality digital literacy and citizenship programs to educators and school communities. Together, they work to empower students to harness technology for learning and...

[Convicts at San Quentin State Prison are learning to code](#)

Posted on 05/10/2017

For a select group of motivated inmates at San Quentin, located just outside of San Francisco, hope comes in the form of an intrepid non-profit called The Last Mile, which is teaching convicts how to code and working with Silicon Valley companies to give hardened criminals a shot at success...

[OTAN's Penny Pearson Named 2017 NROC Ambassador of the Year](#)

Posted on 05/08/2017

As a non-profit organization, NROC partners with educators to create open and low-cost courses and tools designed to recognize every student's unique learning needs and preferences. These resources can be adapted and scaled to meet programmatic goals in a variety of instructional settings. "NROC" started as the National Repository of...

[CCAE State Conference is May 4-6, 2017 in Long Beach](#)

Posted on 05/03/2017

The South Coast Section and the State Conference Committee welcome CCAE members and guests to the 2017 CCAE State Conference in Long Beach with an excellent lineup of presentations and activities. The following presentations are sponsored or co-presented by OTAN: 4 Big Tools for Engaging Students in Reading Susan Gaer,...

[Skills of U.S. Incarcerated Adults: PIAAC Study](#)

Posted on 05/01/2017

Webinar Date: Thursday May 11, 2017 Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Presenter: Emily Pawlowski and Derek Holliday (American Institutes for Research) This webinar will provide an overview of results from a recently released study called the Program for International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) Prison Study. This study provides...

[The April Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 04/28/2017

The April 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available here . The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information...

[Web-based Activity: Newspapers in Classrooms](#)

Posted on 04/27/2017

In the April 2017 Web-based activity article, Debbie Jensen posits that there are lots of reasons why we should use a newspaper in adult education, but one great one is that we can teach our students critical reading skills including evaluation the source. But sometimes the newspapers are too difficult...

[Two offerings from OTAN: for learners: support math instruction, for teachers: professional development about blended learning](#)

Posted on 04/26/2017

OTAN is offering WIOA funded adult education agencies and opportunity to try out EdReady – an online math assessment and curriculum designed to get learners ready for math for both college and career. Learners choose a math goal such as passing the AccuPlacer or GED. Additionally, there are over 150...

[Submit your nominee for the \\$20,000 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year Award](#)

Posted on 04/24/2017

Do you know an educator making great strides in family engagement? Nominate them for the 2017 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year Award! This prestigious award, made possible by Toyota, recognizes teachers who are positively impacting families by engaging them in school- and community-based educational programming. NCFL is accepting nominations...

[The April Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digests is Available](#)

Posted on 04/19/2017

The April issue of OTAN's Administrator's digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link below: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links to more...

[Adult Education Block Grant \(AEBG\) Technical Assistance Project and New AEBG Website Keyword Search Feature](#)

Posted on 04/17/2017

The AEBG Office is in the process of launching the new Technical Assistance Project (AEBG TAP). This new Project will provide Technical Assistance, Professional Development and Capacity Building to adult education agencies throughout California. While the AEBG TAP is in the process of ramping up to provide these much needed...

[OTAN Spring 2017 Newsletter: Online Connection: Winning Together](#)

Posted on 04/13/2017

Every year OTAN produces three issues of OTAN Online Connection, the OTAN newsletter, to print and mail to members, disseminate electronically, and distribute at conferences and workshops. The latest addition is available in PDF format on the Newsletter page and features the following topics: Recap of the Technology and Distance...

[LAO Provides Overview of Adult Education](#)

Posted on 04/10/2017

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), the Legislature's nonpartisan fiscal advisor, issued a report to the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1 on Education, which provided an overview of adult education in California. The report provided background and an assessment of the adult education program including key policy issues...

[Adult Learner: Jeffrey George](#)

Posted on 04/07/2017

Jeffrey George came into the Sonoma County Library's Adult Literacy Program in August 2014 to sign up for weekly tutoring and to work on literacy and life goals. He was assessed at a beginning to beginning intermediate literacy level at that time, and his primary motivation was to be able...

[Adult Learner: Patty Lopez](#)

Posted on 04/05/2017

Originally from Michoacán, Mexico, Assemblywoman Patty López came to the U.S. at 12 and grew up in Pacoima. While raising her own family, she started studying at the North Valley Occupational Center. As a mother of four, she knew educating herself was the best way to provide a better future...

[Adult Education Week, April 2-8, 2017](#)

Posted on 04/03/2017

"Today's Students, Tomorrow's Workforce". The purpose of Adult Education Week in California is to draw the attention of the public and of education decision-makers — legislators, school board members, your superintendent, city officials, etc. — to the programs at your school that benefit the community. The idea is to enhance...

[The March Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 03/29/2017

The March 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available here . The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information...

[Technology and Distance Learning Symposium \(TDL\) 2017 – A Success!](#)

Posted on 03/27/2017

Held on March 10-11, 2017 at the Anaheim Campus of the North Orange Community College District, this year's event was attended by adult educators and administrators from throughout California. Attendees selected from over 30 technology-focused workshops that ranged from increasing technical skills in a specific software program to how to...

[Web-based Activity: With Games, Students Examine their Understanding of and Apply New Vocabulary](#)

Posted on 03/23/2017

In the March 2017 Web-based activity article, Kristi Reyes refers the six-step approach to teach vocabulary by Dr. Robert Marzano, a direct instruction process that begins with the teacher introducing a term. Subsequent activities are designed to expose students to newly-learned vocabulary multiple times, thus reinforcing their comprehension of new...

[Skills of U.S. Incarcerated Adults: PIAAC Study](#)

Posted on 03/17/2017

Webinar Date: Thursday May 11, 2017 Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Presenter: Katie Landeros (American Institutes for Research) This webinar will provide an overview of results from a recently released study called the Program for International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) Prison Study. This study provides information on skills...

[The February Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digests is Available](#)

Posted on 03/15/2017

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[Adult Education Week, April 2-8, 2017](#)

Posted on 03/13/2017

"Today's Students, Tomorrow's Workforce". The purpose of Adult Education Week in California is to draw the attention of the public and of education decision-makers — legislators, school board members, your superintendent, city officials, etc. — to the programs at your school that benefit the community. The idea is to enhance...

[Technology and Distance Learning Symposium is on March 10-11](#)

Posted on 03/10/2017

OTAN staff and our larger 'family' of field colleagues as presenters and participants are all excited to gather North Orange County Community College District this coming Friday and Saturday, March 10-11, 2017, for the 8th Technology and Distance Learning Symposium. Here are the welcome messages from our leadership: From Joyce...

[National Conference of State Legislatures Creates Searchable Database for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Legislation](#)

Posted on 03/08/2017

The National Conference of State Legislatures recently launched a searchable database, a result of activity across legislatures in all states following the 2014 passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The database contains legislation enacted in state legislatures during the 2015 session. Included are issues related to WIOA...

[Professional Development Opportunities to Support Collaboration and IET](#)

Posted on 03/06/2017

With increasing legislative focus on Integrating Education and Training (IET), known best practices of collaborative teams are needed now more than ever. The need to connect across departments and come out of individualized silos is evident as schools move toward integrating adult basic education and English language acquisition with workforce...

[Two professional development opportunities on Saturday, March 4](#)

Posted on 03/04/2017

CCAIE Bay Section Winter Conference & Excellence Awards: Stronger Together Website: <http://www.ccaestate.org/bay/> The conference will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. till 2:30 p.m. in the heated, newly refurbished assembly hall at Berkeley Adult School, 1701 San Pablo Ave., in Berkeley, California. Continental breakfast begins at...

[Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems \(CASAS\): Integrated EL Civics \(English Literacy and Civics Education\)](#)

Posted on 03/03/2017

Three Integrated EL Civics (English Literacy and Civics Education) conferences will be held in 2017. The first one serves the Central Valley and will convene on January 20th at the Bakersfield Adult School. The Southern California conference will be held on February 3rd at the Vista Adult School. The third...

[National Skills Coalition: Foundational Skills in the Service Sector](#)

Posted on 03/01/2017

Across the United States, millions of men and women with limited reading, math, or digital problem-solving skills are holding down jobs across the service sector. Employed in retail shops and restaurants, hotels and hospitals, these workers not only help fuel the country's economy — they keep daily life in America...

[Web-based Activity: Instant Grammar Checker](#)

Posted on 02/28/2017

In the February 2017 Web-based activity article, Susan Coulter introduces us to a tool that can help both teachers and learners. The Grammarly Web site ([grammarly.com](http://grammarly.com)) and associated applications are a great way to help your students with their grammar and writing skills. As they type, Grammarly underlines grammar errors...

[The February Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 02/28/2017

The February 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available here . The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information...

[The February Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 02/23/2017

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[Digital Learning Day was February 23](#)

Posted on 02/22/2017

With so many new types of digital devices, educational software and mobile apps continuously developed, it's hard to keep up with the latest and greatest advancements in educational technology. In some classrooms and out-of-school programs across the country, educators are doing some pretty amazing things with technology. Yet, these pockets...

[Program available for Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2017](#)

Posted on 02/21/2017

The eighth Technology and Distance Learning Symposium will be happening next month at Anaheim Campus of North Orange Community College District, School of Continuing Education, on March 10 & 11, 2017. Many thanks to previous hosts: Fresno Adult School in 2016 San Leandro Adult School in 2015 Baldwin Park Adult...

[President's Day Office Closures](#)

Posted on 02/17/2017

OTAN will be closed Monday, February 13 in observance of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. We will also be closed Monday, February 20 in observance of George Washington's birthday.

[Literacy Information and Communication System \(LINCOS\): A Literature Review of Technology Use by Underserved Students](#)

Posted on 02/17/2017

Published in 2016, this report summarizes research findings about the conditions and practices that support positive outcomes of technology use for underserved, under-resourced, and underprepared students. This literature review summarizes research findings about the conditions and practices that support positive outcomes of technology use for underserved, under-resourced, and underprepared K-12...

[New on the Literacy Information and Communication System \(LINCOS\) Learning Portal: Teacher Effectiveness Online Courses](#)

Posted on 02/14/2017

The LINCOS Learning Portal has three Teacher Effectiveness courses. Each free, online course is self-paced and tailored to meet the needs of practitioners and programs, especially mentors and beginning teachers. Introduction to Teacher Effectiveness and Induction is an overview of the Adult Education Teacher Competencies , an introduction to teacher...

[Digital Promise: Integrating Digital Tools for Adult Learners: Four Critical Factors](#)

Posted on 02/09/2017

If we believe in the potential of technology to bring quality digital learning opportunities to this underserved population, what can we do to accelerate adoption? Authored by Patti Constantakis and in partnership with the Joyce Foundation, Mockingbird Education and SRI International, drawn from a study of digital learning technologies' effectiveness...

[Safer Internet Day was February 7](#)

Posted on 02/07/2017

Safer Internet Day , an awareness-raising campaign that started in Europe more than a decade ago, is now celebrated in more than 100 countries. Globally, it's coordinated by the Brussels-based Insafe Network for the European Commission. Safer Internet Day gained official recognition in the U.S. in late 2012, with a...

[National College Transition Network\(NCTN\): Building Integrated Education and Training Programs](#)

Posted on 02/06/2017

Did you miss National College Transition Networks's Building Integrated Education and Training Programs: Tested Strategies and New Endeavors NCTN and NELRC webinar series? Drawn from around the country, presenters described their local context and program design and discussed the impact of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) on program...

[Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems \(CASAS\): Integrated EL Civics \(English Literacy and Civics Education\)](#)

Posted on 02/03/2017

Three Integrated EL Civics (English Literacy and Civics Education) conferences will be held in 2017. The first one serves the Central Valley and will convene on January 20th at the Bakersfield Adult School. The Southern California conference will be held on February 3rd at the Vista Adult School. The third...

[Supporting Student Success: Accelerated Curriculum for Impact \(Webinar\)](#)

Posted on 02/01/2017

On February 2, 2017, from 1-2 p.m. (EST), the U.S. Department of Education's Supporting Student Success project team will host a webinar titled Supporting Student Success: Accelerated Curriculum for Impact . The one-hour webinar will address curriculum around acceleration and present research supporting it as an educational strategy. In addition...

[Three Webinars for Instructors - Registration now available](#)

Posted on 01/30/2017

The CALPRO Instructors' Forum is hosting a series of 3 webinars on the new English Language Proficiency Standards, one for ESL instructors, but two of general interest to any teacher with English language learners in their class. Register now to assure your place at these events. Feb. 14, 1 pm...

[The January Issue of OTAN's Teachers' Digest is Available](#)

Posted on 01/30/2017

The January 2017 issue of OTAN's Teachers' digest is available here . The Teachers' Digest is a monthly online publication that features links to articles on the OTAN Web site, as well as links to interesting online resources and information featured by other adult education and education technology entities. Information...

[Iowa Adult Education and Literacy Virtual Conference: Expanding Possibilities](#)

Posted on 01/24/2017

Literacy is a foundation for further learning, educational attainment, and skill development; thus, sound adult literacy programs and policies can contribute to the enhancement of both individual economic opportunity and national competitiveness. Digital literacy and technology in the adult education classroom is an area of opportunity. In partnership with the...

[Web-based Activity: Helping Students Get Job Ready - Teach Soft Skills](#)

Posted on 01/23/2017

In the January 2017 Web-based activity article, Debbie Jensen writes that " Technical skills are only part of the education our students need to succeed in today's job market. They also need soft skills. Lists of actual soft skills vary, but can include dependability, motivation, communication, creativity, problem solving, flexibility, teamwork,..."

[The January Issue of OTAN's Administrators' Digests is Available](#)

Posted on 01/18/2017

The January issue of OTAN's Administrator's digest is available on the home page of the OTAN Web site. You may also access it directly using the link below: The Administrators' Digest is a monthly online publication containing brief articles of interest to California adult education administrators, and links to more...

[California Adult Literacy Professional Development Project\(CALPRO\): Introduction to the English Language Proficiency Standards for Adult Education](#)

Posted on 01/17/2017

Webinar Date: Tuesday January 24, 2017 Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Presenter: Mariann Fedele-McLeod (Senior Advisor, CALPRO; Director of ELP Standards Project) In October, 2016 the American Institutes for Research, under contract with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, published the English Language...

[Center for Law and Social Policy \(CLASP\): Opportunities for Action. IET Model Programs](#)

Posted on 01/13/2017

This memo from CLASP's Opportunities for Action series features career pathway models that use Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs to serve diverse learners in numerous settings. The final Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regulations, released earlier this year, provide both assurance and incentives for adult education, workforce development...

[Panel Summary: Leveraging Trends in Blended, Distance, and Mobile Learning](#)

Posted on 01/09/2017

On November 14, 2016 The EdTech Center at World Education hosted a panel at NCTN's Effective Transitions in Adult Education annual conference, which is dedicated to

strengthening adult education's capacity to ensure that adult learners have access to and success in the college, occupational training and career they need to...

[Europe: The benefits of recognising refugee qualifications](#)

Posted on 01/05/2017

EPALE is the Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe. In the November 16, 2016 post Simon Broek hosts an article by Dr. Roger Y. Chao Jr., a senior consultant for UNESCO – International Center for Higher Education Innovation, about the topics of social inclusion, immigrants and validation of prior learning....

[Edutopia: Education Research Highlights from 2016](#)

Posted on 01/04/2017

In her December 8 2016 article Youki Terada offers a look at the research that made an impact in 2016, from growth mindset in science class to effective stress-reduction strategies for teachers and students. Terada starts by stating that "In 2016, we learned more about how teachers feel about their..."

[Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems \(CASAS\): Integrated EL Civics \(English Literacy and Civics Education\)](#)

Posted on 01/04/2017

Three Integrated EL Civics (English Literacy and Civics Education) conferences will be held in 2017. The first one serves the Central Valley and will convene on Friday, January 20th at the Bakersfield Adult School. The Southern California conference will be held on Friday, February 3rd at the Vista Adult School....

[Registration Open for Technology and Distance Learning Symposium 2017](#)

Posted on 01/03/2017

California adult education providers, OTAN and the North Orange County Community College, School of Continuing Education invite you to two days (March 10–11, 2017) of new information, dynamic presentations, and plenty of hands-on skill development to start or grow your blended/ distance learning programs and enhance technology integration! Registration for...