

Sarah DiRuscio, M.A.

Educational Technology Specialist

530-305-1638

1165 Bluffs Place

Auburn, CA 95603

sdiruscio@gmail.com

www.forefrontcurriculum.com



Who is Sarah DiRuscio

Sarah DiRuscio is one of the nation's experts on technology integration in the K-12 classroom. Since 1995, she has personally trained over 60,000 teachers making her one of the most sought-after presenters of technology workshops in the country. As a former classroom teacher and now a Sr. Educational Technology Coordinator, Sarah works with administrators, teachers, and students to enhance their 21st century skills on a daily basis. She was honored to be chosen as one of the first 50 Google Certified teachers in the world!

Education

Administrative Credential, California Dept. of Education, 2008

Masters of Arts, Special Education with emphasis in Technology, 1995 – San Jose State

Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, 1992 – San Jose State University

Special Education Teaching Credential, 1992 – San Jose State University

Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Studies with an emphasis in Technology, 1991 – Mills College

Professional Experience

Senior Education Technology Coordinator, Grant Joint Union High School

District: Sacramento, CA 2006-Present

Responsible for the development and coordination of comprehensive instructional technology programs including the analysis of teacher training needs, and development of curriculum. Serve as an innovative leader who brings about sustained technology integration into all aspects of the Grant District using distance learning, videoconferencing, and train the trainer models while managing \$750K budget and supervising 120 teachers.

Professional Development

- Facilitate technology training for teachers and students (in person, web & videoconferences)
- Supervise & evaluate 20 Technology Coaches who train teachers (\$85K budget)
- Manage expenditure of the EETT Professional Development budget (\$46K budget)

Technology Implementation

- Coordinate conversations between Ed. Services/Ed. Opts/IT department to meet goals
- Curriculum project manager for school-wide 1 to 1 implementation (700 computers)
- Participate in decisions about the priorities of various instructional technology projects
- Collaborate on the design of classrooms, laboratories and other teaching spaces
- Prepared the 3 year Grant Technology Plan & manage the federal technology grants

Curriculum Development & District-wide Programs

- Work with Curriculum Office to create a technology-culture that supports learning
- Select and manage curriculum software resources used district-wide (\$350K budget)
- Write speaker proposals and create Power Points for district administrators/Superintendent
- Create & maintain the Moodle (distance learning) website for MLK School
- Wrote and helped to produce an online video used state-wide in CA public schools
- Founded the Technology Coach Program (20 coaches & \$85K budget)
- Founded the Videoconferencing Program (district wide & \$100K budget)
- Manage the Gen Yes program at three junior high schools (30 teachers/95 students)

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Professional Experience *(continued)*

Google Certified Teacher, Google, Inc.: Mountain View, CA 2006-Present

Selected as one of the first 50 teachers in the world to become a Google Certified Teacher

- Provide consulting advice to software developers at Google to help them develop products that can be integrated into K-12 classrooms (GEarth, GDocs, GGroups, etc)
- Facilitate Google training using online collaborative tools

President & Teacher Trainer – Forefront Curriculum: Auburn, CA 1995-Present

Founded consulting and publishing company which provides technology training and curriculum development for universities, corporations, school districts and county offices.

- Personally trained over 60,000 teachers from around the world
- Provided technology consulting for 50 school districts and county offices in the US
- Authored 10 books (Microsoft Press, BER, Classroom Connect, Forefront Curriculum)
- Managed curriculum development projects for large corporations which involved supervising groups of writers (Microsoft, NCTM Math, NEH Humanities, and more)
- **Educational Technology Consultant** for: AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science), Classroom Connect, MCI (Marco Polo), NASA, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), SMUD, Sylvan Learning Centers, Web Buddy, Web Whacker Software, BonusPoint, and 10th Planet Company
- Visit www.forefrontcurriculum.com for more information

National Technology Presenter-Bureau of Education & Research: Bellvue, WA 1995-Present

Presenter for BER, the leading provider of staff development and training resources for educators in North America. Honored by president for teaching 21st century skills seminars to classroom teachers and impacting over 1 million students.

- Present technology integration workshops that focus on classroom projects
- Attendees are K-12 classroom teachers from public and private school districts

Instructor, Sacramento State University: Sacramento, CA 2001

Taught CSUS College of Continuing Education-EDTE 230: Technology for meeting "Clear Credential" requirements

- Introduction to Computers in the Multiple Subjects: A practical introduction to the use and applications of computer-based technologies in the kindergarten-eighth grade classroom. Major topics include basic computer terminology and functions, educational software evaluation and integration into instruction, using telecommunication, multimedia authoring and issues relating to the impact of computers in a democratic society.

Classroom Teacher-Cupertino Junior High School & Santa Teresa School, San Jose, CA 1992-1996

Instructed elementary students as well as 7th/8th grade students with special needs in the areas of technology, science, mathematics, social studies, language arts, and study skills program.

- Developed school's web site and provided tech training for teachers and students
- School-site technology lead, faculty committee and middle school task force

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Presentations

Technology speaker at many of the nation's leading technology conferences & provided technology training for 50 different school districts and county offices

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Capital Area Science Education Leaders•California School Board Association (CSBA)•Computer Using Educators (CUE)•Connected Classroom Conference (CCC)•Germany's National Technology Conference- Duales System Internet Conference for Educators- Hamburg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Midwest Educational Technology Conference (METC)•National Educational Computing Conference (NECC)•Open Minds (Open source conference for K12)•Technology, Reading & Learning Difficulties Conference (TRLD)
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Published Works

- **Forefront Curriculum**-Author & Publisher of ten technology books for educators: "Enhancing Science Curriculum with the Net"; "Internet ABCs for Elementary Students"; "Enhancing Classroom Curriculum with the Net"; "Internet Skills for School Success"; "Practical Strategies for Enhancing Elementary Curriculum with the Net", and "What's New in Technology for the Classroom"
- **Microsoft Press**-Supervised team of curriculum writers who developed integrated technology curriculum that aligned with the NETS standards (Nat'l Technology Standards)
- **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)**-I developed Technology-based math curriculum & interactive online activities for the national math website
- **Science Net Links** (American Association for the Advancement of Science-AAAS)- Developed Technology-based curriculum for the national science website
- **National Endowment of the Humanities**-I developed technology-based social science & language arts curriculum for their national Marco Polo humanities website
- **Classroom Connect**-Author of Internet Science Curriculum Guide
- **Columnist**- Catalyst Newsletter, Special Edge Newsletter, Classroom Connect Newsletter

Technical Skills

Videoconferencing Equipment, Microsoft Office Suite, Google Docs, Google Groups, Gmail, Google Apps, MS Visio, MS Publisher, Adobe Photoshop, Flash, FrontPage, Dreamweaver, and more.

District Curriculum Administrator for: Apangea, Blackboard, BrainPop, Custom Guide, Infotrac, Moodle, NetTrekker, Renzulli, Scantron Online, School Center, United Streaming, and World Book

Honors

- **Sacramento Bee** - Featured Woman Entrepreneur in Business Section
- **Philadelphia Inquirer** - Featured Outstanding Technology Educator
- **Washington Post** - One of top five female collegiate sports writers in the nation
- **Mills College** – All American athlete & Full-ride basketball scholarship
- **Oakland A's**- Worked in community relations for two seasons, earned a World Series ring
- **Google** – One of first 50 teachers in nation to be Google Certified

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Onsite Seminars

Since 1995, have conducted hundreds of onsite technology integration seminars at school districts, regional service centers, County Offices of education and school sites training over 60,000 teachers.

Practical Strategies for Integrating Technology into Classroom Projects (Grades K-12)

This seminar highlights the latest interactive web sites, multimedia tools, streaming video, distance education, videoconferencing, website development, Google Tools, podcasting, blogging, and Wikis that bring excitement into the classroom! Practical strategies are highlighted including: easy- to- use technology lesson plans and activities that correlate to state standards which can be used with students on a daily basis.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abilene Unified School District, Abilene, TX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kettering Middle School, Kettering, OH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phoenix City Day School, Phoenix, AZ
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avon Grove School District, Westgrove, PA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kingsburg High School, Kingsburg, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placer County Office of Ed., Auburn, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briarcliff Unified School District, Briarcliff NY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Quinta High School, Garden Grove, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pleasant Ridge School District, Grass Valley, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cicero District 99, Cicero, IL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Mesa Jr. High, Santa Clarita, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Porterville High School,, Porterville, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desert Sky Middle School, Phoenix, AZ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Tahoe Unified, SL Tahoe, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redwood High School, Visalia, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Detroit High School, Detroit, MI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louis Pasteur Middle School, Orangevale, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacramento State University, Sacramento, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Dorado COE, Placerville, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marysville High School, Marysville, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Joaquin County Office of Education, Stockton, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eureka School District, Granite Bay, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NASA, Mountain View, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Juan Unified School District, Carmichael, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fairfield City Schools, Fairfield, OH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newark Memorial High, Newark, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saugus High School, Valencia, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Folsom High School, Folsom, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Technology High School, (Dept. of Ed. School), Napa, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Joseph's Parish School, Auburn, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garden Grove Unified School District, Garden Grove, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N-W School District, Justin, TX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upland High School, Upland, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geneseo School District, Geneseo, IL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ophir School, Ophir, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Merion School District, King of Prussia, PA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granada High School, Granada Hills, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pacifica High School, Garden Grove, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valencia High School, Valencia, CA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kane County Regional Office of Ed, Geneva,IL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penryn School, Penryn, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Placer Unified S.D., Lincoln, CA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perryville County Schools, Perryville, MO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Washington Univ.