TO:         NJASA Technology Committee Members
FROM:       Mary Capasso, NJASA
RE:         Meeting Notes - October 2, 2014
DATE:       October 14, 2014

The NJASA Technology Committee met at 10:00 am on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at NJASA Headquarters in Trenton.

In attendance were: Dr. David Gentile, Chair, Millville, Cumberland county; Mary Capasso, NJASA Staff Liaison; Steve Minchak (representing Dr. Dan Blachford), Hammonton, Atlantic county; Marianthe Williams, River Dell Regional, Bergen county; Dr. Joseph Campisi, Hainesport Township, Burlington county; Dr. Alfred Savio, West Cape May, Cape May county; Michael Fetherman, Cedar Grove Township, Essex county; David Bailey, Holland Township, Hunterdon county; Dr. Scott Rocco, Spotswood, Middlesex county; Christopher Rooney, Monmouth-Ocean ESC, Monmouth county; Jason Eitner, Lower Alloways Creek, Salem county; John Nittolo, Green Township, Sussex county and Sharon Nagy-Johnson (representing Michael Davino), Springfield Township, Warren county.

Dr. Gentile led discussions on the following agenda items:

**PARCC**
There was much discussion on PARCC including:
- eliminating mid-terms
- space issues
- Opting out (is this an option; what do you do with the child who has opted out?)
- Training Proctors
Dr. Joe Campisi will set up a Google Doc to send to the membership. The Doc will keep track of “opt out” situations and the compiled data will be shared with all Superintendents and Bari Erlichson at the NJDOE.

**Instructional Technology Best Practices**
The following websites were offered to the group as valuable resources:

**Flubaroo** – This is a free tool that helps you quickly grade multiple choice or fill-in-
blank assignments.

http://flubaroo.com

innovateNJ is New Jersey's initiative to support innovation and practice by fostering sharing and collaboration, cultivating projects, and convening practitioners and partners.

http://www.nj.gov/education/innovateNJ

MinecraftEdu is a school-ready remix of the original smash hit game Minecraft, played by over 30 million people worldwide. Created by teachers for classroom use and officially supported by Mojang, the company behind Minecraft, MinecraftEdu contains a set of powerful yet simple tools to fine-tune the Minecraft experience for learning. Teachers in over 40 countries use MinecraftEdu in every subject area from STEM to Language, to History, to Art.

http://minecraftEdu.com

STEAM – This is an integrated Minecraft. Sharing maps, in-game items, custom scenarios, full game conversions, character skins, new game modes, spells, puzzles, quests, characters, language packs, and much, much more. This is all player-driven, where you can create custom game modifications or content for your favorite game and share it with the community. For a full list of products on the Steam Workshop home page:

http://steamcommunity.com/workshop

Plickers - Plickers is a powerfully simple tool that lets teachers collect real-time formative assessment data without the need for student devices.

http://plickers.com

JerseyOn - JerseyOn is a state-wide nonprofit focused on connecting low-income students and their families at home to high-speed, low-cost Internet.

http://Jerseyon.org

Comcast Internet Essentials – Internet Essentials from Comcast offers low-cost Internet service, computer equipment and free digital literacy training to families with at least one child eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program.

http://www.internetessentials.com

Kano - Kano is a computer you build and code yourself. Lego simple, Raspberry Pi powerful, and hugely fun.

http://www.kano.me

Makey Makey – This is an invention kit for the 21st century. Turn everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet. It's a simple Invention Kit for Beginners and Experts doing art, engineering, and everything in between.

http://www.makeymakey.com
**Techspo ’14:**

Discussions included a request to the committee members to encourage their staff to submit session proposals and ask their colleagues at Roundtables to solicit in their respective districts. To date only 60 have been received and the goal is 80+. The deadline was extended from October 10 to October 22 to encourage additional submissions. Click on the proposal link or paste in your browser [http://tinyurl.com/techspo15rfp](http://tinyurl.com/techspo15rfp)

**A subcommittee was formed to read the proposals:**
Dave Gentile  
Chris Rooney  
Marianthe Williams  
Jason Eitner  
Mike Davino/Sharon Nagy-Johnson  
Scott Rocco

**Keynote Speaker suggestions included:**
Eric Sheninge  
Will Richardson  
Kenneth Robinson  
Beau Lotto  
Amy O’Toole

**For the Good of the Order:**
Discussion on districts having problems managing all of their data. Springfield Township uses Filemaker successfully. [www.filemaker.com](http://www.filemaker.com)

**Meeting Calendar:**
December 10, 2014 – This will be an online meeting. The link with instructions will be sent to the Committee in advance of the meeting.  
Two sites are being explored for this meeting (Big Marker and Appear In)  
- March 5, 2015  
- May 7, 2015

*Meeting adjourned at approx 12:00pm*