

**Title of Session:** Hurricane Central  
**Moderator:** BJ Berquist  
**Title of File:** 20050929hurricane  
**Date:** September 29, 2005

Room: Hurricane Central Help Center

**BethWel** joined the room.

**BJB2** waves to Beth. Glad you could join us!

**BJB2:** I've seen you visiting the group room several times, Beth

**BJB2:** any particular reason for your interest?

**BethWel:** I've been trying to get a handle on what might be provided to the hurricane community

**EmilyW** joined the room.

**BethWel:** I'm particularly interested in how online work might be used to support K-12 students

**BJB2** waves hi to Em.

**EmilyW** waves hi

**BJB2:** excellent, Beth. That's a great thread to discuss!

**BJB2:** Emily has been doing a lot of research for the group and added several links to the folders

**BJB2:** Beth, have you learned of any specific ideas for holding online classes?

**BJB2** thinks Tapped In is the ideal opportunity for this.

**ShanaD** joined the room.

**ShanaD:** hello

**BJB2:** Hi, Shana. Welcome to the discussion

**ShanaD:** thank you

**ShanaD:** I had a horrible time trying to get in

**BJB2:** since we now have a crowd let's start with introductions, please

**BJB2:** Glad you could make it, Shana

**BJB2:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

**ShanaD:** I am a Graduate Student from Waynesburg College, trying to get my masters in Education Technology

**EmilyW:** I am a recent college grad who enjoys web design and research, I am also a helpdesk volunteer

**BethWel:** I'm an ed psych prof in an MAT program - I work closely with K-12 schools in upstate New York

**BJB2:** do you have any specific connection to learning about education resources for the hurricanes, Shana?

**BJB2:** . o O ( Beth would like to learn more about online classes for displaced students and, I assume, teachers )

**ShanaD:** I do not have any specific connections, I wanted to learn a more about the education resources

**BJB2** nods to Shana

**BJB2:** anyone have any ideas about what we can do?

**BJB2:** there are quite a few Louisiana members

**EmilyW:** it seems like the online classes has not been covered much in the group

**ShanaD:** I saw how some colleges offer free tuition to those people in Louisiana and other places since the hurricanes I think that is so nice of them

**DavidWe** joined the room.

**BJB2:** I haven't looked at the other effected states. I know Texas has a lot of the displaced teachers and students

**BJB2** nods to Shana. I believe Emily has added some links pertaining to that information.

**LindaU** joined the room.

**BJB2:** we need to focus on K-12 students

**BJB2** waves to David and Linda. Glad you could join us!

**EmilyW:** I forgot to mention I am in Texas, but I don't know too much about displaced teachers/students

**LindaU:** hi

**EmilyW:** one thing that might be useful is to add another section in links for news articles

**BJB2:** the topic for tonight's discussion is how we can facilitate the provision of K-12 online classes to displaced teachers and students

**BethWel:** good suggestion

**BJB2:** I just sent a link to an ASCD article

**BJB2** . o O ( posted it to the discussion board )

**BJB2:** Emily, I think you can make a new folder for news articles

**BJB2:** Shana, above this chat window is a note "Be a part..."

**BJB2:** scroll down to the bottom of that note to the green i next to Hurricane Central Help Center and click on the green i

**BJB2:** you should see the ID page for the group and a place to join the group

**BJB2:** this will allow you to post to the discussion board, add resources to the folders, and receive messages that have been posted to the discussion board

**BJB2:** Linda, I know you just got back from traveling....any suggestions for us?

**ShanaD:** ok thank you

**BethWel:** One place that I wonder about is the schools that have had to absorb large numbers of students - could access to regularly scheduled tutoring or even classes be facilitated through this environment to help ease the stress?

**BJB2** . o O ( Linda will be leading the GPBL discussion that will take place after this one. )

**BJB2:** nice suggestion, Beth!

**BJB2:** I like the idea of a tutoring center

**EmilyW:** me too

**ShanaD:** I agree I'm sure that would help the teacher

**BJB2:** the teachers would have to set up group rooms and assign usernames to the students so they could enter the student campus

**BJB2:** but we could recruit a group of volunteer teachers who would be willing to man/woman the tutor center

**BJB2:** I'll put something in the October newsletter about it. Beth, would you like to write an article?

**ShanaD:** about how many students could you actually have in a tutoring session like that

**DavidWe** wonders what the current topic is

**BJB2:** there are 5 studios in the student campus

**ShanaD:** ok

**BethWel:** I think it would help if we also included teacher ed students in the pool

**BJB2:** David, we're discussing how to help displaced teachers and students with online learning...Beth has suggested a tutoring center to help take the load off the teachers

**BJB2:** excellent idea, Beth!

**BethWel:** Bj -if you give me some guidelines and logistics, I could put a draft together for you to look at.

**DavidWe:** I'm very interested in that topic, with respect to Hurricane Katrina and Louisiana, Mississippi, etc.

**BJB2** nods to David.

**ShanaD:** do you get results from online tutoring? I have never taken part in one

**BJB2:** Beth, review the transcript when we're done and write up a paragraph or two....and email to [bjb@tappedin.org](mailto:bjb@tappedin.org)

**BJB2:** dunno, Shana! We're all treading in new territory

**BethWel:** My concern is more with making contact with the schools in ways that will get them to use the service.

**BethWel:** will do - busy tomorrow, it will be Saturday.

**BJB2** agrees.

**BJB2:** no rush....I will need something by Oct 10

**BJB2:** the newsletter goes out to all the Tapped In members

**BJB2** . o O ( over 18,000 )

**BJB2:** hopefully, the people who need to read it will do so

**BJB2:** we can also post to the preservice teachers group and the teacher ed faculty forum

**BJB2:** there is already a folder on the discussion board for My Stories....

**BJB2:** should there be one for teachers who want tutors and teachers/preservice teachers offering to volunteer to tutor?

**EmilyW:** would this tutoring be in student campus?

**BJB2:** Em, I think for liability it would have to be there

**EmilyW:** I agree that it might be hard to spread the word

**EmilyW:** maybe we need to see if teachers would be interested in this?

**ShanaD:** it would be hard to get the word out, and even if it was none how do you get them interested

**EmilyW:** and if it were to happen, would it be grouped by grade level or subjects?

**BJB2** sighs. Details, details! You're all correct. Should we start with a post to the group?

**BJB2** . o O ( and to preservice teachers and teacher ed faculty? )

**EmilyW:** should we have a post about spreading the word or how the tutoring will work or both?

**DavidWe** hasn't been paying attention but will try to for the remaining 20 minutes

**DavidWe:** Let me know if I can do anything in particular

**DavidWe:** I am VERY, VERY INTERESTED in making Tapped In a place to support geographically displaced students and teachers

**BJB2:** I think spreading the word and offering tutoring go hand in hand, Em

**EmilyW:** I am very interested in researching on finding out how to contact these displaced students and teachers

**DavidWe:** That's a challenge, Em

**EmilyW:** it is a challenge

**BethWel:** I agree with both Emily and David - Bj are there a lot of teachers in that area who are members?

**BJB2:** we also might want to post information to the digital divide listserv

**BJB2:** yes, Beth

**EmilyW:** there has been a thread about katrina stuff

**DavidWe:** I chatted with a Louisiana teacher within days of Hurricane Katrina - still in a part of LA with electricity and a house, so....

**BarbaraMu** joined the room.

**EmilyW:** we need a general description about the group and/or tutoring

**BJB2** waves hi to Barbara!

**BarbaraMu:** Hello everyone!

**EmilyW:** or figure out what to post to lists

**DavidWe** waves to Barbara

**BJB2:** we're discussing the possibility of offering tutoring for displaced students to take some of the stress off the overloaded teachers

**DavidWe:** Hi, Barbara. Welcome

**DavidWe** smiles

**DavidWe:** brb

**BarbaraMu:** Thanks- sorry- client just left but thought I would try to catch the end of the discussion

**BarbaraMu:** Have you had any specific response to the room or the resources we are creating?

**BarbaraMu:** Or have you covered that already?

**DavidWe:** responses?

**BJB2:** we've had quite a few people join the group, but not a lot of posts to the discussion board

**BarbaraMu:** One would guess those affected have their hands full....

**DavidWe:** I'm rather bad at posting things to (and consequently reading things on) discussion boards in TI

**BJB2** agrees with Barbara. One thing I'm really trying to stress is that this group is for the long term

**BarbaraMu:** I just reread the mission posted in the room...

**DavidWe:** what are our plans for the long-term or short-term

**BarbaraMu:** thinking that a disaster clearinghouse of resources is important to amass but difficult to access when you are actually in crisis

**DavidWe** . o O ( I'm still a bit unsure of what we try to do )

**BJB2:** David, that is what we're trying to figure out

**DavidWe:** We're 30 days post-Katrina, right?

**EmilyW:** yes we are

**BarbaraMu:** online classes and lesson plans for overcrowded classes...adopting classrooms- have we had any takers? or been able to get the word out to those displaced?

**BJB2** is relying on more sensible minds...I'm an art teacher and tend to be more abstract in my thinking

**EmilyW:** I am not quite sure I understand what adopting classrooms means?

**BJB2:** Barbara, that is also what we're discussing...Beth just made the suggestion for tutoring tonight

**EmilyW:** I think finding displaced teachers will be easier to do than students

**BJB2:** adopting classrooms could mean raising funds to buy extra supplies...

**BarbaraMu:** There is a K-12 opps list which is distributed I think also by the Global school network- it might help to post that hurricane central exists toward all these ends...that email goes to zillions of educators

**BethWel:** Emily, following up on what you were saying, may be a blurb that says - we are..., in response to the circumstances of the K-12 community affected by H Katrina, we will be establishing... (description). If you are interested in participating... just to find out about what people want and can do????

**BJB2:** I wouldn't limit us to Katrina.

**BethWel:** thanks

**BJB2** . o O ( people in Texas are hurting too )

**EmilyW:** affected by the hurricanes

**EmilyW:** not just Katrina

**BarbaraMu:** no- but maybe all the links we are listing, we could contact and let them know we exist so that they might similarly highlight this location. If we could find them, they are a natural conduit back to us...

**BJB2** nods. Barbara also brought up an important issue....

**EmilyW:** I already contacted someone at one association

**BJB2:** even people from 911 are still reeling ....she is making sure we have lots of emotional and mental health support resources

**BarbaraMu:** I would be willing to write to some of the links and ask them to add us as a link if you need a volunteer

**BJB2:** cool. Thanks, Barbara.

**EmilyW:** I've been wanting to write an entry in my blog about it

**EmilyW:** and also look for others to comment on

**BJB2:** go for it, Em

**BJB2:** we need to contact teacher associations too

**EmilyW:** I like Beth's general idea for the information

**EmilyW:** could someone write that so we can start spreading the word?

**BarbaraMu:** Is it different than the information that is written in the 2 paragraphs on the welcome section of this room?

**DavidWe:** . o O ( NEA? )

**EmilyW:** I contacted someone at NEA

**EmilyW:** I can get the contact of someone that might be a better contact there

**BarbaraMu:** Sometimes tho it's as easy as asking the webmaster to add you as a link

**BarbaraMu:** National Education Association

**EmilyW:** the link would be to the tapped in website

**BarbaraMu:** sometimes they have to check with a board or a president or sometimes they just thank you for the resource to add and do it

**EmilyW:** I was communicating with someone in the web department at NEA

**BethWel:** I think that the 2 paragraphs are a bit more general - I'll take a stab at the writing.

**DavidWe:** Local state governments in Louisiana, Mississippi - Depts. of Ed?

**DavidWe:** I would think that's the place to start

**DavidWe:** Baton Rouge...

**DavidWe:** Does that seem like the proper level to dive in on?

**EmilyW:** TX dept of ed has resources

**BarbaraMu:** I would think that the link would be to the Hurricane Central Room for this particular crisis...its a niche area but if people are looking for those resources, Tapped In may not bring them in as quickly as the title Hurricane Central...and once they go there, they have to log in and learn about tapped in in the process

**BJB2:** it seems like it, but the local/state organizations are probably overwhelmed right now

**EmilyW:** we don't have a direct url to this room

**BJB2:** check [www.tappedin.org](http://www.tappedin.org)

**BJB2:** I think Patti added a redirect

**DavidWe** thinks that state organizations have had 30 days to think about how to support education for the displaced people and that they are probably looking for resources, ideas, HELP

**BarbaraMu:** I will write to the Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi school counselor and counseling associations and ask them to add it...tho at this point a lot of their own web people are displaced.

**EmilyW:** but it needs be mentioned with that url that you can't post or add anything

**DavidWe:** I think that is a GREAT idea, Barbara

**DavidWe** wonders if Linda is giving a presentation this evening

**BJB2:** Our time is up and Linda is scheduled to do the GPBL discussion

**LindaU:** yes.. I'm on my way to the hot tub

**DavidWe** smiles

**BJB2:** any last comments, questions?

**EmilyW:** from here, I am going to make a list of orgs or other places to contact

**BJB2:** please use the discussion board in this room to keep the group members in the loop and draw on their experiences

**EmilyW:** then once we get a description we will ask them to add the link

**BarbaraMu:** okay-just to double check- I have agreed I will write to others to link to us or should I wait for specific directions/clarification about where you want this to be directed first...tappedin.org or to a hurricane central specific area

**BJB2:** I'll post a summary of the discussion to the board.

**EmilyW:** we need to figure out the link and explaining tapped in

**BJB2:** I think to Tapped In....there is a link on the homepage to Hurricane Central

**BarbaraMu:** Em- not to duplicate efforts, I will write to the counseling folks and the links I have added who are counseling related

**EmilyW:** thanks, I actually wasn't looking at counseling

**EmilyW:** so that's good

**BethWel:** I'll start those paragraphs and also look around for contacts

**DavidWe:** Have any of you see what's been on EDC's web page for several weeks?

**EmilyW:** I think we should start a new thread (not folder unless you want) for contacts

**EmilyW:** or suggestions

**EmilyW:** no

**DavidWe:** <http://www.hhd.org/hurricane/Default.asp>

**EmilyW:** BJ, do you want to post to ddn and wwvedu?

**DavidWe:** That went up pretty quickly - mental health support for Hurricane Katrina victims

**BJB2:** Em, why don't you post to ddn

**EmilyW:** ok

**BJB2:** . o O ( Andy doesn't want me posting to both )

**BarbaraMu:** there are a lot of resources...the problem is that the caregivers/providers are having trouble catching their breath to access the resources...and that they were told to wait before going in since there were other survival issues being addressed

**DavidWe** smiles

**DavidWe:** Of course, it's a disaster

**BarbaraMu:** Thank you for welcoming me in to the discussion so late....I am going to run. have a good night and let me know if I can do anything else

**BJB2** waves. Take care

**BarbaraMu:** You too

**BJB2:** thanks for your help, Barbara

**BarbaraMu:** G'night all.

**BethWel:** thank you all - this was a fruitful discussion.