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Edit 663 – Professor Yildiz
Instructional uses of the internet.
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Instagram, Paddlet and Lynch.Technology

Instagram, Padlet and Lynch.Technology – For educational use.

The tools I chose to create a virtual immersion environment to support, model and promote diversity is a three-part sandwich. The three tools I chose for social media communication are: Instagram, Padlet and my personal website www.lynch.technology for a landing base for the other two. Although each one works well by itself as a tool, I have over the past several years started to merge different technology sources I use and put it into one larger resource.

The first resource that I have been playing with as an idea for several years is using Instagram as an educational resource for sharing ideas. While thinking about this as an idea, I have compiled a couple hundred images of computer science, computer technology and education computer posts through my own Instagram account. However, my personal account is riddled with the past five years of my life and personal posts. This being said, for a teacher to use this in their classroom, it would be advisable to create a second clean account so that a teacher's personal life does not get shared with the student populous.

You can see in the images to the difference in my personal profile and my public profile for education.
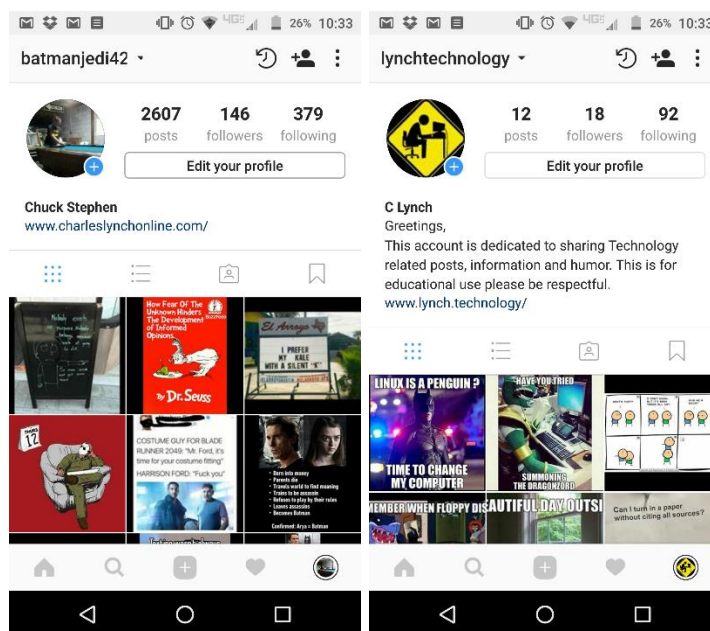
Keeping yourself private online can be a difficult task and as educators to learn the new technologies that are coming out rapidly, we should create profiles in order to learn them. They should be kept separate and distinct from each other.

The public educational account I have has been a thought for a long time now. I have compiled around 500 images that suit the needs for this account and it took about four or five hours to get them all together from various sources and backups I have of the files. It is the newest educationally used technology of the three I chose, but it has great versatility. Some of its many uses is: sharing a topic through and image and a video, through words, music, allows students to comment on posts, or not, and to post assignments should the need arise. The teacher can lock down the profile so that they can chose who follows them and what words can and cannot be used while making comments. Topics can be shared about almost anything. How we should act in the world, hot topics around the world and bring people together to talk about them in an open environment.

I have not used Instagram in this capacity for very long and only have 5 days' worth of posts at the moment on the account. This is something that I plan on keeping and growing as my teaching and education continues.
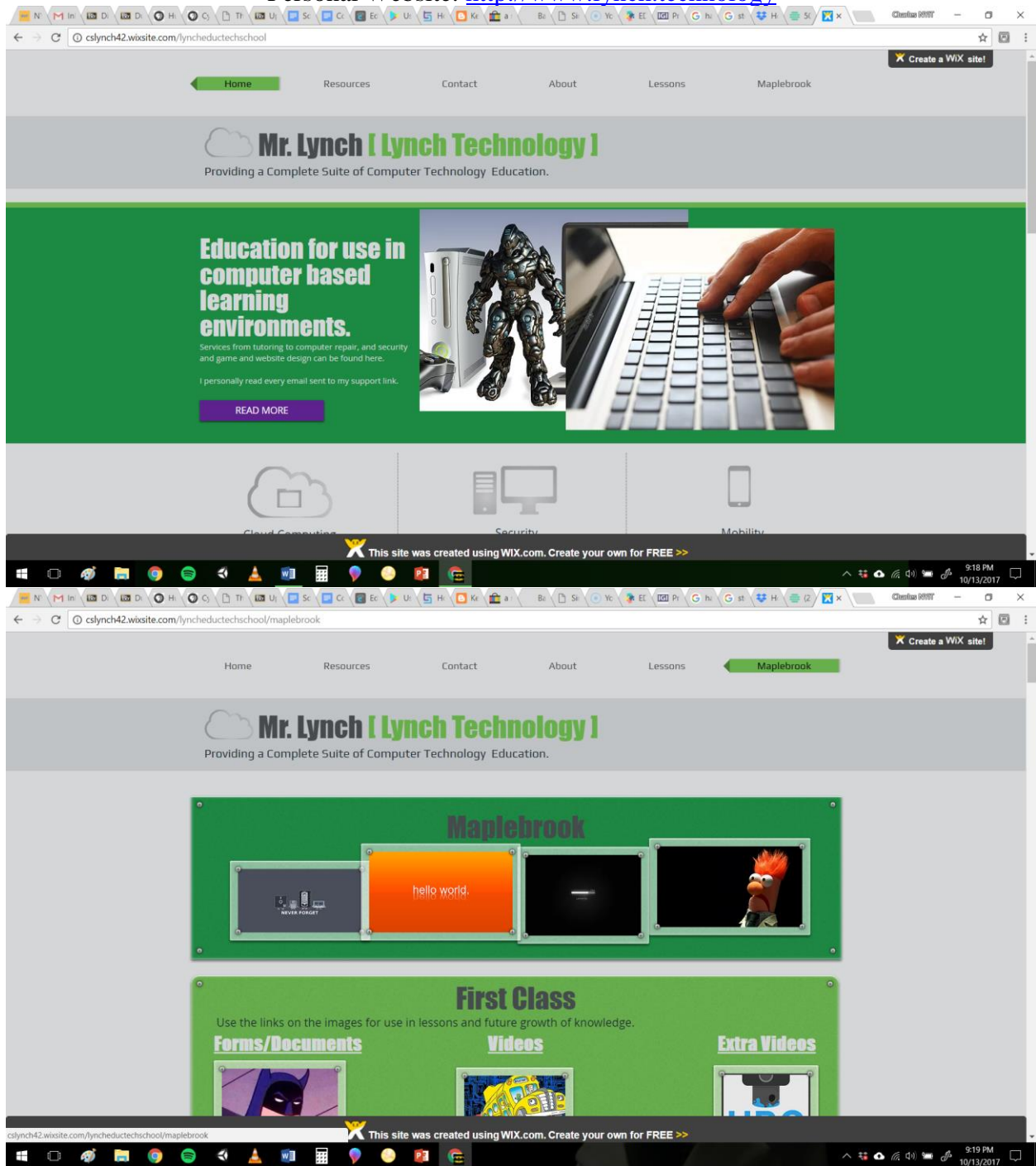
The second choice for an educational social media program is Padlet. Since the summer I have used it in my classrooms attached to my website. In this way I have set it up for students to ask me questions, post requests, or share information quickly. I have the settings set up so that anyone that posts, has to be approved by myself with an email and app notification as soon as something is posted. I then can see if it is a quiet request or something that can be posted to the page. In this way a student who has a question can ask it without feeling embarrassed, or share a link they found. I have purged the posts from it several times as I have used it with different classes, but the students seem to enjoy it. They can share ideas with their fellow classmates on a safe and monitored forum by a teacher who can control the conversation to a degree.

As an instructor, Padlet makes it simple to add something to my website without having to open another window and open the editing program and waiting for the server to update. This saves time in the classroom and adds something where a student is already familiar using. There are no real restriction on this website except such as those that the instructor puts on them. This can also be set up in the same fashion for an open forum discussion with local government officials and for parents to reach out to teachers and have answers posted so that the same question does not need to be asked by each parent. Teachers can also post homework assignments and updates. Even teachers forget to add something to a lesson on occasion. It is nice to be able to post a link to a video for information about a lesson that day, or information to help students learn outside of the classroom. This can be used as an app on a mobile device, or on an internet browser.
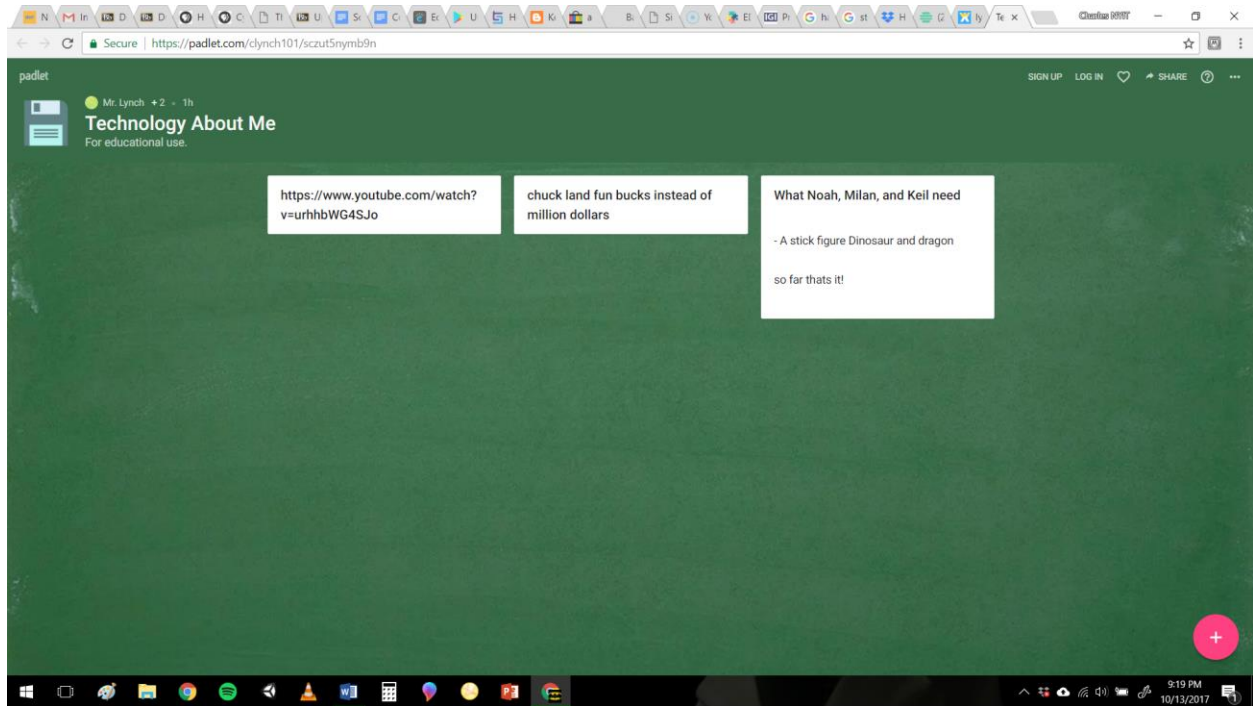
 Lastly, my third choice is my website. It serves as a basecamp for the other two with room for anymore that I may need to add in the future. It can be set up for pages for blogs for people to respond to around the world, host links to assignments, request for extra help, share new and interesting technologies and information with students and to host other social media accounts. In this case I have my Instagram account on a page that students and anyone else can view. It also houses the link to the Padlet for quick link sharing without having to edit my entire website in front of a classroom. The only real feedback I have from my website is astonishment from students that I have my own website and that they think it is really cool. I post the links to videos we have used to learn about ideas in technology with and they are free to watch through certain links for students' later review.

On the next few pages are examples of the products I have typed about in this paper to further show how they function.

Personal Website: http://www.lynch.technology

Example Padlet.

Example Instagram on website

Example of how to change active Instagram accounts
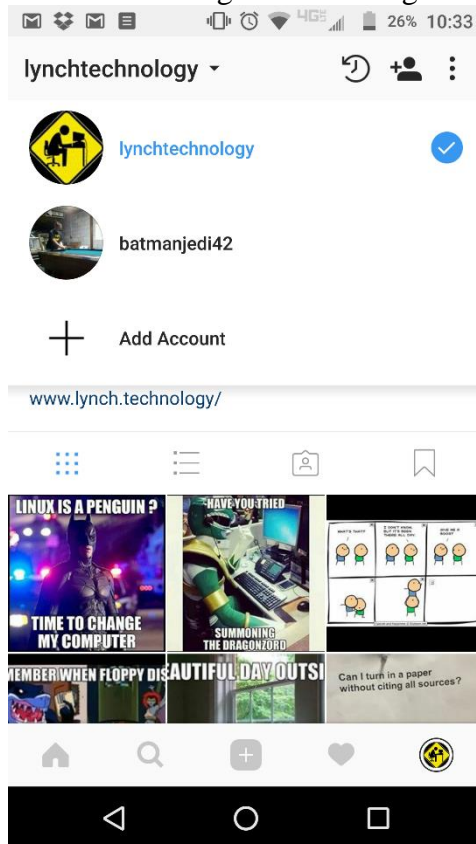
Please watch the following Screencast-o-Matic video that shows how all the elements in this paper are used in conjunction with each other as one unit for diverse social media instruction and as a base for educational resources of all grades, genders and anyone who is willing to learn something new.

This is something that will keep growing for me as my career goes forward and I think that so far, I have learned some valuable amounts of information pertaining to how to use social media and technology in a more broader scope for the classroom and the community and world around it. It is interesting to be able to know the technology and watch it grow at the same time. I can only imagine what new technology we will have next. When I remember that my Grandma is 96 years old, god bless her, and still uses a laptop to email, a Kindle to read and cell phone to communicate with us, it is hard to believe she was born before color television. I can only image what life and the internet of the world will be by the time I am 96 years old for social media and our lives.

All information found on the topic of social media in this paper fits the guidelines of the following ISTE Standard 5:

ISTE Standard: 5. Digital Citizenship. Performance Indicator: c. Model and promote diversity, cultural understanding, and global awareness by using digital-age communication and collaboration tools to interact locally and globally with students, peers, parents and the larger community.