

# TECH TIMES

## Technology News You Can Use

November 7, 2011



Good Monday everyone! As promised, I wanted to share with you a how-to guide for creating podcasts in your classroom. Most podcasters follow a four-step process in creating new material. These steps also apply to educators wanting to encourage the creativity and imagination of their students while involved in the rigorous process of creating something new from previous learned material. The four steps in successful podcasting are: plan, produce, publish, and promote. This week, I will talk about how to publish and promote your podcast.

### PUBLISHING YOUR PODCASTS

There are several methods out there for publishing podcasts. Unless you have a lot of time on your hands, I recommend going with an all-in-one service such as PodOmatic. The advantage to using a service like PodOmatic is the convenience of having all of the software you need in one place. The site also makes the process quick and user friendly. The site walks you through the entire process. The good folks at PodOmatic will even publish your podcast to iTunes if you wish to make it available to a wider audience.

To publish your audio podcast, go to [www.PodOmatic.com](http://www.PodOmatic.com) and create an account. The service is free up to 500 MB. You will need to create an account to manage your files and to keep them safe from unwanted visitors.

Keep in mind that video podcasts can be uploaded directly to websites designed for teachers and students. YouTube is a popular site for posting viral videos and video podcasts but is inaccessible through the school system's network. There are plenty of other choices for educators to post the work of the students. A couple of safe video sharing sites for educators are:

[www.teachertube.com](http://www.teachertube.com)

[www.schooltube.com](http://www.schooltube.com)

Please remember that students should not mention their names during a podcast. Only those

students who have returned video/photo permission slips should participate.

### PROMOTING YOUR SHOW

Students are motivated to work harder and perform better when they are creating for an audience other than the teacher or other class members. Podcasting is a great medium for sharing student work with parents and other stakeholders without leaving the classroom.

There are some great methods for getting the podcasts out to your audience. Teachers communicate with parents on a regular basis. Use these communications to share the web address, or URL, for your podcasts. PodOmatic provides you with an URL for each podcast. Cut and paste the URL into any document that you are sending home. Share the links at school-sponsored events. Here is a list of ideas for getting your podcasts out to your audience.

- email
- newsletter
- technology nights
- parent-teacher conferences
- open house
- PTO meetings

The more students create and distribute podcasts, the better they will become at using the technology skills required.

Cool iPad App of the Week:  
Rocket Math Free

