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# bits & bytes

Technology News Update

Niskayuna Central Schools  
Technology CORE Team

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[www.nisk.k12.ny.us/edtech/bitsandbytes/](http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/edtech/bitsandbytes/)

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## Special "Helpful Web Sites" Issue!

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### Web-Based Bookmarks

[iKeepBookmarks.com](http://iKeepBookmarks.com)

Have you ever bookmarked the perfect Web site on one computer, and then needed to find it while working on a different computer? Are there sites that would benefit your students, and you would like them to be able to easily access them from any computer in school or at home? Here's an easy solution!

The service at **iKeepBookmarks.com** allows you to save Web bookmarks and access them from any computer connected to the Internet. Registration requires very little personal information. Folders for specific topics can be created and then bookmarks added to those folders. The site is set up in a user-friendly manner, and is quite intuitive to manage. Teachers can set up content-specific folders for helpful student sites, allowing these bookmarks to be accessed from any networked computer!

### Great Source for Software Downloads!

Looking for a great single source for locating and downloading freeware & shareware applications, software updates, etc. Look no further than Versiontracker. It is a comprehensive source for Windows, Mac and Palm software with good searching capabilities. Check it out at:

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



### Email Access from ANY Computer

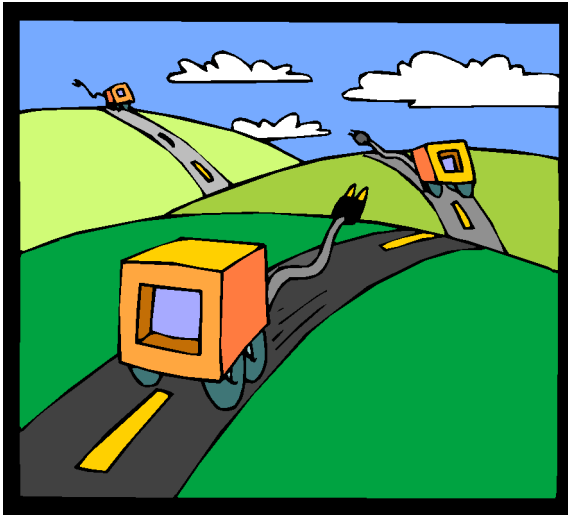


Wouldn't it be nice to be able to access any email account, or even multiple accounts, from any computer with Internet access and a browser? You can!

Mail2web ([www.mail2web.com](http://www.mail2web.com)) is a free and private service that allows you to check mail from virtually any email account simply by providing your email address and password.

It offers the usual options to send, reply or delete email. Additionally, emails can be searched by subject or sender. Check out this very handy and easy to use service!





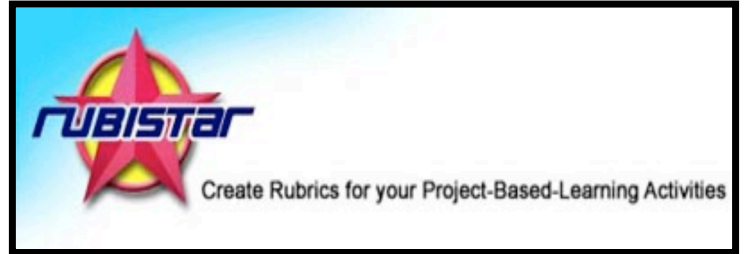
## The “Crosswalk” of Tech & State Standards

How do student technology standards “dovetail” with our NYS Learning Standards? Here’s a Web site that helps to demonstrate this. Our district student technology standards are based partly on the national ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) standards. On the Web site below you will find the ISTE standards under their six major categories (e.g. Basic Operations & Concepts, Technology Productivity Tools, etc.). Beside them are NYS Learning Standards from various content areas (e.g. ELA, CDOS, MST) that correspond to the tech standards. This makes it quite easy to look for state standards related to your curriculum, and then identify which technology standards can also be met while addressing those state standards.

[www.emsc.nysed.gov/technology/nclb/crosswalk2.htm](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/technology/nclb/crosswalk2.htm)



## Rubrics Made Easy!



Rubrics are a great tool for evaluating our students. In addition, they make our expectations very clear, and allow students to self-evaluate. However, creating rubrics can be a daunting task. Not any more! Rubistar is a Web service that will help you to create rubrics quickly and easily. Choose from categories such as “Research and Writing”, “Oral Projects”, “Multimedia” and many more. Then customize a rubric to your own personal taste. Start creating your rubrics at:

<http://rubistar.4teachers.org>

## Lots of Good Stuff!

For a plethora of educational resources, check out **EnchantedLearning.com!** There’s so much available, you may want to take advantage of their “Search Now!” feature to find the information you’re looking for quickly. Or, just enjoy browsing through the myriad of links they offer.

