

## **PLNs (Personal Learning Networks)**

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Feel free to contact me at [Craig.Nansen@minot.k12.nd.us](mailto:Craig.Nansen@minot.k12.nd.us) - Let me know what you thought of the presentation, of Twitter, of Diigo, and of PLNs.

This document can be found on the web at <http://tinyurl.com/ndpln2009>

A support wiki for this presentation can be found at <http://plns.pbworks.com/> with articles and other resources.

**PLNs (Personal Learning Networks)** - a group of people with common interests who learn from each other. The Internet and Web 2.0 allow this to happen outside the boundaries of your school, city or state, but could be something as simple as a discussion group that meets once a week after school. The one thing it is not is a one-way flow of information like you get from a book, from a blog, a podcast or from a presenter at a conference. A Personal Learning Network is similar, but not the same, as a Professional Learning Network. In a Professional Learning Network you are not as free to add and drop people as it is a more formal group, usually formed with a specific purpose in mind.

**Why Everyone Needs a Great PLN** <http://philly-teacher.blogspot.com/2009/09/why-everyone-needs-great-pln.html>

**Twitter** is the backbone of my **Personal Learning Network**.

<http://twitter.com>

<http://twitter.com/cnansen>

You can find educators who use Twitter by going to Twitter for Teachers

<http://twitter4teachers.pbworks.com/>

Special Education teachers on Twitter are found at

<http://twitter4teachers.pbworks.com/Special-Education-Teachers>

Go to <http://search.twitter.com/> and enter any topic you might be interested in

**techmunoz**: If you are looking for great people to follow check out the hashtag **#edchat** - there is a live twitter discussion every Tues. night.

<http://search.twitter.com/search?q=%23edchat>

**mbteach**: Search hashtag **#bisdtsc** for responses about why people love Twitter!

<http://search.twitter.com/search?q=%23bisdtsc>

You can have **Twilert** send you e-mail summaries daily or weekly of keywords you ask it to search for

<http://twilert.com/> - a similar service is provided by TweetBeep.com

**Diigo** is a social bookmarking site - and a core part of my **Personal Learning Network**

<http://diigo.com/user/cnansen>

Here is my Diigo profile - <http://www.diigo.com/profile/cnansen>

Here are my Diigo bookmarks for Reading - <http://www.diigo.com/user/cnansen/Reading>

and for Special Education - <http://www.diigo.com/user/cnansen/SpecialEd>  
and for my Twitter links - <http://www.diigo.com/user/cnansen/twitter>

You can join worldwide Diigo Groups where people share bookmarks on that topic  
Here is the group for SMART Boards and other IWBs  
<http://groups.diigo.com/group/smart-boards>

These are my Diigo Lists - <http://www.diigo.com/list/cnansen>  
Here is my Diigo List for Personal Learning Network resources -  
<http://www.diigo.com/list/cnansen/pln>

These are the Diigo bookmarks of a Title I teacher  
<http://diigo.com/user/mbteach>

**Ning** - a Ning is a specialized community, similar to Facebook, but set up for a specific purpose:

Our PLN for PL (Personalized Learning) Ning from the Apple Institute in Orlando, FL is  
<http://pln4pl.ning.com/>

**LinkedIn** is another social networking tool that can be used to set up a personal learning network  
<http://www.linkedin.com/>

LinkedIn Blog - <http://blog.linkedin.com/>

**Facebook** can also be used to set up a personal learning network  
<http://www.facebook.com/cnansen>

**Google Wave** - As I write this, I am still waiting for my invite to be able to use Google Wave. It is that new. Google Wave is expected to become a useful tool for PLNs.  
Update Friday night, 10/9/09 - Just received my Google Wave invite - hope to find time this weekend to check it out.

**Shelfari** - Part of a PLN devoted to books you read and recommend

<http://www.shelfari.com/cnansen>  
<http://www.shelfari.com/>

Blogs are more for Individualized Learning than PLNs, but can be very informative

Education Blogs by Discipline  
<http://movingforward.wikispaces.com/Education+Blogs+by+Discipline>

An article I ran across from Twitter

How tech drives success in Title I schools

New resources examine technology's potential to make a difference among low-income student populations

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=60905>

A few Title I teachers who are on Twitter

@mbteach

@readingteachsu