

Using Video Conferencing Technology To Connect Students With the World-at-Large



- San Marino High School
- Social studies teacher
- Keynote speaker
- Conference presenter
- Blogger
- Podcast host
- ISTE 2018 Interactive Video Conferencing Teacher of the Year Award Recipient

The World at Large - Meaning?

- Names in the Textbook
- Names in the News
- Book Authors
- Museum Staff Members
- Community leaders
- Students, Teachers, and Administrators at Your School
- Students, Teachers and Administrators at Other Schools

Anyone who has something of value to offer

The World at Large - Why Bother?

- To teach content
- To reinforce the content
- To extend the learning
- To build rapport
- To engage students
- To give students a chance to employ various skills (research, writing, speaking, listening, civility, collaboration, tech/digital media)
- To personalize the learning

Issaic Gates

- Principal
- San Marino High School
- Interviewed earlier this morning
- To view the lead-in to the interview and the q's that were asked, [click here](#)



- Where you were born, where you grew up and where you went to college.
- In your growing up years, were you ever discriminated against because of the color of your skin?
- Do you know anyone who was ever discriminated against because of the color of their skin?
- For the students at San Marino High School who today think that African-Americans are still being discriminated against, and especially by various police officers throughout the country, what would you advise them to do other than protest? In other words, what are some other ways SMHS students can support the Black Lives Matter movement?

- What do you think about the police officers who are kneeling in support of Black Lives Matter
- Do you think the protests we're seeing now will lead to any kind of change for the better?
- Are you at all concerned that the violent protesters will make their way into San Marino?
- Do you think that there is more racism in America today than ever before?
- Who do you blame for all the violence?
- What do you say to those who say that . . . It is time to reinvest in black communities and communities of color here in LA with about \$150 million of this reinvestment to come from cuts in the LA police department budget.

John Incontro

- Chief of Police
- San Marino Police Department
- Interview scheduled for later this week.
- To view the lead in to the interview and the q's to be asked, [click here](#)



- Do you know any blacks who claimed that they had been treated unfairly by any law enforcement officers?
- Have you ever witness any police officer treat blacks unfairly?
- Could you please describe for us, in your own words, the story that we're all hearing so much about today and that is the story of George Lloyd's death?
- Do you think the protests we're seeing now will lead to any kind of change for the better?
- Who do you blame for all the violence?
- What do you say to those who say that . . . It is time to reinvest in black communities and communities of color here in LA with about \$150 million of this reinvestment to come from cuts in the LA police department budget.

- What do you say to those who say that... These THUGS are dishonoring the memory of George Floyd... when the looting starts, the military will be called in.”
- How do you respond to those who say that the George Floyd tragedy raises a long-overdue question? How do we end systemic racism in our society?

Mary Beth Tinker

- US Supreme Court case of Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)
- Led to the Tinker Test, also known as the "substantial disruption" test - a public school student maintains his/her First Amendment free speech rights in school, as long as that speech does not disrupt learning.
- Still used by courts today.
- Asked her if she had ever received any hate mail while growing up
- Also asked her if she thinks schools should be allowed to punish students for any inappropriate, off campus, online speech.





0:13 / 1:01





A follow-up video conference with MBT years later led to a Fictional Diary Entry written by one of my juniors, Jade Wong.

For this assignment, Jade assumed that she was a high school friend of Mary Beth Tinker. She also assumed that she was writing her diary entry while seated at a desk in her bedroom on March 10, 1969, two weeks after the Supreme Court announced its decision.

[Click here to view](#)

Miki Nguyen

- Son of Ba Van Nguyen, a South Vietnamese helicopter pilot whose attempt to save his family from the North Vietnamese was described in the 2014 Academy Award nominated film *Last Days in Vietnam*.
- Miki introduced the video clip





American Experience
Last Days in Vietnam



This particular video conference was hosted by one of my US History students Natalie Lortz.

Natalie's grandfather had also saved his family from the North Vietnamese advance (placing the family aboard a boat.)

After the video conference, Natalie blogged about the experience. [Click here to view](#)

Students at John F. Kennedy High School

- This video conference took place during the 2016 presidential election season
- My US History students spoke with the students entitled in Dr. Scott Petri's history class.
- The issue - whether America should build a wall along its entire border with Mexico.



17:12 -19:03

A video player control bar. On the left, there is a volume icon and a volume slider. In the center, there are play/pause, previous, and next buttons. On the right, there are share and full-screen icons. The time 17:12 is displayed on the left and -19:03 on the right.

Dr. Louis Intres

- Director, Sultana Disaster Museum
- Helped students to find the answers to several key questions surrounding (that they could not find online) regarding the Sultana Steamboat explosion



SULTAN

Donald Segretti

- Former San Marino High School student.
- Political operative
- Worked for U.S. President Richard Nixon's Committee to Re-elect the President
- Served four and a half months in prison.



- What lesson(s) do you hope we, the students, will take away from the study of the Watergate Scandal?
- What lesson(s) have you taken away from this period of history?
- Do you think President Ford should have pardoned Richard Nixon?
- Do you think President Nixon was a good president?
- Do you have anything to say about our current president?





This particular video conference caused Donald to actually want to come to San Marino to speak with the students directly.

This in-class presentation in turn led to a local newspaper story entitled Segretti Has A “Soft Spot” In His Heart for San Marino [Click here to view](#)

Patrick Stopford

- Social Studies Teacher
- Huntington Middle School
- San Marino Unified
- Guitar Player
- Played some of his favorite Nirvana, AC-DC, and Led Zeppelin songs



Lynne Spickard

- This video conference took place after my US History students saw the photograph below. Lynne is the one with outstretched arms.
- My students wanted to know the entire story. The lead-up, what followed, etc.





Michael Newdow

- Known for his efforts to have recitations of the current version of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools declared unconstitutional because of its inclusion of the phrase "under God".



Tom Torlakson

- Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Spoke to a small group of students working on a civic action project that sought the creation of a new 9-12 grade civic learning class.



Judge Judith McConnell

- California Appellate Court Administrative Presiding Justice (4th District.)
- For the sake of this end-of-term (video conference) presentation, Justice McConnell presided over a mock US Supreme Court hearing with one student in my class serving in the role of petitioner and another student in my class serving in the role of respondent.
- Does a school rule that prohibits Sikh school children from bringing a metal bladed kirpan onto school grounds violate the Sikh school children's first amendment right to exercise their religion freely.



Patrick Paschall

- Hyattsville, Maryland city councilman
- Voted in favor of allowing those 16 and 17 years old to vote in the town's elections.
- Featured in January 2016 New York Times story



Christina Fahad

- Burbank (CA) High School mock trial teacher-coach,
- Especially known for her ability to teach the 'hearsay rule'
- The goal of this video conference was to give my school's mock trial team, - which I coach - a chance to learn the 'hearsay rule' from Ms. Fahad's perspective.

Adam Norris

- Maryvale (NY) AP US History teacher
- Especially known for his ability to teach AP US History 100% inline with the College Board Course and Exam Description (CED)
- The goal of this video conference was to give my APUSH students a chance to learn review for the annual AP US History exam

Joshua Wong

- A Hong Kong student activist
- Most noted for having been the leader of a pro-democracy movement that brought nearly a quarter million pro-democracy protesters to the streets of Hong Kong from September 26 to December 15, 2014 when he was merely 18 years old.











Norma McCorvey

- Jane Roe
- Roe v. Wade (1973)
- Asked her if she had ever been reunited, or wanted to be reunited, with the child she gave up for adoption



Craig McLaren Swan

- A San Marino High School junior
- In this 18:29 video-conference (podcast), Craig details his plans for rebuilding a used Mazda Miata, purchased shortly after school shut down March 13.



Calvin Ryan

- A San Marino High School junior
- In this 20:00 video conference (podcast) Calvin describes how for the past nine months, and ever since school shutdown on March 13, he has been working at a local In-N-Out.



For Best Results Use . . .

- A computer or laptop (rather than a tablet, ipad or iphone)
- A monitor (preferably a projector and large screen)
- A webcam (preferably an external, wide angle camera)
- A microphone (preferably a tabletop microphone)
- External speakers
- Google+ Hangouts, Zoom, or Skype
- Good bandwidth or cabling to the Internet (rather than connecting wirelessly)

The Questions my Students asked Norma

- Have you ever been reunited with the child you gave up for adoption in the months leading up to the Supreme Court ruling?
- If not, do you wish to be reunited with your child?

How I Find the World-at-Large



Facebook Groups



[How and Why I Became a Teacher Twitter Convert](#)

The New York Times

Word

of

Mouth





[Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration](#)

Student Outreach

Dear Mr. Mrs. Ms. ?

My name is Jane Titan and am a junior currently enrolled in Mr. Peter Paccone's San Marino High School U.S. History course. Would be willing to speak to the students in my class via video conferencing technology on Tuesday, June 16th, from 9:00-10:00 AM PST.

We have recently finished studying ??? and thought you might have much of value to offer the class given the fact that you ??? Specifically, we would like to know your answers to the following questions.

I am the one who will host this interview-formatted video conference and am much looking forward to hearing from you soon.

For Best Results Use . . .

- A computer or laptop (rather than a tablet, ipad or iphone)
- A monitor (preferably a projector and large screen)
- A webcam (preferably an external, wide angle camera)
- A microphone (preferably a tabletop microphone)
- External speakers
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The Best Tool for Connection

zoom



Google Meet

Formatting Suggestions

- Have the host, preferably a student, open the video conference by asking a number of introductory questions of the guest(s) before giving the students in the host's class a chance to ask questions of their own.
- Have the video conference last no more than a hour, as most individuals are willing to commit to a one hour time frame.
- Brief other classes via a blog.

To Get Good Questions

- Teach students to write good questions
 - No compound question
 - No leading or gotcha questions
 - No vague and ambiguous question
 - At least a few “how do you respond to those who say” questions
- Give your students the opportunity to create questions of their own; then screen/edit if called for.

- Conduct internet research of your own to learn as much as possible about your guest, then draft a number of questions for students to ask based on what you have learned on the internet and what was covered in class.
- Share the questions you've drafted with your students, giving students a chance to edit and, then when done, solicit student volunteers to ask one or more of these questions.

[Writing Effective Interview Questions](#) (Lumen Learning)

[Tips for Effective Interviews](#) (StoryCorps)

[How to Help Students Develop Interviewing Skills](#) (Edutopia)

Something I Wrote Years Ago

In schools K-12 of the past, lessons were limited by the breadth of knowledge imparted by the schoolteacher with the help of a few precious schoolbooks.

But today, for the first time in history, teachers can create, with the help of videoconferencing technology, unlimited learning opportunities for their students . . . whether it be in terms of virtual field trips, communicating with field experts, and/or collaborating with students in other schools to share projects and ideas . . . all of this can now be done and, better yet, it can be done with clear images and great sound.

And if that doesn't hook you, just imagine what improvements will be made in terms of this technology within the course of just the next few years.

So . . . if one of your primary goals as a teacher is to provide your students with highly rewarding, innovative, and engaging learning opportunities, then providing your students with ample opportunity to use video conferencing technology is something you have to do and do now.”

Now It's Your Turn

1. If you give video conferencing a go, who would you want your students to connect with
2. If you have video conferencing a go, who would you want your students to connect

Need help? Feel free to contact . . .

Peter Paccone: Social Studies Teacher (San Marino High School, CA).
2018 ISTE Interactive Video Conferencing Educator of the Year Award
Recipient ppaccone@smusd.us.

Sean Forde: Elementary school teacher (American School of Milan, Italy)
and 2017 ISTE Interactive Video Conferencing Educator of the Year Award
Recipient sforde@chadwickschool.org.

Jan Zanetis: Managing Director, Center for Interactive Learning and
Collaboration and award-winning industry leader with over 20-years of
experience. She has written extensively about the application of video
technologies in education. jzanetis@cilc.org.

Amy Rosenstein: Elementary School Teacher (Westchester County, N.Y). arosenstein@ardsleyschools.org.

Ralph Krauss: Executive Digital Coach (Pinecrest Academy, NV.)
Ralph.Krauss@pinecrestnv.org

Nicole Lakusta: Curriculum Educational Technology Facilitator,
Parkland School Division #70, Stony Plain, Alberta, Canada, 2018
Interactive Video Conferencing Network Educator Award Recipient.