

FusionTools Overview

Overview: What are FusionTools?

FusionTools is a comprehensive, multimedia platform offering Blogs, Photo Slideshows, Videos, Podcasts, Wikis, messaging and RSS Feeds. These tools all coexist in an integrated K-12 safe (i.e. CIPA compliant) environment. It is organized in a manner that is ideal for teachers through incredible simplicity and efficiency, and provides tools that merge the values of class Websites and email communication.

The student participation platform (commenting on blogs, podcasts, videos, etc) enables students to converse online regarding educational topics posted by their teachers. This is an incredible tool for teachers who wish to engage students in interactive learning activities after the traditional time in a classroom ends. All this in a 100% safe environment that's appropriate for K-12 educational use and 100% CIPA compliant.

FusionTools include a unique RSS feed solution, which gives each user their own personal feed. These personal RSS feeds contain information regarding their personal events, general school information and any updates from all of their teachers. Additionally, traditional RSS feeds are available for the school and each teacher. To learn more about RSS Feeds, please visit our RSS section.

Why is FusionTools Safe?

In support of the mission and goals of acceptable Internet use outlined by the US Department of Education, FusionTools encourages and educates students on the responsible use of computers and Web-based technologies while strictly adhering to DOE's nationwide standard of acceptable use policies and procedures. (For more information please visit ed.gov)

It is the policy of the FusionTools to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all online network activities, at all times, to keep staff and students safe and learning.

CIPA-Compliant Internet Safety Policy for FusionTools

It is the policy of FusionTools to prevent user access to or transmission of inappropriate material over its network.

It is the policy of FusionTools to prevent unauthorized access to online information.

It is the policy of FusionTools to prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information.

It is the policy of FusionTools to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]

Begin using FusionTools by setting up a profile

FusionTools are available to all SchoolFusion faculty and staff after login via **Personal Dashboard > FusionTools** or via **Personal Dashboard > My Personal Settings**.

Once FusionTools are activated, a faculty/staff member is guided through a simple and fast set-up wizard, enabling them to activate the features that will best help them communicate with their students. The profile page is the first step to begin using FusionTools and is the launching point into Blogs, Photo Slideshows, Podcasts, Videos, Wikis, and more. This profile will be accessible to users from the Staff Listing and at the top of any FusionPage where they are an administrator.

Users will only be able to create a profile at the site where their account lives; even if a teacher belongs to multiple schools, he/she will only have one profile. Website and District Administrators will be able to edit a teacher's Multimedia Blog, including editing or deleting a post, and updating the settings of a particular post.

Creating a Profile



The first step of the wizard populates the teacher's profile page. The requested information includes:



- **Public Name:** *The name that will be displayed to your users. (i.e. Mr. Smith)*
- **Your picture:** A placeholder image appears here until the faculty/staff member adds an image of their own.
- **Personal Statement** This provides teachers with a place to tell visitors something about themselves, such as why they became a teacher, or what their favorite class was when they were a student.

Populate all of the necessary information.

Click > Continue

Congratulations, your profile has been created! After selecting the "Continue" button, the teacher will be presented with a welcome page that includes additional information about FusionTools, including a direct link to their profile page. To start populating the Multimedia Blog, select the "Continue to Your Profile Page" link.

For more information on populating the profile with Blogs, Photo Slideshows, Podcasts, Videos, and Wikis, visit the My

The screenshot shows a web form for creating a profile. It includes the following elements:

- My Public Name:** A text input field containing "WILLIAM PITT". Below it is a note: "Your public name is what is displayed to your users. eg. Mr. Smith."
- My Picture:** A text input field followed by a "Browse..." button.
- Your personal statement:** A rich text editor with a toolbar containing icons for bold, italic, underline, link, unlink, bulleted list, numbered list, indent, outdent, undo, redo, and a link icon.
- Below the editor is the text "Use simple editor".
- At the bottom of the form is a red "Continue >>" button.

Multimedia Blog section.

Profile page



The profile page displays the faculty/staff member's picture, the information that they entered into their Personal Message, links to the most recent Blogs, Photo Slideshows, Podcasts, Videos, and Wikis, plus a list of classrooms or FusionPages that the user is the administrator of via the FusionPages link.

Any visitor will be able to view this page, and access the links to the Multimedia Blog and any public FusionPages.


Next, review the "My Multimedia Blog" section.

WILLIAM PITT HELP

[Profile](#) | [Multimedia Blog](#) | [FusionPages](#) ▼

WILLIAM PITT

[Edit My Profile](#)

 [RSS](#)

Personal Message

I have two reasons for teaching, both simple.

First, I love kids. I love to hear them say they "can't" write and then show them that they really can, even though it never gets easy. I love to see their surprise when they realize they're enjoying a book that was written in the 19th century, set in the 18th century. I love it when a parent emails me and tells me that she's afraid her son won't be able to get through the book he's chosen for his book report; and I tell her to sit back and watch him triumph over what he (and she) thinks is impossible; and she does; and he does.

Second, I love words. Put them in poetry, prose, essays, or transcendent, brilliant books like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Gilead*, *Peace Like a River*, *Light in August* or even *The Velveteen Rabbit*. I don't care where I find them, read them, hear them, or write them, I love words. There is nothing quite like the feeling of finding precisely the right word. Unless it's reading someone else's precisely-right words. Words can be brusque, brutal, harsh, cruel. They can soothe, comfort, heal, inspire. Some words are inherently hilarious. Like *fibbertigibbet*. Come on, you know you just laughed.

[Click here to edit your message, and/or upload your photo.](#)