Twitter & Your PLN

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Wed, August 8, 2012

NAD Teacher's Convention

Objectives

❑ Share some Background about Twitter

❑ Describe the Benefits of Using Twitter

❑ How to Use Twitter to Develop a PLN (Personal Learning Network)

❑ How to Expand the Uses of Twitter as an Educator

Some Interesting Historical Facts About Twitter

Twitter is an online social networking service and microblogging service that enables its users to send and read text-based messages of up to 140characters, known as "**tweets**".

It was created in March 2006 by Jack Dorsey and launched that July. The service rapidly gained worldwide popularity, with over 500 million activeusers as of 2012, generating over 340 million tweets daily and handling over 1.6 billion search queries per day.[6][8][9] Since its launch, Twitter has become one of the top 10 most visited websites on the Internet, and has been described as "the SMS of the Internet."[5][10] Unregistered users can read tweets, while registered users can post tweets through the website interface, SMS, or a range of apps for mobile devices.[11]

http://mashable.com/2011/09/30/twitter-history-infographic/

Twitter is the ability to mircoblog in a 140 characters (Tweets) in a texting format.

Benefits of Twitter

- 24/7 Professional Development
- Collaborate with other Great Educators
- Find great resources to share with others
- Read articles that have been shared
- Find new blogs to add to Google Reader
- Get almost instant feedback/help
- Participate in weekly scheduled chats

Your Thoughts

Adventist Education @AdventistEdu
Carlton Byrd - Attain excellence by preparing yourselves so you can prepare your students. **#**journeytoexcellence

Todd @ToddWhitaker
Truth "@chrislebrun: "Twitter is the best free professional development teachers can use" @toddwhitaker #quote**#**journeytoexcellence"

Concluding Benefits of Twitter

❖ Twitter is a powerful tool for educators

❖ Twitter is a tool to receive professional development

❖ Twitter is a tool to collaborate with other professionals in our field.

❖ Twitter is a tool to help keep educators up-to-date and informed on educational issues and teaching methodologies

❖ Twitter is a tool that develops **P**ersonal **L**earning **N**etwork which allows a group of experts and colleagues to exchange professional information on a **regular basis**

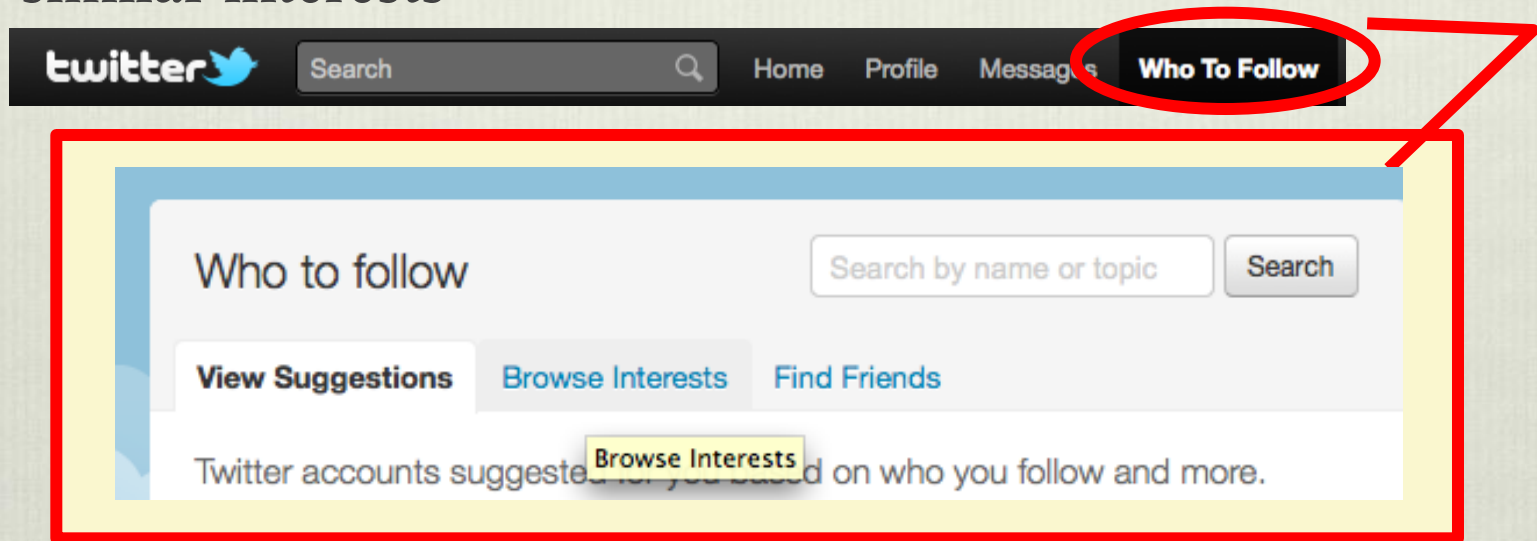# How do you start to build/grow your PLN on Twitter?
Join Twitter.com

❖ Go to http://twitter.com/ and sign up:
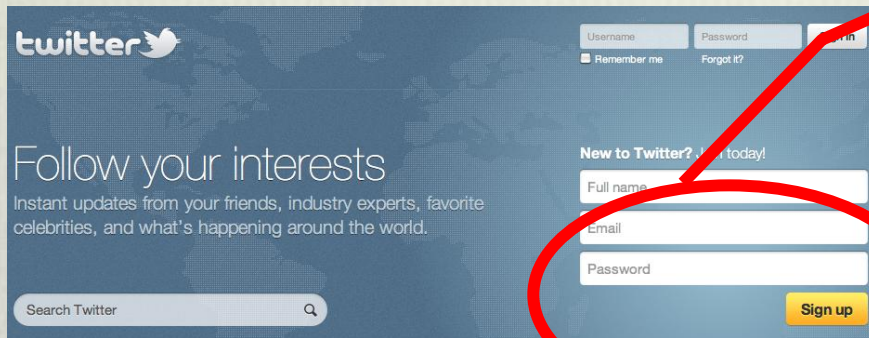
❖ Complete your profile with as much professional information as you can

   ❖ Let people know something about yourself

Find People

❖ Use the "Who to Follow" search features to find people with similar interests

❖ Search for people that you already read (journal articles, blogs, etc.)

   ❖ Look at beginning & end of articles for authors' twitter accounts:

      ❖ @kathyschrock (@ preceding a username = a person / company to follow on Twitter)

❖ Find on a list

❖ See at an educational conference
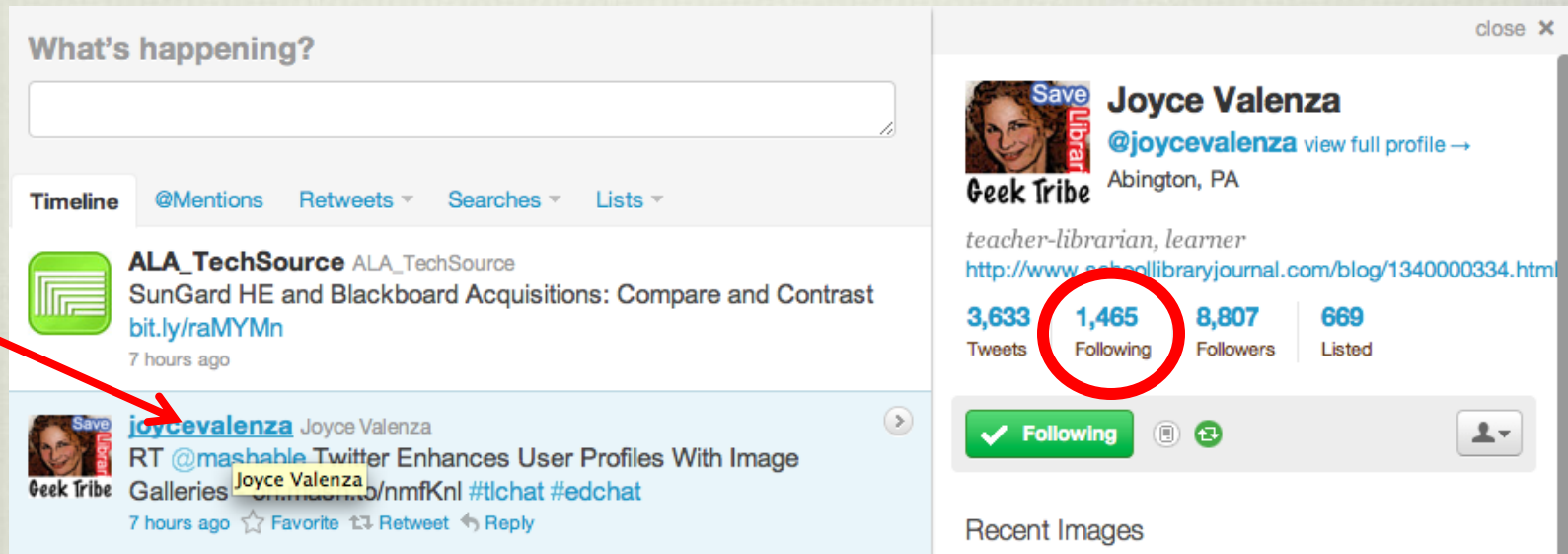
Building Your PLN

❖ Begin receiving tips & resource links within your own Twitter "feed" or "timeline":
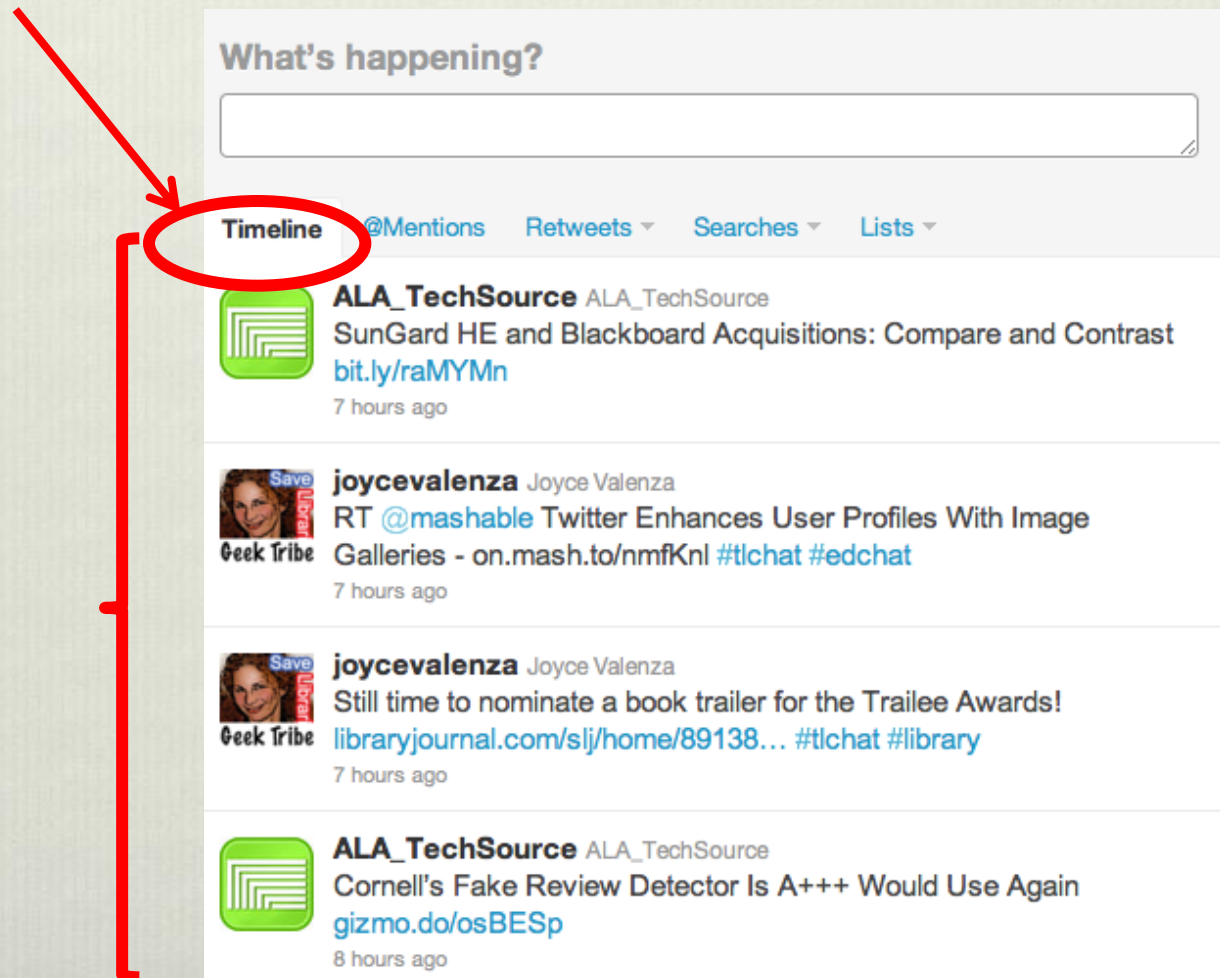
Continue to build:

❖ Once you follow an expert – can then click on a list to see who that person **follows**

❖ View the items these others are posting

❖ Choose to follow those people as well

❖ And so on, and so on…

1) Click a person's name

2) Profile info appears

Continue to build:
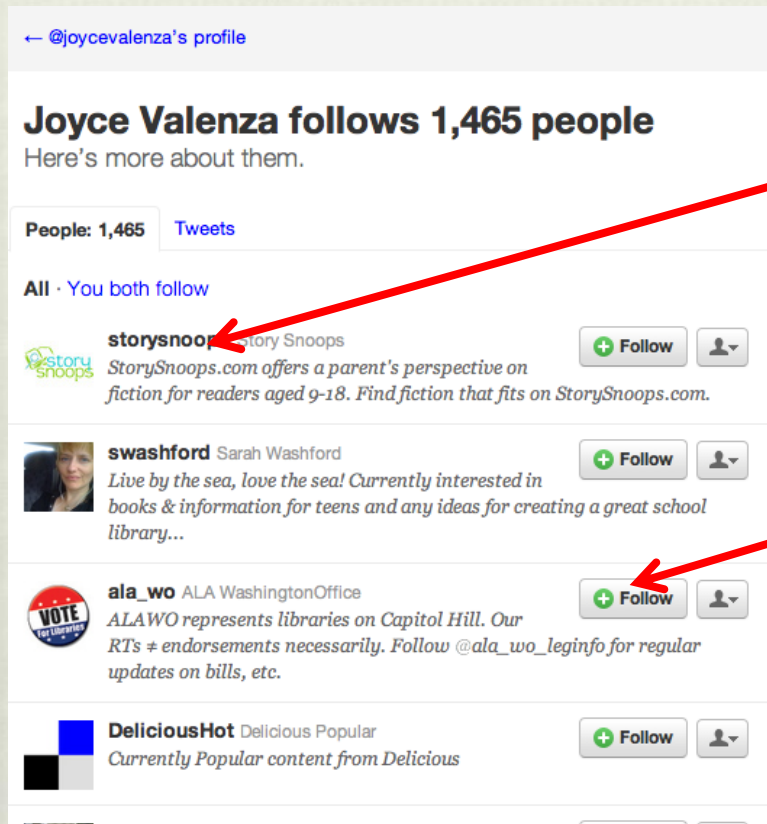
3) Click a person's name in this list for more info & to see tweets

4) Click the "Follow" button to include this person in your PLN

❖ Can also click on a list of users who are **following** this person you respect

    ❖ Possibly find others to add to your PLN by following **them**

PLN Grows

❖ After adding new people, check to see if others you follow also follow new, interesting people

❖ Once a large PLN is built up with educational experts

  ❖ Some might be specific to your field

    ❖ Science expert

  ❖ Some might be more general pedagogy

    ❖ Tony Wagner

  ❖ Some might be from a related field

    ❖ Educational Technology – David Warlick or Alan November

Weed Your PLN

❖ If you follow many of those people that follow the people you like, your network will become very large rather quickly

❖ Winnow down the list to those that really provide valuable resources

    ❖ Frequency: do they tweet often? Or only rarely?

    ❖ Content: valuable resources, interesting articles, user generated content? Or useless info, personal data (CheckIns), etc.?

Click a person's "Following" button to "Un-Follow" this person & remove him/her from your PLN

Click your "Following" button to view members of your PLN

Your Tweets **29**
29 Apr : SHS Baseball LIVE!! Broadcast starts at 3:45 …

Following **18**   Followers **11**

ALA_Booklist ALA_Booklist hrs
The American Library Association Booklist Publications include Booklist, Book Links, Booklist Online, blogs and newsletters for librarians and book lovers.
✔ Following

ALA_TechSource ALA_TechSource
American Library Association imprint for librarian geeks and technology innovators. Regular contributors include Dan Freeman and Patrick Hogan.
✔ Following

aasl AASL
The mission of the American Association of School Librarians is to advocate excellence, facilitate change, and develop leaders in the school library field.
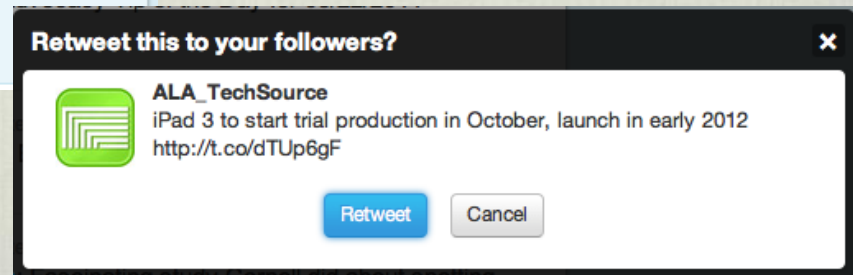✔ Following

Fertilize Your PLN

❖ Important to "give back" to the education community by posting your own discoveries & finds

    ❖ Easily done via Twitter

❖ Creating an account and following others is not enough

    ❖ Post responses to other people's messages

    ❖ Retweet useful tweets from those YOU follow

        ❖ When people start to follow YOU, they will not receive the same tweets as you – important to spread the information

ALA_TechSource ALA_TechSource
iPad 3 to start trial production in October, launch in early 2012
bit.ly/q67oJQ
11 hours ago ☆ Favorite ↻ Retweet ↩ Reply

Retweet this to your followers? ✕

ALA_TechSource
iPad 3 to start trial production in October, launch in early 2012
http://t.co/dTUp6gF

Retweet   Cancel

Click the "Retweet" link to share tweet with members of YOUR PLN

Twitter in Action:

Twitter Resources #1

❖ GREAT Twitter Resources
http://cybraryman.com/twitter.html

❖ Hashtags   http://cybraryman.com/edhashtags.html

❖ **Top 10 Twitter Hash Tags To Follow For Education Technology**
http://www.fractuslearning.com/2012/06/01/hash-tags-education-technology/

❖ **Twitter Chats   www.tweetchat.com**

❖ **Archiving Twitter Chats** http://www.tweetdoc.org

Twitter Resources #2

❖ **Top 10 Twitter Accounts to Follow For Education Technology** http://www.fractuslearning.com/2012/05/25/twitter-follow-education-technology

❖ **The 100 Best Twitter Tools For Teachers (2012 Edition)** http://edudemic.com/2012/07/best-twitter-tools

❖ Tweetdeck http://www.tweetdeck.com

❖ Online Resource Storage http://diigo.com

❖ Twitter Alive http://splaysoft.com/CCL4s/Educational_Hash_Tags.html#.T_bkXtRLe48.twitter

Twitter Resources #3

❖ GREAT News Gathers

  http://tweetedtimes.com

  http://paper.li

  http://www.scoop.it

❖ **Expanding your Twitter with a Blog**

  https://posterous.com

❖ **Bonus Resource for all Your PD Needs on Twitter and Classroom Web 2.0 programs.** http://simplek12.com

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