# EACS Technology Newsletter April 14, 2016

1. **For teachers in grades 4-12**: District Expectations for the use of Canvas in April are: Create 4 or more (1 or more in grades K-3) Schoolwork assignments, and have Discussions for each group. Post weekly lesson plans (in either announcements or calendar).

2. **For all staff using Canvas:**  The EACS Technology Dept, in conjunction with teachers and building principals, and as a response to many teacher requests, will "unhook" Canvas from the RDS student information system starting in August of 2016, allowing for improved teacher ease of use and more freedom in creating courses. This will requires teachers to create their own class courses and placing their students in the courses.  A brief tutorial on Canvas's EACS Teacher Professional Development will be forthcoming.

3. **For all teachers and staff using iPads, especially language arts teachers**:  Have you ever taken a look at the News App, defaulted on the iPad?  Any student or staff member can utilize the news app to read about a myriad of topics, choose which topics to have the news app focus on, save articles, search articles, and choose a favorites stream. The app also makes recommendations based on personal choices and trending articles.

4. **For all staff:** do you know Lucidchart?  Lucidchart is a simple, free way to building diagrams, thinking maps, flow charts, network diagrams, and just about any other type of process chart or diagram.  Get it free in the App Store: Lucidchart.  A thanks goes to Sean Miller for this one...

5. **Fun technology fact:** Tesla Motors, making ultra-cool, ultra-safe, all-electric cars announced that its third-generation car, the Model 3, is in production, and is taking pre-orders now. The vehicle will be about 20% smaller than the Model S, will have a similar 200-250 mile range, but will cost half as much. Tesla is pricing the Model 3 at $35,000; very competitive with any other mid-range gasoline sedan.