

# THE OPEN ROAD

highway to the future of  
technology in education



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# The Dusty Information Super Highway



Illustration: Arthur Rackham

Digital File: <http://www.artpassions.net/galleries/rackham/willows3.jpg>

“The open road,  
the dusty highway...  
Here today, up and off  
to somewhere else  
tomorrow!

The whole world before  
you, and a horizon that's  
always changing!”

Said Toad.  
*The Wind in the Willows*  
Kenneth Graeme

# Donna Benjamin – the open road

- Who I am not!
- Education revolution
- Standards
- The future – utopia or distopia



# One Laptop per Child

*“It's an education project not a laptop project”*

Nicholas Negroponte



[www.laptop.org](http://www.laptop.org)

*“The biggest barrier to improving education for children, with or without computers, is the completely impoverished imaginations of most adults.”*

Alan Kay

# Sugar – Constructivist Computing

The XO exists because Free Software exists.

Free Software developers helped make it happen.

Sugar is radical.

[www.sugarlabs.org](http://www.sugarlabs.org)

And wonderful.

Thank you Walter.





# OLPC around the world







OLPC Pakistan

<http://wiki.laptop.org/go/PAKISTAN>

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# OLPC Nepal

Teachers professional learning with the e-paati



Proud kids with their new electronic learning platform



# OLPC Haiti

Squeak – eToys  
teaching teachers  
to teach programming

Waveplace raises money to purchase laptops for Caribbean children.

Waveplace creates training materials that teach digital media skills.

Waveplace inspires teachers to use computers in new ways.





# Niue: 1-1 XO deployment





# Teacher Preparation...

... and professional learning is critical!

Teachers around the world are taking time to explore the XO and experience a new way of teaching...

Free and Open Source Software is at your fingertips to explore, tinker with, develop your own materials, share them with others and work together to improve them.



# Changing the World





# Hrmmm...



**DEED Panel Price**

**Acer Aspire One** ACR9034  
only **\$313** ex GST each (Win XP)

**Acer Aspire One** ACR9000  
only **\$469** ex GST each (Linux)

The Aspire One is Acer's first 8.9" Netbook powered by the latest Intel® Atom™ processor technology, providing leading performance. Weighing less than 1kg and designed with mobility in mind the Aspire one features a 8.9 inch widescreen, Crystal Eye Webcam, and 8GB / 120GB storage capacities for Windows® and Linux operating systems.

8.9" Display, 1024 x 600 resolution  
Intel® Atom CPU & 945 GSE Chipset  
Windows® XP Home / Linux  
1GB DDR2 (XP) / 512MB DDR2 (Linux)  
120GB (2.5" HDD) Microsoft Windows OS Version  
8GB (Internal flash) Linux OS Version  
HD audio / built-in speakers  
Built-in 10/100 LAN, Built-in 802.11b/g/ WLAN  
5 in 1 Card reader (SD, MMC, MS, MS PRO, XD)  
Dedicated SD Card reader for storage  
Crystal Eye Webcam  
3xUSB, VGA-out, earphone jack, mic  
24.9cm(W) x 17.0cm(D) x 2.9cm(H)  
Weight 0.98 kg  
3 Year Pick up Return Warranty



# Digital Education Revolution

National Secondary School Computer Fund  
One computer per senior secondary student.

Commonwealth funds / State implementation

Blueprint for deployment

“Better Practice Guide: ICT in schools”

- Netbooks
- Open Source
- Thin Clients
- Professional Learning

<http://www.digitaleducationrevolution.gov.au/resources/guide/about/default.htm>



# Where do we start?

The ***technical*** issues are ***easy*** to solve.

The ***social*** problems are the real ***challenge***.

*I'm terrified of this project. Not terrified for me, but for the 70% of teachers at my school that refuse to use technology with the students.*

*We need to change the syllabus and integrate the ICT resources into all subjects.*

Comment by “Marko”

<http://paralleldivergence.com/2008/06/01/australias-digital-education-revolution/>



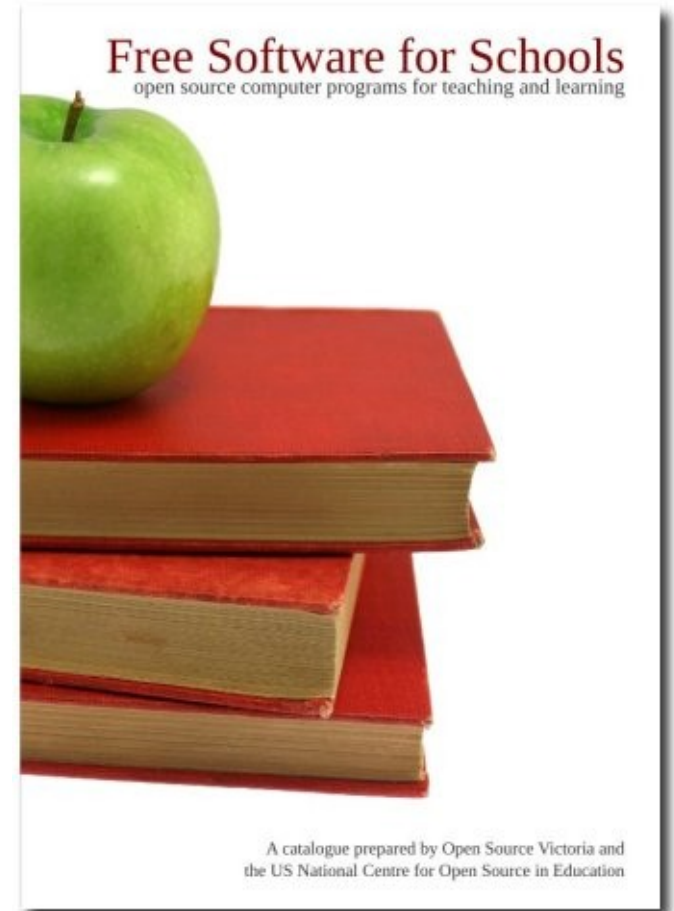
# Work in Progress

## FOSS VELs:

matrix matching FOSS  
to the Victorian prep  
to Yr10 curriculum.

## Free Software for Schools:

a catalog of FOSS produced  
by Open Source Victoria  
and National Center for  
Open Source in Education.



# VICTORIAN ESSENTIAL LEARNING STANDARDS

## A WHOLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM PLANNING FRAMEWORK

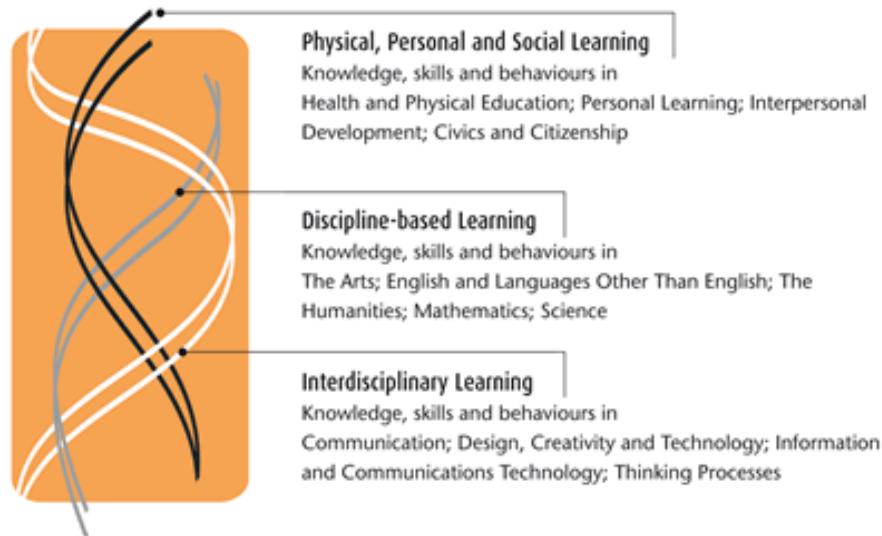
### Three interwoven purposes

To equip students with capacities to:

manage themselves and their relations with others  
understand the world and  
act effectively in that world

to prepare them for success in education, work and life.

This is achieved through the three core, interrelated strands of



across the stages of learning

**Years Prep to 4**

Laying the foundations

**Years 5 to 8**

Building breadth and depth

**Years 9 to 10**

Developing pathways

underpinned by educational purposes, principles and values

to form

### **Victorian Essential Learning Standards a framework for whole school curriculum planning**

Schools plan their teaching and learning programs, using the three strands, to enable their students to achieve the essential statewide learning standards.

# VELS = Victorian Essential Learning Standards



Figure 1: Whole school curriculum plan





# ISTE NETS

- Facilitate and Inspire Student Learning and Creativity
- Design and Develop Digital-Age Learning Experiences and Assessment
- Model Digital-Age Work and Learning
- Promote and Model Digital Citizenship and Responsibility
- Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership

# International Standards

## Europe - IDEALS

Improving Distance Education and (ICT) Learning Standards

<http://phosphorus.it.kth.se/ideals/>

## Asia - KERIS

Korea Education and Research Information Service

[http://english.keris.or.kr/es\\_online/es\\_online.html](http://english.keris.or.kr/es_online/es_online.html)

## Africa – Cape Town Declaration

Open Education – Participate, S

<http://www.capetowndeclaration.org/>

## Standards Shmandards

<http://www.learnativity.com/standards.html>





The Future  
is Open.



It has to be.



# Future scenarios

## Under the Volcano

## A Farewell to Arms

## The Grapes of Wrath

## The Magic Mountain

### Defining characteristic

### Society

### Education

### Teacher's role

### Family life

### Role of technology

### Immigration

### The economy

### Politics

### The environment

#### The great divide

Polarised  
Intolerant  
Resentful  
Pessimistic  
Personalised values

For haves and have nots  
Individualism  
Personal growth  
Vocational

Facilitate diversity  
Agents of integration  
Safety net for have nots  
Diminished status

Cult of youth  
Small nuclear  
Family/work balance

Pervasive  
Social differentiator  
Focus on innovation and ideas  
Surveillance

Creates pressure

Unequal access to wealth  
Great divide  
User pays approach

Highly centralised

Climate change managed by technology and regulation

#### Community

Harmonious  
Appreciative  
Optimistic  
Tolerant  
Feminised values

Centre of community  
Individualised self-paced learning plans  
Well balanced

Multi-tasking  
Social  
Collaborative  
Trusted and well respected

Children highly valued  
Resurgence of extended family

Social integrator

High  
Drives innovation  
Underlines social cohesiveness

Stable and strong  
Companies collaborate  
Traditionally resource based

Global alliance

Social focus on better futures using clean energy

#### Fear

Disintegrating  
Pessimistic  
Intolerant  
Sustainability of kinship groups  
Survival values

Local fortress  
Protection  
Social havens

Social, pastoral and health care  
Cross-cultural  
Model inclusiveness  
High status due to pastoral care role

Children provide cheap labour  
Protective urban/rural tribes

Irrelevant  
Focused on science for survival

Indigenous focus  
Flood of illegal immigrants  
Racial tension

Global recession  
Survival economy  
Crumbling infrastructure  
Scarcity of jobs and resources

Fragmented

Harsh, unpredictable climate

#### Corporatisation

Corporate loyalty  
Competitive  
Marginalised underclass  
Ambivalent  
Male-dominant values

Corporate ethos  
Privatised  
Profit-driven  
Vocational

Achieving measurable student outcomes  
Value-adding  
Highly respected and well rewarded

Children are assets  
Global orientation

Integral  
Customised biotechnology

Asia focus

Global wealth  
Competitive  
Innovative

Global corporate alliances  
No local voice for people

Corporate competition for control of resources

# Under the Volcano

polarised society  
**tension**

youth / innovation / ideas valued

generational shift  
**individualism**

drugs enhance performance

family / work balance

pervasive technology

**ready to  
explode**

the great divide

schools for  
haves and  
have nots



tolerant  
optimistic

community engagement

socially cohesive

family life valued

green technology

economy less important than family values

gender balance

innovation

sustainability

schools  
respected

**A Farewell  
to Arms**

# The Grapes of Wrath

troubled  
fear pessimistic  
intolerant  
besieged

gated communities  
harsh climate  
focus on subsistence

flood of immigrants  
racial tension  
food as currency  
recession

crumbling society

scarcity of jobs / resources

pandemics

schools as  
havens

# The Magic Mountain

corporations control  
health, welfare,  
utilities and education

marginalised underclass

smaller government

strong economy

asian superpower

competitive  
globalisation

ambivalent

fully integrated technology

customised biotechnology

vocational innovation

schools  
privatised &  
profit driven



What is your  
future scenario?





What's your  
first step?



# Learning Management?

- LMS – CMS – VLE? Managing Learning?
- Engage students: Contribute to FOSS projects.
- What is Learning? What is Knowledge?
- Measurement, Assessment, Administration
- Consuming / Using tech is not sufficient...
- We must create, innovate and improve our tech tools, and supporting material.



# Overcome fear, uncertainty & doubt

The shy, timid, and scared must be invited to contribute. If something doesn't work, help them learn to submit good bug reports...

“It's broken”

Is not helpful, whereas

“When I click on the node icon in Inkscape, the application crashes my ubuntu machine”

Can be used to find the problem and empower the reluctant.





# Share your Stuff

- Educators play an important role in the open source community.
- Use FOSS tools to connect to each other.
- Share pedagogy
- Share learning materials.



# References

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## Collected Links

OLPC – Teacher Preparation Resources  
<http://delicious.com/kattekrab/olpc-teacherprep>

Australia's Digital Education Revolution  
<http://delicious.com/kattekrab/DER>

General Stuff I thought was kinda interesting whilst preparing this talk  
<http://delicious.com/kattekrab/k12openminds>