

“You’ve Got Mail”

The Write-ing Assignment

Susie Austin: Stanly County Schools (Oakboro School & Stanly Academy)

Lisa Thompson: Stanly County Schools (South Stanly Middle)

<http://www.scs.k12.nc.us>

susie_austin@scs.k12.nc.us

lisa_thompson@scs.k12.nc.us

Blue Ribbon Commission

▶ 7. Change the current approach to writing assessment

- ▶ To elevate the importance of writing throughout the curriculum, the current 4th, 7th, and 10th grade writing assessments need to be replaced with a k-12 writing assessment system that includes authentic and on demand writing assignments, appropriate to each grade level and backmapped from the graduation project. The DPI is to provide rubrics, aligned with the writing rubric used for the graduation project, for LEA's to use in assessing these K-12 writing assignments. Writing samples will be housed and scored locally, and DPI staff will conduct random audits to ensure compliance with on-going writing assessments. The DPI is to provide training and professional development to educators to ensure fidelity to the writing assessment process at each grade level.

Framework for Change: The Next Generation of Assessments and Accountability

- ▶ www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/revisions/2008/pdfs/gcs2rev.pdf

How to Implement?

- ▶ Entire state participate in pilot program for 2008-09 school year
- ▶ 18 counties to participate in online pilot
- ▶ These counties use the moodle for storage, uploading, and retrieval of student work.
- ▶ Stanly County School participated in the online pilot
- ▶ Each School District will sets up the testing timeline

Let's Moodle

- ▶ NCRRegistration used as the registration tool for both teachers and students
- ▶ Teachers are entered individually while students were bulk filled through NCRRegistration
- ▶ Teachers use Moodle to complete Writing Across the Curriculum and Assessing Writing Skills in the 21st Century
- ▶ Teachers use Moodle to enter scores for students

Login to Moodle

Writing Assessment System

You are logged in as [susie austin](#) (Logout)

English (en) ↓

Main Menu

 [Site news](#)

Status Reports

[PD Certification](#)
[On-Demand Assignment Score Completion](#)

My courses

[Instructional Writing Across the Curriculum](#)

This course was developed to enhance writing instruction and to enable teachers to support student writing within content areas. It is a self-paced course created for teachers who will be implementing the North Carolina Writing Assessment System.

[Assessing Writing Skills in the 21st Century](#)

This professional development course for the writing assessment system is designed to instruct all grade K-12 teachers regardless of content area; however, the 2008-2009 pilot will focus on educators who teach fourth and seventh grade students. The online course is comprised of self-paced modules to prepare teachers for evaluating and scoring student responses.

[Oakboro Elementary Writing Grade 4](#)

This is the online course where teachers enter scores for content-specific and on-demand writing assignments.

[Oakboro Elementary Writing Grade 7](#)

This is the online course where students submit completed content-specific and on-demand writing assignments and teachers enter scores.

This site is designed for professional development for teachers and to collect and score student writing, portfolios, and performance based work.

Calendar

◀ February 2009 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

New NC Writing Standards

- ▶ Students are no longer tested just once in 4th, 7th and 10th grades
- ▶ Students in 4th and 7th are assessed 4 times a year
- ▶ Two are content based writings and two are on demand writings

Student Moodle

- ▶ Students are given unique user names and passwords
- ▶ We did not allow them to keep them
- ▶ Students log into Moodle and upload Content writing
- ▶ Students log into Moodle and actually do the On-Demand writing

Content Writings

- ▶ Prompt can be controlled locally
- ▶ Various prompts can be used per school
- ▶ Students planned, wrote, typed
- ▶ Teachers gave feedback
- ▶ Students edited and then uploaded final assessment

On Demand Writing

- ▶ Students are given 95 minutes to plan, type, and complete the assessment
- ▶ Each student has timer on their computer that shows the amount of time left for them
- ▶ If student logs off, time does not stop
- ▶ They can move to another computer
- ▶ After 95 minutes, the computer automatically times out

What did we find with Students ?

- ▶ Students using instant message language when typing an assignment
- ▶ Punctuation and organization of content needed improvement
- ▶ Planning and elaboration were also areas of concern
- ▶ Collaborating the content areas (Language Arts.....>Science)
- ▶ Editing Skills

Grading Process

Oakboro Elementary Writing Grade 7 : Grades Jump to...

WAS ▶ 840340WG7 ▶ Grades ▶ Report ▶ Grader report ▶ Grader report

Choose an action ...

Grader report My report preferences

Show column averages Show groups Show ranges Hide outcomes

First name / Surname ↑	Oakboro Elementary Writing ...											
	Content-Specific Writing ... ↓	Content Features ↓	Conventions ↓	Content-Specific Writing ... ↓	Content Features ↓	Conventions ↓	On-Demand Assignment 2 ↓	Features ↓	Conventions ↓	On-Demand Assignment 1 ↓	Features ↓	Conventions ↓
ANDERSON		2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
ARROWOOD		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
ARROYO		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
BARBEE		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
BARNWELL		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
BRITT		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
CASELLS		1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
CLARK		1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
DAVIS		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
FESPERMAN		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
FISHER		1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
Gordon		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAVES		3	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
N GRIFFIN		3	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
HARTMANN		3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
HEATHCOTE		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
MS		2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-

Benefits of Moodle Submission

- ▶ Assessing 4 times a year give the teachers an idea of where to go with the writing
- ▶ Do not make this extra, make it part of your regular class
- ▶ Caused more communication between not just 7th grade team but entire school about writing
- ▶ Students enjoyed typing on the computer much better than writing at their desks
- ▶ Students will be more serious as we go forward
- ▶ Finally have an understanding of the process

How can E-mail help?

- ▶ Students love getting to email
- ▶ Structure the emails just like structuring a paper
- ▶ Students can save emails and edit them later
- ▶ Students will work on assignments at home
- ▶ Students learn skills to help with computer test

Setting up Rules

- ▶ Use full sentences
- ▶ Avoid full caps
- ▶ Slow down
- ▶ Have a beginning and an end
- ▶ Reread your email before you send it
- ▶ Follow friendly letter format
- ▶ Use proper capitalization, usage, punctuation, and spelling

Ideas for E-mailing

- ▶ Book reviews - write an email to a friend and suggest a book
- ▶ Send writing prompts through email
- ▶ Assign writing buddies - partners can send drafts to each other
- ▶ Use discussion boards as an opportunity to practice writing skills

E-mail suggestions

- ▶ Ask an expert - www.allexperts.com - teach different types of writing
- ▶ Write an autobiography - have students introduce themselves through email
- ▶ Write a biography - students draft, edit, revise and then share their biography with their email buddy
- ▶ Use ePals to connect to other classrooms - teach netiquette

More E-mail tips

- ▶ Email political representatives
- ▶ Story writing and/or progressive stories - students share stories or poems others can add to story
- ▶ Email for college information
- ▶ Email an author

Benefits of E-mail

- ▶ Increases self esteem of students
- ▶ Encourages and motivates students to become involved in authentic writing for a real audience
- ▶ Increases critical thinking because students become collaborators in the creation of knowledge
- ▶ It makes learning relevant
- ▶ Students are more interested in email and message boards

Setup School Guideline

- ▶ Come up with a set of school guidelines for using Email with students based on your District's Acceptable Use Policy
- ▶ Make sure to include:
 - ▶ Teachers
 - ▶ Principal
 - ▶ District Director
 - ▶ Students

Decide on Email Software

- ▶ www.gaggle.net
- ▶ www.google.com/a/edu
- ▶ www.pikluk.com
- ▶ Your school system (our district uses SharpSchool)

Create an Account for Your School

- ▶ Gaggle is the tool that we have chosen for this session.

[Gaggle.Net - Free Filtered E-mail for Schools and Students](#)  

Gaggle is a safe web based **email** solution for schools and **students**. ... Are you using the **free** version of Gaggle? Consider upgrading to the subscription ...

- ▶ Login to www.gaggle.net
- ▶ Once you have setup your new account for your school...gaggle will contact YOU within 48 hours



Sign up
for service



Learn
more



Product
tour



Quotes
& reviews

Gaggle.Net

safe e-mail for students



Q & A



Index



About



Contact

FREE Student E-mail Accounts!

Thousands of schools use the **Gaggle Network** to provide safe, teacher-controlled email accounts for students. [Sign Up Now.](#)

There are three service options for Gaggle:

1. [Free Version](#)
2. [Subscription Version](#)
3. [Licensed Server Version](#)

Why Choose Gaggle?

Click [here](#) to compare our features and prices to our competitors.

“I've tried lots of different e-mail in my classes and this is the very best! It is free, easy, and safe.”

Betsy Norris
Online Classes Coordinator
Bedford County Schools, TN

[Announcing Gaggle's Curriculum Contest](#)



Student & Teacher Login

User Name:

Password:

Login

Forget your [password](#)?

Gaggle Blogs

Click [here](#) to view Gaggle Blogs.

New User Key

Did your teacher give you a 'new user key'? If so, click [here](#) to activate your account.

E-rate Funding

Gaggle.Net is eligible for [E-rate funding](#).

Upgrade

Are you using the free version of Gaggle? Consider [upgrading](#) to the subscription version for as little as \$3.00 per account.

[Sign Up](#) | [Learn More](#) | [Press & Awards](#) | [Quotes](#) | [Q & A](#) | [Index](#) | [About](#) | [System Status](#)
[Email Archiving](#) | [Google Apps](#) | [Contact](#) | [Corporate Solutions](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#)

Gaggle.Net

safe e-mail for students

© 2009 Gaggle.Net, Inc. All Rights Reserved
Comments or Suggestions? admin@gaggle.net
(800) 288-7750

Setting Up Your Students and Teachers

▶ Login to Gaggle.net

Welcome New User

Welcome to access level 84, School Master for Gaggle.Net accounts.

By clicking the Accept button below you hereby agree to abide by the Terms of Service for Gaggle.Net, Inc. and your organization's Acceptable Use Policy.

Note that no e-mail accounts on the Gaggle system are private. E-mail is subject to review by Gaggle personnel and your school, district or organization.

[Gaggle Terms of Service](#)

Student & Teacher Login

User Name:

Password:

Forget your [password?](#)

Change Password

Your password has expired and must be changed.

Please enter a new password below, confirm your password, then select "Save" to update your account.

Password

Confirm

Outside Email

Optional - You may enter an outside email address to use for password retrieval. If you're a teacher, enter your district or personal address. If you are a student, you may enter your parent's email address or your personal email address if you have one.

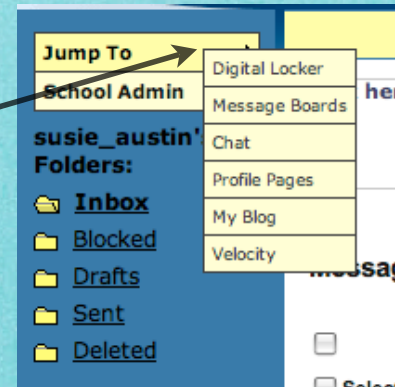
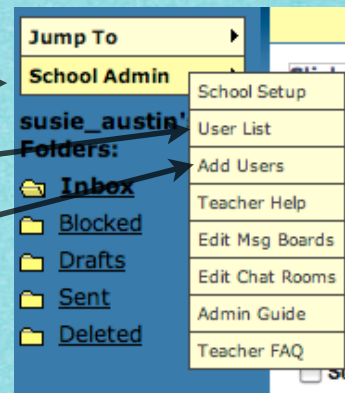
Student/Teacher Setup

▶ Look at School Setup

▶ View Users

▶ Add Users

▶ Your Individual Setting



Adding Your Users

Save up to 90% on Gaggle through E-rate!

Add New User for: Oakboro Elementary

There are three ways to add users to a group. The first is by manually entering users in this form.

User Name	<input type="text"/>
Full Name	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="text"/>
Retype Password	<input type="text"/>
Outside E-mail	<input type="text"/>
Access Level	Default ▾
Administrator	- ▾
Student/Staff ID	<input type="text"/>
Graduation Year	- ▾
Force Password Change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Msg Board Access Level	Default ▾
Chat Room Access	Default ▾
Digital Locker Access Level	Default ▾
Max Messages Per Day	Default ▾
Max Recipients per Email	Default ▾
Directory Access	Default ▾
Language Translation	Default ▾
<input type="button" value="Add"/>	

- Choose a screen name for the account.
- Enter the first and last name of the user.
- Choose a password for the user. The user can change it later.
- Reenter the password.
- * If you forget your password it will be mailed to this outside e-mail address.
- Student access is recommended.*
- Choose an administrator for the user. This determines which teacher controls the student's account. For non-student accounts leave this item blank.

▶ **Add Users**

Jump To	<input type="button" value="Click"/>
School Admin	School Setup
susie_austin'	User List
Folders:	Add Users
📁 Inbox	Teacher Help
📁 Blocked	Edit Msg Boards
📁 Drafts	Edit Chat Rooms
📁 Sent	Admin Guide
📁 Deleted	Teacher FAQ

Adding Users...Cont.

Import Users:

The second way to create users is to use the form below to import a list of users. Each line of the data should consist of a user name, full name, password, an optional outside email address and an optional note in that order. Each item must be delineated by a '|' character. You may want to paste the data into the form from another source such as a word processor or spread sheet.

The pipe character, '|', is created by holding down the shift and back slash keys. The back slash key is above the enter key on your keyboard.

The outside e-mail address and note are optional. The full name must include some text, but it may be generic text such as 'Blank' or 'NA.'

We recommend that you select an administrator for the new accounts before choosing the import button. You can specify a different administrator for the accounts later. The specified administrator will receive any of the student's blocked mail.

The format for the data should be in the form:

User Name|Full Name|Password|Outside E-mail for Password Retrieval|Notes|Student ID|Grad Year|Administrator's Gaggle ID|Forwarding Email Address

Example:

```
joe.s|Joe Somebody|Opensesame|joe@yahoo.com|notes about Joe|782390274|2014|1001|mr_somebody@WAISD.k12.tx.us  
jill.W|Jill Williams|red22|jills_dad@aol.com|notes about Jill|782390285|2012|1001|  
sam.b|Sam Brown|ace45|
```

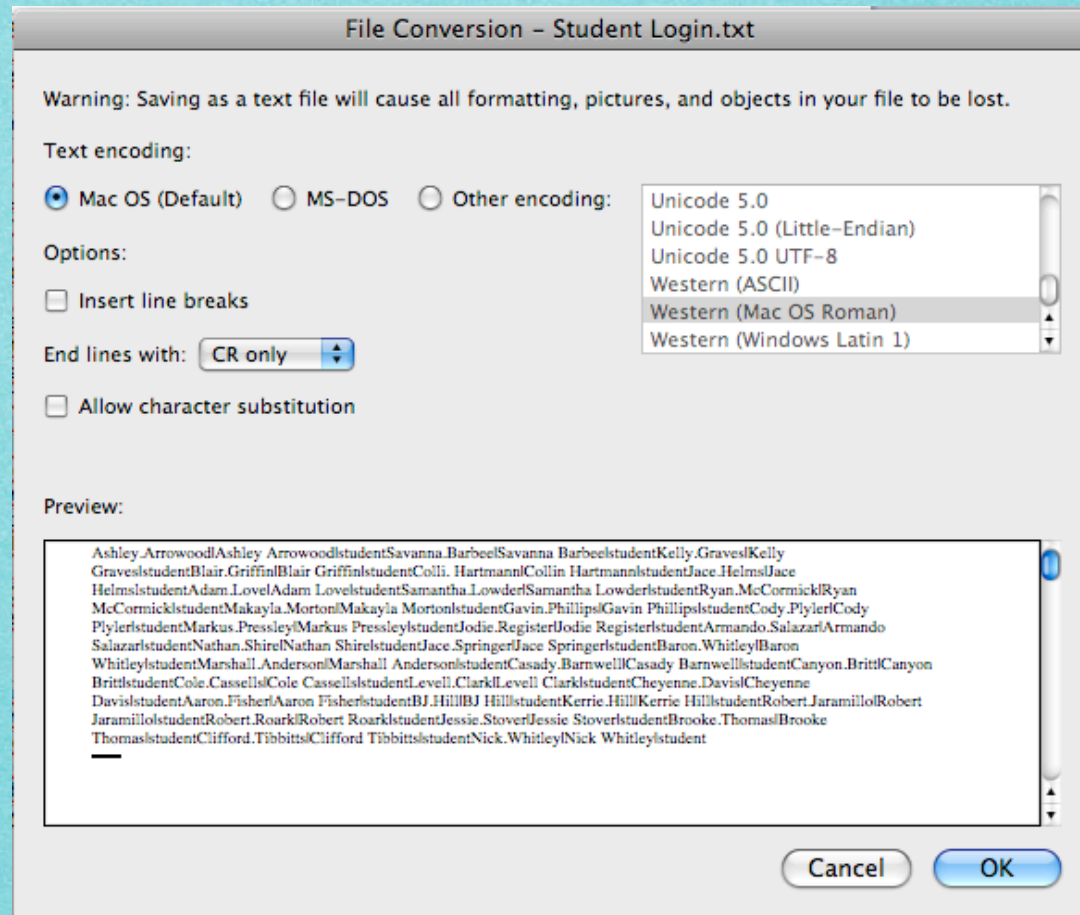
You may want to [download the Student Setup program](#) which can help you create the import data.

User List	<input type="text"/>
Administrator	<input type="text" value="-"/>
Access Level	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Graduation Year	<input type="text" value="-"/>
Force Password Change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Msg Board Access Level	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Chat Room Access	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Digital Locker Access Level	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Max Messages Per Day	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Max Recipients per Email	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Directory Access	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
Language Translation	<input type="text" value="Default"/>
	<input type="button" value="Import"/>

* Importing Students as a group

Student Setup cont.

▶ Copy and Paste



Import Users:

The second way to create users is to use the form below to import a list of users. Each line of the data should consist of a user name, full name, password, an optional outside email address and an optional note in. Each item must be delineated by a '|' character. You may want to paste the data into the form from another source such as a word processor or spread sheet.

The pipe character, '|', is created by holding down the shift and back slash keys. The back slash key is above the enter key on your keyboard.

The outside e-mail address and note are optional. The full name must include some text, but it may be generic text such as 'Blank' or 'NA.'

We recommend that you select an administrator for the new accounts before choosing the import button. You can specify a different administrator for the accounts later. The specified administrator will receive any blocked mail.

The format for the data should be in the form:

User Name|Full Name|Password|Outside E-mail for Password Retrieval|Notes|Student ID|Grad Year|Administrator's Gaggle ID|Forwarding Email Address

Example:

```
joe.s|Joe Somebody|Opensesame|joe@yahoo.com|notes about Joe|782390274|2014|1001|mr_somebody@WAISD.k12.tx.us  
jill.W|Jill Williams|red22|jills_dad@aol.com|notes about Jill|782390285|2012|1001|  
sam.b|Sam Brown|ace45|
```

You may want to [download the Student Setup program](#) which can help you create the import data.

User List

```
Jessie.Stover|Jessie Stover|student  
Brooke.Thomas|Brooke Thomas|student  
Clifford.Tibbitts|Clifford Tibbitts|student  
Nick.Whitley|Nick Whitley|student
```

Administrator

Access Level

Graduation Year

Force Password Change

Msg Board Access Level

Chat Room Access

Digital Locker Access Level

Max Messages Per Day

Max Recipients per Email

Directory Access

Language Translation

Teacher Setup

Save up to 90% on Gaggle through E-rate!

Add New User for: Oakboro Elementary

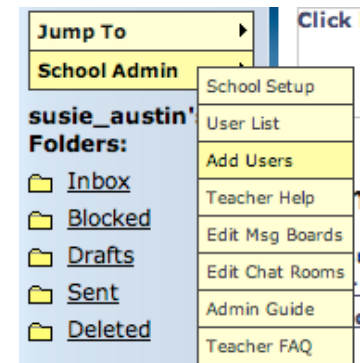
There are three ways to add users to a group. The first is by manually entering users in this form.

User Name	<input type="text"/>
Full Name	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
Retype Password	<input type="password"/>
Outside E-mail	<input type="text"/>
Access Level	Default ▾
Administrator	- ▾
Student/Staff ID	<input type="text"/>
Graduation Year	- ▾
Force Password Change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Msg Board Access Level	Default ▾
Chat Room Access	Default ▾
Digital Locker Access Level	Default ▾
Max Messages Per Day	Default ▾
Max Recipients per Email	Default ▾
Directory Access	Default ▾
Language Translation	Default ▾
	<input type="button" value="Add"/>

- Choose a screen name for the account.
- Enter the first and last name of the user.
- Choose a password for the user. The user can change it later.
- Reenter the password.
- * If you forget your password it will be mailed to this outside e-mail address.
- Student access is recommended.*
- Choose an administrator for the user. This determines which teacher controls the student's account. For non-student accounts leave this item blank.

* Enter in all the teachers manually that you want to take part in this.

* Add User



Teacher Help

► Get Teacher help at anytime

Sign up for service **Learn more** **Product tour** **Quotes & reviews** **Gaggle.Net** **Q & A** **Index** **About** **Contact**

safe e-mail for students

Teacher Help

Welcome to the Teacher Help Section for Gaggle.

Administrator's Guide

If you would like to see detailed information about setting up and using the Gaggle email service, you may download an Adobe Acrobat version of the Administrator's Guide.

Download the newest version of the [Administrator's Guide](#).

Quick Start Guides

The [Teacher Quick Start Guide](#) offers two handouts that explain how teachers and students can quickly get started using Gaggle. Follow this link to access the [Velocity Quick Start Guides](#). Velocity is the new Gaggle interface launched in Fall 2008.

Training Videos

The [Gaggle Training Videos](#) are a great way for new educators to learn about Gaggle. There are over 30 short videos that can be streamed right to your desktop. Most are less than 5 minutes long and include topics such as Adding Users, Blocked Messages, Blogs, Homework Drop Boxes, Digital Lockers and Administrative Features.

Gagglers Archives

The [Gagglers Archives](#) contain past issues of our newsletter with lots of great tricks, tips and ideas for curriculum projects.

Frequently Asked Questions

The [Teacher's Frequently Asked Questions](#) is a great place to learn more about using the Gaggle system.

Importing Student Lists / Student Setup Program

If you have a large list of students to set up, you may want to download the Student Setup Program.

This program takes a list of student names and creates the text necessary to import users. It creates a user name based upon the student name and creates a random password. The formatted text can then be used to quickly import new users.

Download the **Macintosh** version of the [Student Set Up program](#).
Download the **Windows** version of the [Student Set Up program](#).

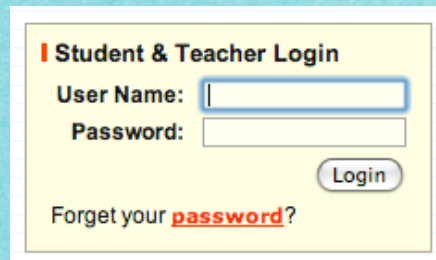
Download a custom login page

This is a set of example files that make up a login page that you can put on your own web site. You can customize it with your school's logo or a special message.

Download a zip file containing the [example login page](#).

Let's Use Email

- ▶ Have Students to Login



A screenshot of a login form with a yellow background. The title is "Student & Teacher Login". Below the title are two input fields: "User Name:" and "Password:". To the right of the "Password:" field is a "Login" button. Below the input fields is a link that says "Forget your password?".

- ▶ Decide if they are going to change their password; if YES...do that now; if NO, continue on.

Jump To: Velocity

- ▶ Show student how to create and send email messages.

The screenshot displays the Gaggle.Net email interface. The top left corner features the "Gaggle.Net" logo. Below it, there are buttons for "Check Mail" and "Compose", a "Jump To Menu" button, and a search bar labeled "Search Messages". On the left side, a folder tree shows "susie_austin's folders" with sub-folders: "Inbox (0)", "Blocked", "Drafts", "Sent", "Deleted", "Contacts", and "My Folders". The main area is titled "Inbox" and contains a table of messages. The table has columns for "From", "Subject", "Date", and "Size". A single message is listed with "From: kirk@gaggle.net", "Subject: Welcome to Gaggle.Net", "Date: Wed 1:01 PM", and "Size: 1.4 Kb". Above the table are action buttons: "Reply", "Reply All", "Forward", "Translate", "Print", "Spam", and "Delete". Below the table, a message preview area contains the text: "To view your message down here in this handy Reading pane, just click on it. To select more than one, hold the Shift or Control key and click the desired messages."

From	Subject	Date	Size
kirk@gaggle.net	Welcome to Gaggle.Net	Wed 1:01 PM	1.4 Kb

Questions?

- ▶ Do you have any questions
- ▶ If you would like to contact us at a later time, please feel free to “email”....

We've Got Mail!