Local Plans Statement

Liberty High School
Eldersburg, MD

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Digital Learning Transition MOOC

Foundational Statements

Core Statement

Strive for Excellence

Five Pillars of Excellence

Academics; Arts; Athletics; Community; and Service

Technology Vision Statement

Liberty High School will promote the effective incorporation of technology to foster creativity, innovation, communication, digital citizenship, and learning for all students, staff, and stakeholders.

Technology Beliefs

At Liberty High School, staff, students, and parents believe that:

1. Technology, when utilized appropriately, is a meaningful and powerful learning tool

2. Appropriate and effective professional development is essential to effective implementation of educational technology

3. Technology incorporated into the classroom must adhere to Acceptable Use policies and have a positive impact on instruction

4. Technology is not used *in place* of effective pedagogy, but rather, is used to *enhance* pedagogy

5. Common Core State Standards positively impact the necessity for educational technology and resources

6. Effective implementation of educational technology facilitates a 21st Century learning environment

7. Community involvement is essential to effective technology integration

Goals and Challenges Statement

Vision Overview

Rapid changes in technology have not only changed the face of education, they have changed the very nature of society. There is ample evidence to show that even in the face of technological shift, humans still need and rely upon social relationships as a cornerstone of individual well-being. It is our belief that relationships are also a core within an effective educational system. Our reflection upon and transition to digital teaching and learning is driven by the need to appropriately integrate technology into our educational environment while sustaining and strengthening relationships with our staff, students, and community.

Digital Learning Transition Vision

Promote, model, and develop effective and appropriate strategies to integrate technology into our educational programs to support teaching and learning for each and every stakeholder.

What are the most important goals for updating teaching and learning in your school?

- Provide relevant, timely, and appropriate professional learning opportunities for instructional staff
- Communicate strategies for parents to support digital citizenship at home
- Utilize social media tools to communicate with parents and community stakeholders
- Provide regular and in-depth feedback on teaching and learning to instructional staff through observations
- Promote active membership in professional learning communities
- Facilitate and sustain a data-driven conversation on best practices with instructional staff
- Promote opportunities for instructional staff to participate in professional development activities outside of the school
- Utilize digital communication tools to connect members of our instructional staff with their global counterparts
- Continue to incorporate forward-thinking teaching strategies (i.e. flipped classroom instruction) into the educational program
- Discuss ways to increase creativity and innovation as a core component of the educational program
- Promote opportunities for instructional staff to share best practices and receive peer feedback

What are the biggest challenges you and your colleagues must address to achieve these goals?

Challenge	Description
Time	Providing relevant professional learning opportunities requires time, a commodity that is often in short supply within our educational system. We will need to "not find time, but make time."
Resources	Decreased budgetary allocations have limited the amount of resources available. This lack of resources presents a challenge in providing the tools to complete transformations in the teaching and learning process.
Fear/Trepidation	New sometimes equates to fear. This will challenge the shift towards a new way of seeing teaching and learning as a component of a digital learning transition.
Sustainability	Sustaining positive change is often difficult to do. It will be a major challenge to address, but can be done with strategic planning and deliberate facilitation.
Technology as a Gimmick	Handing anyone new technology will encourage novelty response and acceptance; making the technology meaningful requires that technology be utilized as a tool for learning rather than a gimmick for engagement.

Implementation Action Plan

Goal	Strategic Action	Timeline	Person Responsible
Provide relevant, timely, and appropriate professional learning opportunities for instructional staff	Develop a professional development model based on autonomy	August 2013 Revisit – January 2014	Administration
	Gather staff feedback on current professional learning model and practices	January 2014	Instructional Leadership Team
Communicate strategies for parents to support digital citizenship at home	Provide parent workshops on social media	August 2013 December 2013 January 2014	Counseling Department
	Create a video resource for parents available on school website	June 2014	Administration & Media Specialist
Utilize social media tools to communicate with parents and community stakeholders	Develop social media presence on Twitter	August 2013	Administration
	Utilize AlertNow to communicate social media presence	September 2013	Office Staff
	Communicate positive messages concerning the school through social media	Ongoing Revisit February 2014	Administration
Provide regular and in-depth feedback on teaching and learning to instructional staff through observations	Review and reflect on completed observations	Ongoing Revisit January 2014	Administration
	Develop lookfors related to digital learning as a component of walkthroughs	August 2014	Administration & Content Supervisors
Promote active membership in professional learning communities	Develop professional learning communities	August 2013	Instructional Leadership Team
	Create and share vision and goal statements for PLCs	December 2013	PLC Facilitators
	Collect and distribute notes from PLCs	Ongoing	Administration and PLC Facilitators
	Create web presence for PLCs	July 2014	Administration
	Develop Edmodo sites for PLCs	July 2014	PLC Facilitators

Utilize digital communication tools to connect members of our instructional staff with their global counterparts	Establish Digital Collaboration Project with partner schools	September 2013	Administration
	Facilitate Google Hangouts (GHOs) for departments and staff	Ongoing	Administration & Media Specialist

Continue to incorporate forward-thinking teaching strategies (i.e. flipped classroom instruction) into the educational program	Develop and support the Flipped Classroom pilot	Ongoing	Flipped Pilot Teachers
	Research and develop MOOC independent study courses	December 2013	Administration & Instructional Leaders
	Develop a "Flipped Librarian" program	January 2014	Media Specialist & Media Supervisor

Discuss ways to increase creativity and innovation as a core component of the educational program	Develop a maker station within the Media Center	November 2013	Media Specialist
	Establish creativity and innovation as a standing item for ILT	August 2014	Instructional Leadership Team

Promote opportunities for instructional staff to share best practices and receive peer feedback	Establish "Ten Minute Tuesdays"	August 2014	Administration
	Utilize PLCs to share and reflect on best practices	Ongoing	PLC Facilitators
	Develop a peer observation and coaching model	August 2014	Administration & Instructional Leadership Team