Innovation for Diverse 21st Century Learning Environments
PLANNING INNOVATION FOR DIVERSE 21st CENTURY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Education Week Webinar
Omaha Public Schools

51,885 PK-12 Students

- PK: 2,526
- K: 4,147
- 1-3: 12,344
- 4-6: 10,062
- 5-8: 8,921
- 9-12: 13,885

Pie charts show:
- 86.0% Non-ESL
- 14.0% ESL Students
- 25.7% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 74.3% Full Pay Lunch

- 34.0% White
- 29.1% African American
- 5.3% Multi Racial
- 5.2% Asian American
- 1.0% Native American
- 1.0% Pacific Islander
- 0.2% Hispanic
WHERE ARE WE AT NOW?

ALIGNED TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN
WE MAKE DECISIONS DIFFERENTLY

Start with the WHY then you make purposeful decisions

• Needs assessment/strategic plan
• Classroom – 21st century skills
• What’s best for students
Once you have a strong “why” the device becomes easy
Tech Standards Committee

Innovation Facilitators

Office 365 Sites

IMs
CIA

Innovation Academy

Pilots
2 times a year
Digital Curriculum
Software
Hardware

Sharepoint Workflow

MIE CommonSense Media

Innovation Librarians

Follow up
Day to Day

Provide content support for blended & 21st Century Classrooms

Planned Obsolescence

Classroom Technology Framework

Student Collaborative Online Environment

Classrooms

Students
Teachers
Administrators
Parents

Online Sessions

OMaha Forbes SChools

Skype for Business
Office Mix
Sway
Video
Class Dashboard
DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS
Technology & Learning CASE Framework
No physical copies of student data needed
Accessible anytime
Any PLC Group member

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES
Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

Plan
1. Assess Needs - data analysis
2. Determine Focus - SMART goals
3. Create Plan - strategies & resources

Do
4. Apply Plan

Check
5. Reflect-Evaluate-Act

*This model is a combination of the Dufour PLC model and the Deming PDCA cycle*
Program Overview

Train-the-trainer program modeled after Microsoft's MIE program

- Gradual Release Cycle of Learning
- Partnership with Microsoft Fellow-Helen Gooch
OPS MICROSOFT INNOVATIVE EDUCATOR

Recruitment

• Teacher leaders identified, applied, and accepted into program
• 200 K-12 educators trained
• Three-year program

#opsmie
Q3: How do you leverage these tools for student engagement?

Training Modes

- Training throughout the year (face to face & online)
- Twitter chats & Skype calls
- Focused on instructional tools - OneNote, OfficeMix, Sway, Class Dashboard, Skype, and many more!
Pipeline for Professional Learning

- Conducting training on instructional tools at building & district level
- Informing future PD geared towards school improvement
- Modeling use of instructional tools in their environment
OPS MICROSOFT INNOVATIVE EDUCATOR

Personal Professional Growth Opportunities

- Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert Program
- Microsoft Surface Expert Program
- Instructional Technology Leadership Endorsement
OPS MIE PROGRAM FEEDBACK

The MIEs currently serve as a source of innovation, ideas, and support for all of my teachers! We are poised to have a strong network of local support for all staff, and I commend our district leadership team for this innovative approach to supporting staff.

--Rony Ortega- Principal

The MIEs have the opportunity to become teacher leaders and empower their colleagues to use technology in different ways. They serve as role models and as in house resources for the staff and are able to support deeper implementation of technology in the school.

--Charla Johnson- Principal
STUDENT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
WAKONDA ELEMENTARY

• First Turnaround School in the State
• School Improvement Grant
• Vision: Transform Instruction to Meet the Needs of the Students
• Strategic Plan for Technology Integration Aligned with District Plan
• 1:1 Initiative for Intermediate Grades
The 1:1 implementation is two-fold:

1) To support teachers in making **timely decisions** and **differentiating instruction**

2) Integration of technology will allow teachers to **remediate** and **enrich lessons**
1:1 STUDENT INITIATIVE

- Staff & Students Rated a Variety of Devices
- Chose Microsoft Surfaces
1:1 STUDENT INITIATIVE

Build up your Teachers First
Gradual Release: Intentional and Strategic Steps
1:1 STUDENT INITIATIVE

Align a Scope & Sequence of Skills for 3rd-5th Grades
Next Steps:
Students Become the Ambassadors
1:1 STUDENT INITIATIVE

Student Responses:
“It’s like jumping into a new world of technology! We don’t need our big buckets of books under our desks anymore because our work is in our OneNote Notebooks.”
~Justice, 3rd grade student

“I can help my dad at home with his Surface when he doesn’t know how to do things! And I think I did better on my math test this time.”
~Darrell, 3rd grade student
Teacher Responses:

“Students who never did any work before are now the first ones done and it is done well.”

“Allow yourself to give up some of that control in the classroom…let students experiment together with the device to learn.” ~Miss W, 3rd grade teacher
Digital Citizenship

A Whole Community Approach

common sense
Make Room for Healthy Media Choices

- Designate bedrooms “screen-free zones.”
- Use screens sparingly with kids 2 and under.
- Choose age-appropriate, quality shows, games, and apps.
- Limit screen time to one to two hours per day.
- Stay involved in your kids’ media habits through co-viewing.
- Create a plan with firm but reasonable rules about your family’s media use.
PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE: Screentime

Common Sense Media, Digital Citizenship, & Community Engagement

COMMON SENSE
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