New Hanover County Schools
Digital Learning Plan
2016-2020

In New Hanover County Schools, exceptional digital teaching and learning is defined as the use of digital resources that connect the students of today with the opportunities of tomorrow by:

- Building student efficacy by giving them more control over their own learning.
- Engaging students in problem based/inquiry based learning.
- Amplifies student voice.
- Personalizing instruction to meet every student's unique learning needs.
- Providing students and teachers with opportunities for authentic and meaningful collaboration with other learners and leaders around the world.

Context: The transition to digital learning requires updating policies and procedures to foster educational innovations, restructuring budgets for sustainable initiatives, and ensuring that all students have access to digital-age learning opportunities.

LEADERSHIP		
Goals	**Objectives**	**Strategies**
Sustainable funding and processes are in place to maintain well-functioning digital teaching and learning in all schools.	- Establish a per pupil cost for maintaining well-functioning digital teaching and learning in all schools including: content, professional development, devices, and infrastructure. - Prioritize funding source for digital teaching and learning support from capital requests to recurring expenses. - Increase district level support for digital teaching and learning.	- Collaborate with Finance Department to determine the cost per pupil for maintaining well-functioning digital teaching and learning at all schools. - Review support needed for digital learning plan and request positions as needed during budget process
Cost savings are obtained through economies of scale and more efficient purchasing processes for both equipment and digital content.	- Create and implement process for volume purchasing across the district. - Utilize state contracts and purchasing agreements for equipment and digital content.	- Collaborate with Purchasing to Create and implement process for volume purchasing across the district. - Make schools and departments aware of state contract pricing for equipment and digital content.

All schools are able to address community and home access to ensure digital resources are available to all students.	- Collaborate with Chamber of Commerce to create map of free wireless access points for student use throughout New Hanover County. - Provide a device and hot spot for students when necessary. - Support schools in creating and implementing a plan for providing additional access to school networks (i.e.: before and after school.) - Provide information to parents on discounted internet access from carriers.	- Create map of free wifi access and use communications channels to get the word out to students and parents. - Continue Kajeet program monitoring and adjusting as needed based on usage data. - Publish information about reduced cost internet opportunities for parents.
The expenditures for educational resources are reduced while maintaining quality and alignment with the North Carolina curriculum standards.	- Create a process to help schools evaluate current expenditures for digital tools and content. - Create and implement a plan for sharing high quality open educational resources and teacher created resources.	- Pilot an evidenced based program that evaluates digital tool use related to impact and effectiveness. - Train teachers in the use of Schoolnet and the NCLOR to access and store high quality OERs. - Evaluate data collected through applications for the SchoolNet digital badge to identify and share models of the exceptional use of this resource within NHCS. - Train teachers in the use of the commons area within Canvas to share teacher created modules and courses across the district. - NHCS Instructional Services Dept. utilizes district websites and other free online tools as object repositories for both vetted and teacher created instructional resources.
The district advances on each dimension of the Digital Learning Progress Rubric.	- Review Digital Learning Plan and monitor progress towards goals quarterly as part of the DMTAC meetings, and adjust accordingly. - Evaluate district's progress on Digital Learning Progress Rubric annually and share results with stakeholders.	- Establish a plan and system for continually recording progress towards the DLP - Establish a plan for having principals, central office administrators, assistant principals and teacher advisory committee complete the Digital Learning Progress Rubric annually.
Effective digital learning practices are spread across all schools.	- Create resources for district wide sharing of examples of effective digital learning practices. - Create opportunities for building and district level leaders to share effective digital teaching and learning practices on a regular basis. - Identify classroom DTL leaders in all schools. - Increase understanding and awareness of the NC Information Technology Essential Standards (ITES).	- Include time at monthly principals' meeting for share sessions. - Administrators lead sessions at our Summer Institute demonstrating how they effectively use digital tools with their staff. - Curate examples of effective digital teaching and learning in "What It Looks Like" DTL ThingLink. - Curate examples of effective digital teaching and learning on DTL YouTube Channel. - Recruit administrators to contribute videos to DTL YouTube channel that highlight effective digital teaching and learning practices which will be shared throughout the district. - Evaluate data collected through digital badging PD to identify emerging DTL leaders

		● Create resources that illustrate the connection between the NC ITES and content instruction. ● ELA 9-12 Leads share innovative, new ways that they are using technology within their classrooms at monthly ELA district meetings. ● Applications and strategies are presented at K-5 Math monthly professional development meetings.
Access to digital learning is addressed as part of the district's strategic plan for providing a sound education to all students.	● Develop, implement and evaluate strategies that ensure DTL plays an integral role in improving student outcomes.	● Contribute to the NHCS Strategic Plan to ensure that digital teaching and learning is an integral part of district strategies for improving student outcomes.

Context: The digital learning transition requires that teachers and administrators are able to take full advantage of modern technologies.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Goals	Objectives	Strategies
All teachers and administrators demonstrate understanding and application of the digital learning competencies as required by SL 2013-11.	● Design and implement PD for teachers and administrators based on digital learning competencies as required by SL 2013-11. ● Teachers and administrators include digital learning in their professional development plans as a strategy for meeting NC digital learning competencies.	● Create self-assessment for principals and teachers to determine current competencies. ● Identify and increase opportunities within digital badging PD for teachers and administrators to meet digital competencies ● Revise the SchoolLink workshop creation template to include digital competencies. ● Create resources that illustrate the connection between the digital competencies and content instruction
All teachers and students report effective leadership and support for digital learning in their districts and schools.	● Design and implement PD for administrators on effective digital leadership. ● Develop and implement a plan for increased participation of teachers and students in the Speak Up annual survey	● Create administrator sessions specifically addressing effective digital leadership at Summer Institute ● Create and facilitate book studies in Canvas for administrators that specifically address effective digital leadership. ● Evaluate and make revisions to all PD evaluation forms in SchoolLink to include questions modeled after those asked in the Speak Up survey that relate to digital teaching and learning. ● Create a stakeholder group to develop plan for increased participation in annual Speak-Up Survey.
All teachers report that they are prepared to effectively use digital learning to increase their students' engagement and achievement.	● Develop and implement a plan for increased participation of teachers in the Speak Up annual survey ● Develop and implement traditional and nontraditional PD opportunities on digital learning to increase student engagement and achievement.	● Create a stakeholder group to develop plan for increased participation in annual Speak-Up survey. ● District leads will utilize Canvas as a PD tool. ● Revise the NHCS Title 2 survey to include questions that help determine stakeholder PD needs as related to Digital Teaching and Learning and preferred delivery formats. ● Increase opportunities for teachers to participate in varied online learning opportunities.
All students report that their teachers use technology effectively to enhance learning.	● Develop and implement a plan for increased participation of students and parents in the Speak Up annual survey	● Create a stakeholder group to develop plan for increased participation. ● Share results of Speak Up survey district wide.

Context: Digital learning requires very different tools and resources that traditional learning. Curriculum resources are no longer static pages, but instead provide interactive, multimedia learning experiences, with embedded assessments of progress and personalized paths to learning.

CONTENT, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Goals	Objectives	Strategies
High-quality, personalized, interactive digital learning resources are available to all students.	● Support site based systems for selecting high-quality digital resources. ● Increase access to digital learning resources for students without Internet access at home ● Establish a standard for what personalized learning looks like in NHCS. ● Increase personalized learning opportunities for students.	● Provide additional training in how to select high-quality effective resources. ● Create a stakeholder group to seek funding to support home access or providing funding for alternatives. ● Conduct site visits with stakeholders at exemplar school where personalized learning has been successful. ● Create a plan for increasing awareness and understanding of personalized learning as an effective instructional model. ● Create and develop PD for using digital tools to support personalized learning in all content areas. ● Create a method for evaluating existing digital resources for personalized learning potential. ● Require site based plans for before and after school access to digital learning resources for students.
Effective systems are in place for teachers to select, create, organize, share, review, and use digital learning resources and curricula	● Increase awareness of places where teachers can select, create, organize, share, review, and use digital learning resources and curricula ● Continue to provide input to the state to improve the NC Learning Object Repository	● Provide additional training to administrators and teachers on where teachers can select, create, organize, share, review, and use digital learning resources and curricula. ● Identify opportunities for providing feedback to the state and publicize widely throughout the district.
All teachers use assessment data that enables them to personalize instruction and increase student achievement.	● Increase awareness of digital tools that enable educators to use student data to improve teaching and learning.	● Model the use of digital tools that include assessment data in trainings and meetings with teachers and administrators to showcase opportunities for personalization. ● Model the ways that teachers can use multiple digital data sources to remediate and accelerate their students based on their instructional needs. ● Continue the use of online diagnostic assessments to problem solve Tier 3 interventions. ● Continue to use pre and posttests within SchoolNet to guide instructional choices that create personalized learning paths.
All teachers will use digital learning to effectively implement flexible learning	● Share strategies for using digital learning tools to create content.	● Create and deliver professional development on student use of digital tools for content creation.

spaces, inquiry-based lessons and non-traditional learning opportunities.	- Share strategies for using digital tools to enhance non-traditional learning opportunities for students. - Share strategies for implementing flexible learning spaces to enhance the use of digital tools and improve instructional outcomes for students.	- Model the use of digital tools for content creation at instructional, CRT, SLMC, DTLC, and principals' meetings. - Showcase exemplar flexible learning spaces throughout NHCS at instructional, CRT, SLMC, DTLC, and principals' meetings. - Create and deliver professional development on using digital tools to enhance non-traditional learning opportunities for students. - Model the use of digital tools digital tools to enhance non-traditional learning opportunities for students. at instructional, CRT, SLMC, DTLC, and principals' meetings. - Showcase digital tools to enhance non-traditional learning opportunities for students throughout NHCS at instructional, CRT, SLMC, DTLC, and principals' meetings.

Context: An effective digital learning transition requires that students and teachers in every school have ready access to the technology required for digital teaching and learning.

TECHNOLOGY & INFRASTRUCTURE		
Goals	**Objectives**	**Strategies**
All schools have sufficient network capacity to fully support digital learning in all classrooms and workspaces.	- Create and implement a process for assessing network use and increasing capacity to support digital learning in all classrooms and workspaces. - Create a replacement cycle for outdated access points and switches.	- Quarterly reports provided to CTO on recommendations for increasing capacity. - Create procedures to evaluate WAN usage. - Create a replacement cycle for outdated access points and switches - Acquire tools to monitor port level usage. - Provide training on monitoring tools to Network staff.
Increase teachers' and students' access to technologies.	- Develop a base level of technology for each classroom. - Implement a replacement plan for outdated teacher and student devices. - Increase the number of devices to which teachers and students have access.	- Request devices based on plan during yearly budget process - Evaluate mobile lab plan on a yearly basis to be sure we are meeting the Instructional needs of the schools. - Work with stakeholders to create base level technology for classrooms.
Schools have minimal problems with the misuse of digital technologies.	Create structures and systems to effectively address any issues with misuse of digital technologies that occur.	- Create digital citizenship class for students to complete in 6th grade. - Create a responsible use and security class for staff to address misuse of technology. - Provide training for teachers on the effective use of technology.