



To: Dr. Michael Fulton, Dr. Rick Atha

Date: March 1, 2019

RE: Friday Update - Digital Learning Task Force

The Digital Learning Task Force met on February 26, 2019. The agenda for the meeting included:

1. Welcome & Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Digital Learning Task Force is to review and develop recommendations in order to advise the Superintendent of Schools in the steps needed to ensure every learner is able to utilize technology as a tool to support their learning.

2. Introductions

3. Establishing Norms

The same norms were discussed and agreed to as were used in establishing the Strategic Planning Committees and Action Teams. They include:

Be courteous and honest. Take care of your needs. Participate without dominating.

Subordinate personal agendas. Push for agreement. Honor confidentiality. Honor the process.

Be yourself. Have fun.

4. Building Background Knowledge: A Brief Overview of Digital Learning

This included history of technology and legislation governing technology in schools as well as an overview of the digital learning progression in Shawnee Mission.

5. Task Force Work

The Task Force engaged in small group discussions around the 4 themes of concern presented by a parent group to the Board of Education and administration in November, 2018. (Communication, Instructional Use of Technology, Balance with Physical Activity & Social Interaction, and Student Online Safety.) The group also reviewed and looked for connections in the Strategic Plan Thought Exchange data collected from over 1100 constituents. 49 Thoughts were harvested in the category of Technology. The small groups engaged in using the 4 themes to develop connections with the 49 thoughts harvested from the prompt of "What are the skills the current class of 1st graders (Class of 2030) will need to be success-ready graduates?" While interacting with the data and the themes, members discussed possible gap areas that the task force would need to discuss (e.g. Digital Literacy/Citizenship). The activity was intended to begin to digest the concerns brought forward by parents while also looking at common areas of attention for the future in order to find alignment and improve support for the use of technology across the district learning community.

6. Next Steps

The Task Force discussed focusing on a problem-statement(s) in order to focus the work in ultimately developing recommendations for Dr. Fulton's review. The possibility of bringing in an expert panel to share information and provide a Q and A for the group was discussed as an option for future meetings. Experts have been contacted and are accessible to the group.

Overall, the Task Force membership is an engaged, balanced representation of parents, students, educators, and administrators. The next meeting date for the group is scheduled for March 26.

Christy Ziegler, Drew Lane, Co-Chairs