

District Leadership Interviews

Fall 2015

Overview

In fall 2015 individual interviews were conducted with 17 leaders in the Renton School District by Seymour Hanfling (Chief Technology Officer) and Ellen Dorr (Director of Digital Learning). The interview were structured through a series of open-ended prompts that lead to wide-ranging discussion on the vision and role of technology, Department needs, and possible barriers in infusing technology. The prompts were:

What is your vision of technology in education?

What does the district environment need to become so technology is an integral part of teaching and learning?

What is your department's role and responsibility in integrating technology to meet the district strategic goals?

What are your department's technology needs?

What are the barriers that keep your department from integrating technology?

Summary

There were many commonalities across all of the leaders, as well as focused responses based upon the leaders' role and specific responsibilities. The following summarizes and categorizes the ideas, concerns, and suggestion from over 10 of interviews.

- Vision of technology
 - Provide a vision of technology supporting instruction - what does it look like in the classroom
 - Allow students to bring and use personal devices in school
 - Examine methods for supporting Individual schools to innovate and select technology
 - Allow and support school libraries or other facilities to be open after school hours so that students can work late
- Instructional approaches and needs
 - Use technology to personalize and differentiate learning for students

Summary District Leader Interviews – Technology Vision, Ideas and Challenges

- Provide a scope/sequence for student use of technology
- Support differentiation of technology for specific needs such as ELL, Special Ed, CTE, etc.
- Move to online resources and reduce paper textbooks
- Provide data dashboards with role-based data to inform instructional staff and operations staff
- Technology
 - Provide additional devices – increase student access; make it readily available for all students
 - Offer solutions for internet access for secondary students outside of school that do not have access at home
 - Provide more building level support for student devices
- Professional development and support
 - Ongoing and readily available professional development for integrating technology into learning
 - Building level support for teachers/administrators on integrating technology
 - Broaden the approaches for professional development to include webinars and video approaches so that staff does not have to come to a central location

Interviewees

Dr. Art Jarvis	Dr. Damien Pattenaude
Ms. Sheryl Moore	Ms. Susan Smith Leland
Dr. Shannon Harvey	Ms. Vickie Damon
Mr. Jay Leviton	Mr. Rick Stracke
Mr. Randy Matheson	Ms. Linda Hoste
Mr. Jon Stadler	Mr. Craig Cooper
Ms. Monica Chandler	Ms. Karen Soine
Ms. Karen Finnigan	Ms. Susan Ormbrek
Ms. Jamie Maxie	