Elmbrook Schools
become what's next

Technology Advisory Group - Family

The purpose of the Technology Advisory Group is to provide input and perspective to District staff regarding the appropriate use of instructional technology in the classroom and at home, as well as identify training tools and resources that will best equip families to support that use.

Family Technology Advisory Group
December 3, 2019
6:00pm - 7:30pm
Central Administrative Office

In Attendance: Chris Thompson, Mike Sereno, Doug Scott, Jeremy Monty, Kim Liepert, Erika McClean, Maria Paglianti, Jennifer Black, Ginger Auchter, Bruce Twomey, Dawn Christenson. Unable to attend: Kimberli Potteiger.

Resources Provided in Advance of the Meeting
● Family Technology Survey Results for Elementary, Middle, High - conducted from Oct 31 - November 17

Group Norms
1. Promote equality of voice.
2. Listen actively and respectfully, seeking to understand and avoiding interruption.
3. Commit to learning, not debating. Comment to share information, not to persuade.
4. Our discussion is around ideas, not individuals.
5. Be solution-focused; avoid blame and speculation.
6. Honor our team outside of our meetings.

Agenda
6:00 - 6:05pm
Chris welcomed the group and thanked them for their service during a busy December filled with many activities.

6:05 - 7:00pm
Members worked in teams of three to analyze the results of the Family Technology Survey. 1,995 responses were received and results were shared in advance with the Committee, including most comments with only a very small percentage of comments redacted due to disclosure of personal information or specific mention of a staff member. Each team had the opportunity to identify themes at each level (Elementary, Middle and High), and then performed

a gallery walk to review what others had added to the list. The list of suggested themes is included below.

7:00 - 7:35pm
Mike facilitated the identification of possible action steps while Dan Scott captured suggestions. No filter or criteria of importance was placed on the identified themes. Rather, participants were asked to identify the themes they felt were of most importance, and then were offered the chance to suggest a possible action. Those suggestions are summarized in the information below.

7:35 - 7:40pm
Chris concluded the meeting by forecasting next steps.
- Teacher Advisory Group will process the survey results and identify possible action steps
- Administrators will process the survey results and identify possible action steps
- A summary of the Survey Themes and an Action Plan will be presented to the Teaching and Learning Committee at its meeting on January 6

The next meeting of this Committee will be on Tuesday, January 21, at 6pm. The topic of the meeting will be determined once an action plan has been finalized.

The meeting concluded at 7:40pm.

Identified Elementary Themes (no particular order than how it was captured on paper or discussed by the group) - 1,066 Responses

Advisory Group Member Generated Themes	Member Suggestions for Action
- Social - emotional interaction diminishes with too much tech - Kids are lacking "soft skills" like working together face-to-face - Many parents want a choice to have low-tech or no-tech classrooms - Parents are in favor of kids learning "Digital Citizenship" and tech safety - Parents are concerned that technology is replacing teaching - want a return to basics like grammar, paper & pencil math - Concerns about access to and use of non-educational tech like YouTube and games - Lack of confidence in Securly - High parental - student stress surrounding tech use	- Access to coding curriculum - Leave devices at School to eliminate conflict at home - More research to determine appropriate age to introduce devices - Create a choice for low-tech or no-tech classrooms to allow parents to choose - Parent information night, parent training on how to be an active parent in the system using both hardware and software technology tools

● Add coding to the curriculum ● Leave devices at school ● Vision/development concerns ● Questions regarding appropriate age to introduce tech to students. ● 40% of parents don't know how much time is spent on devices at school - would like a report ● 20% of parents responded that there is too much screen time at school ● 66% concerned with addiction to mobile, personal or computer devices ● Question 2 - Generally there is a place for technology - gradually increase with age ● Question 5 - how technology is being done is not as satisfactory	● Consistent communication around technology integration and specifics ● Classroom monitoring tools to support teachers ● Limit the number of tabs a user can open/interact with in a browser ● Gradual introduction into technology based on grade and capabilities ● Focus on defining purposeful use of technology for both school and home

Identified Middle School Themes (no particular order than how it was captured on paper or discussed by the group) - **459 Responses**

Advisory Group Member Generated Themes	Member Suggestions for Action
● 30% don't know how much time tech is being used at school (time on device) ● Lack of consistent application of technology across teachers - no district-wide agreed upon way for tech to enhance teaching - parents want to know how and why it is being used ● Lack of confidence in Securly ● 73% (strongly agree/agree) believe their child may become or is addicted to their technology ● Stronger filter to block unwanted material ● Apps like canvas cause lack of support from parents ● Middle seemed to have a stronger reaction to open-ended questions ● More paper/textbook/workbook options offered versus digital ● Impression tech is minimizing teachers instrumental role ● Face to face interactions/soft skills development ● Parents need more instruction on tools and how they support learning ● Kids are constantly off task	● Block Youtube and provide preferred media sources ● Cultivate video sources - whitelist only those needed ● Provide more access to paper textbooks to reduce tech need ● Improve teacher to parent communication/standard communication and required ○ More frequent updates regarding technology use ● Standardize email signatures with links to key information like course website ● Capture and report how much time students are on technology and what they are doing ● Simplified reporting of internet activity, more efficient reporting to parents

● Digital citizenship - too much reliance on quick facts vs depth of knowledge and source verification (for research and presentations) ● Block youtube ● Excess screen time can have a negative effect on emotional, social and physical health

Identified High School Themes (no particular order than how it was captured on paper or discussed by the group) - **469 Responses**

Advisory Group Member Generated Themes	Member Suggestions for Action
● Practice around cell phone use is inconsistent (East v Central) ● Parents want to see a balance of media (paper, website, digital, etc) used for teamwork and assignments that require research/library research ● Parents feel it is tough to keep kids on task on Chromebooks due to Google/Youtube ● Securly - not effective in reporting use, filtering out content, and getting parents use to it ● Software used in the classroom is not also used in business/tech context (ie. google docs versus MS Office, access to CAD) ● Limit time on devices overall ● Parents have no tech barriers to supporting chromebook use ● Unclear to parents how device is used in class on a week-to-week basis and how long it will be used for and for what purpose ● Lack of consistency at grade level and across grade levels within a school - especially teacher to student/parent communication ● Desire to see teachers teaching ● Concerns with lack of grammar and writing ● Youtube issues/concerns ● Noticed students collaborate more with technology as they advance in grades (Q32, 19 & 7) ● Filters not working as designed	● Establish consistent practice regarding cell phone use between schools ● Parents want to see a balance ○ Tech free tuesday, more face-to-face time, reduce screen time ● Identify strategies and tools to help keep kids on task ● Review filter solutions and consider alternatives ● Review software being used at school and communicate its use (Particularly MS Office, AutoCad) ● Consider consistent use around classroom tools and use ● Focus on depth vs surface learning ● Use a Balance of online and print research resources ● Pursue/evaluate classroom management software ● Identify a tool(s) to record time online

Family Technology Survey Participation - 1995 Responses

	Respondents	Possible Respondents	Response %
Brookfield El	252	788	32%
Burleigh	271	1086	25%
Dixon	177	758	23%
Swanson	247	1063	23%
Tonawanda	119	533	22%
Pilgrim Park	245	1341	18%
Wisconsin Hills	214	1310	16%
Central	221	1707	13%
East	248	1769	14%