

Bellingham School District
2010-2013 Technology Plan Ad Hoc Committee Minutes
January 28, 2010

Welcome

James opened the meeting with a video: "Learning to Change"
(<http://vodpod.com/watch/722826-learning-to-change>). Members provided a bit of feedback on the video – change vision of community of learners – what does that mean, look like, how do we change? We are not teaching students who learned as we learn. Implications?

Review of minutes

No comments or concerns.

Vision

Process:

- Homework was to red-line the 2007-2010 document. We started by discussing the vision in small groups (2) then mash up your learning.
- We then paired with another group and discussed the most prevalent themes from the vision conversations.

Sharing out:

- Sam shared Sam P.'s comments about – time & place for whatever we consider technology – technology is used wisely in science classes and math classes, humanities maybe textbooks would be optimum
- Nothing wrong w/original statement – engagement by students, teachers community – what is the role of central services in making this eventual technology flexible and accessible for staff and students.
- Students; what tools would enhance their learning – inverting focus to learner centered – how can we flip the model to focus on learner not on the institution...
- Kathy shared the idea that it would be great if the consideration for technology in education would be a natural part of instruction –not an event & it didn't required a need to have a plan for it.
- Analisa commented on the positive influence of teachers making it happen in the classroom – teachers taking advantage of it already – for those that aren't we need to support those teachers and students to get them all as fluent with the tools. Teachers training teachers; students training students – sharing the wealth & resources, & tools for learning.

- John mentioned that it would be great to have a video to promote technology in the classroom – made up of our own students/classrooms/teachers/projects.
- Affect a paradigm shift – not technology in the classroom – learning communities extend beyond 4 walls and must be a differently looked at/thought about/discussed/ communicated vision in order to affect this shift.

Online – Google Group

Access to Google groups site – http://groups.google.com/group/bsd_tech_plan

- There were issues for some. Contact James to remedy connections issues. There is great appreciation for the suggestions, ideas, and input – please continue! Discussion threads would be a help. (James will generate.)
- Looking at the exchange of information on the Google Group, there were some prominent themes appearing in the online dialogue about the tech plan’s content: innovation–implementation – professional development.

Goal Planning

There are 3 specific targeted areas – fairly broad – so we can include other pieces like Community Education – understanding the implications of technology in the classroom – what’s the role of tech and how do we educate the community to ‘effectively learn.’

Technology Goal: Technology Literacy of 8th Grade Students

Technology Goal: Technology Integration Skills of Teachers

Technology Goal: Technology Proficiencies of Administrators, Teachers, & Teacher-Librarians

Process

- Meet for approximately 10 minutes in groups of three to discuss a specific goal – identifying specific areas to support the goals. Copies of the existing 2007-2010 goals were provided. The existing goals are very close to what we are to provide in the new plan. James posted guiding questions on the screen.
- Each goal sheet identified the specific goal and had areas identifying the main themes of our conversations thus far: innovation–implementation – professional development.
- After the time expired, a new goal sheet was distributed and the conversations started again. Repeated for step 3.
- We ran short of time due to the shear magnitude of the influence this work has. James made some recommendations for continuing the work:

- We will move all scheduled meetings to 2 hours, namely 4:00 – 6:00pm.
- We have called for a meeting next Thursday, February 4, 2010. It will be at Roeder, but the room assignment has not been identified.
- Mark made the recommendation that we automatically plan for meetings every Thursday. We decided we would make that determination in the next week+, but appreciate the idea.
- James will create specific threads for each of the goals and asked the group to continue the conversations online so that we can compile the online dialogue with the information garnered tonight to create a draft – which will satisfy a requirement to have a draft on hand for the e-rate process, as well as position us to move forward and identify action plans to implement these strategies.

Other

The question came up about whether we'll be able to move beyond the three prescribed goals in the state's tech plan worksheets.

- The short answer is that we don't know for sure. James had talked to the director of Ed Tech at ESD189, John Hardy prior to our meeting. He was fairly sure the three goals are where we are to focus our energy. Yet, in the same breath he concurred that the three goals above are fairly broad and leave a lot of room to incorporate pretty much what we want to promote in our plan.

Michael revisited his offer to arrange an opportunity to discuss our plan and plans with Karen Cator, Director of Education Technology at the US Dept of Education.

- The decision was to target the beginning of the meeting for February 11. Michael suggested we provide her a copy of our draft plan so she may comment on our direction, as well as the direction Ed Tech may be heading in the next few years. Thank you , Michael!

Next Meeting

We will meet next Thursday, February 4th. Jim Facciano will facilitate the next meeting as James will be attending a conference.

- Please provide input and converse online between now and next Thursday – we need content for the draft and to drive our work forward.

Meeting minutes taken by Tracy Shaw (thank you!), submitted by James Everett.