Digital Learning for Rural Wisconsin

Equity*Innovation*Learning*Leadership

Janice D. Mertes
Assistant Director - Content and Learning
-Digital Learning
Division for Academic Excellence
janice.mertes@dpi.wi.gov
@WisDPITech
Goals for Our Discussion

- Overview of Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan and Collaborative Leadership
- Drivers of Equity in Digital Learning
- Digital Learning Opportunities for Rural Districts
- Virtual Learning Time and Innovative Instructional Design
- Collective Feedback
Reflect on your own community and district needs to identify the barriers to equitable access to high quality digital learning experiences, resources, infrastructure, and trained educators.
The Wisconsin Vision

Every Child a Graduate, College & Career Ready

EVERY Student is:
- Academically Prepared
- Socially Competent
- Emotionally Competent

Demonstrated through:
- Knowledge
- Skills
- Habits
Educational equity means that every student has access to the educational resources and rigor they need at the right moment in their education across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, family background and/or family income.
Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan with Elements of Future Ready

New ITL Standards

https://dpi.wi.gov/imt/it-literacy-standards

https://dpi.wi.gov/digital-learning
Some key findings from this year’s survey include:

- District use of the Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan increased by almost 12% from the previous year.
- Over 80% of districts statewide are in the process of or already leveraging the Wisconsin Standards for Information and Technology Literacy to support the Plan goals of student learning that is equitable, personalized, applied, and engaged.
- In one-third of districts, teachers receive 20 hours or less of technology-related professional learning.
- Over 60% of all 6-12 classrooms across the state include a device for every student.
- 148 of 420 schools reported 90-100% of their students have internet access at home, an improvement over the previous year.
- 75% of school districts have built wireless networks that are ready to support mobile learning in all of their buildings.
- More than half of all Wisconsin districts include computer science in their programs of study.
- Still, less than one in four districts across the state require staff training for data privacy and security.

https://dpi.wi.gov/imt/ed-tech-survey-results
Connecting the Strand Frameworks

Librarians
Tech Leaders
Principals
District Leaders
Coaches

Personalized Student Learning
Three Steps for Planning

Process for collaborative leadership and shared ownership:

- Investigate - identify the why for instructional programming and equity drivers
- Plan - aligning your fund sources
- Implement - sustaining your plan
Embrace “Equity” of Access by Providing Inclusive Learning Opportunities

“One of the benefits of well-designed interactive programs is that they can allow all students to see and explore concepts from different angles using a variety of representation.”

Using Technology to Support At-Risk Students’ Learning
Linda Darling Hammond, et al.
Alliance for Excellence Education
Four Pillars of Digital Equity to Address the Second Digital Divide

• Digital content accessible by all students
• Device for home use dedicated for educational use
• Internet access in and out of school
• Digital literacy skills (with access to trained educators)

https://cosn.org/digitalequity

https://dpi.wi.gov/imt/ed-tech-survey-results
Approximately 70% of teachers assign homework requiring access to broadband. Students need to be able to:

- Submit assignments
- Connecting with teachers and other students through group discussion boards,
- Work on shared documents as part of a group project
- Do online research for a school paper

Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan with Elements of Future Ready

New ITL Standards

https://dpi.wi.gov/imt/it-literacy-standards

https://dpi.wi.gov/digital-learning
“The standards are designed to be integrated into the various content and skill areas of the school curriculum. The focus is on learning with information and technology rather than learning about information and technology.”

WI Standards for ITL (2017)

Literature Review - Empowered Learner
https://dpi.wi.gov/imt/it-literacy-standards/literature-review
Information and Technology Literacy (ITL) is Foundational

Every Wisconsin student should have the equitable opportunity to learn in digitally enabled classrooms about:

- Digital media and information literacy
- Digital Citizenship, data privacy and cybersafety
- Instructional technology skills that enable students to be College and Career ready
- Creation, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking skills
- Inquiry and design thinking learning opportunities
Wisconsin Information and Technology Standards for Digital Age Learning

Our Vision
Adopted from the International Society for Technology Education (ISTE), Wisconsin’s Information and Technology Literacy (ITL) Standards prepare students for a future we cannot yet imagine. They amplify human capacity for collaboration, creativity, and communication through the responsible use of technology. Using the standards in the classroom provide educators with different approaches to coding and design thinking.

Equitable Access
It is crucial that technology is supported and aligned with Wisconsin’s academic standards. The ITL standards encourage equitable access to technology for digital resources, virtual instruction, and technology-enhanced learning.

Personalized Learning
Technology must account for the voice of the learner during instruction. Learning is personalized when the experience with the technology is engaging, relevant, and is used to maximize learning potential.

Applied and Engaged Learning
Students need effective communication and collaboration skills to succeed in life after high school. The ITL standards provide students with the capability to think critically and creatively solve problems that address the needs of a global society.
WISCONSIN
INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS
DIGITAL AGE LEARNERS ARE...

- **Empowered Learners**
  Students utilize digital tools and strategies to develop and achieve learning goals. They demonstrate the ability to choose, use, and troubleshoot current technologies and apply previous learning in exploring other emerging technologies.

- **Global Collaborators**
  Students use digital tools to broaden their perspectives and enrich their learning with culturally responsive practices through collaboration and teamwork.

- **Creative Communicators**
  Students communicate clearly and creatively using platforms, tools, styles, and digital media for their goals and audiences.

- **Digital Citizens**
  Students develop skills and knowledge to effectively and responsibly use digital tools while recognizing the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of living in an interconnected digital world.

- **Knowledge Constructors**
  Students evaluate, curate, and create digital resources that build knowledge and demonstrate learning.

- **Innovative Designers**
  Students use digital tools and resources within a design process to identify and solve authentic problems.
Integrating the ITL Content Standards (ITL and IPL Crosswalk) into your curriculum is a means for enhancing personalized learning and providing opportunities for students to develop foundational “learner” skills.

![Crosswalk: Institute for Personalized Learning Honeycomb Elements and Wisconsin Standards for Information and Technology Literacy](image)

This Crosswalk aligns the Wisconsin Standards for Information Technology Literacy (ITL) to applicable personalized learning elements identified in the Institute for Personalized Learning (i4PL) Honeycomb Model. Alignment is shown at the ITL Content Standard level. Learning Priorities (e.g. EL1 a) are provided to enhance understanding of each standard and further support the elements selected. Alignment at the ITL Performance Indicator level by grade bands is not included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITL Content Standards</th>
<th>Core Components</th>
<th>Learning &amp; Teaching</th>
<th>Relationships &amp; Policies</th>
<th>Structures &amp; Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELEmpowered Learner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students leverage digital tools and strategies to take an active role in choosing and achieving their learning goals</td>
<td>Customized Learning Paths</td>
<td>Personal Learning Goals</td>
<td>Co-Designers of Learning</td>
<td>Learning Aligned Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proficiency-Based Progress</td>
<td>Conferring/Conferencing</td>
<td>Learner Agency</td>
<td>Integrated Data Ecosystem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Learner Choice</td>
<td>Shared Commitment to Success</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Standards</td>
<td>Community Connections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Guided Learning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Timely Actionable Feedback</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students understand the fundamental concepts of technology operations and demonstrate the ability to choose, use, and troubleshoot current technologies</td>
<td>Learner Choice</td>
<td>Learner Agency</td>
<td>Learning Aligned Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning-aligned technology

**Personalized:**
Technology is used as a tool to modify or redesign learning tasks. It enhances, deepens and accelerates understanding and mastery of content.

**Legacy:**
Technology is used primarily as a substitute for or augmentation of existing tasks.
Social and Emotional Learning for the Digital Age Student

- Focus on perspective, empathy, respect, and compassion
- Understanding about decisions and how they affect others
- Connection between character and safe/healthy online choices
- Empower students to use digital tools while practicing safe and healthy behavior
- Students need to think critically and make choice in face of digital situations

- SEL/Online Safety webpage
  - ITL Standards crosswalk
Innovate in Wisconsin Public Schools

- Promote authentic and developmentally appropriate learning, e.g., play, inquiry, civic engagement.
- Support online and blended learning with Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative.
- Support Future Ready leaders to implement the Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan.
- Support schools to provide Personalized Learning.
- Provide support for Virtual Learning Time and the Fostering Innovation Guide.
- Administer the application process for Districts of Innovation.
Innovate with Purpose

- Adopt the designer mindset
- “Ideate” to impact student outcomes
- Take a risk and fail forward - model this for your students
- Make equity a goal for every student
- Inspire the next generation to work in an interconnected world
- Today’s innovations are tomorrow’s practices
Virtual Learning Time (VLT)

- District flexibility on innovative instructional design (PI8)
- District readiness and 7 considerations for planning
- Educator professional training
- Family and caregiver engagement components
- Individual student learning needs
- Use cases for virtual learning time related to inclement weather, floods, unusual circumstances that close schools

https://dpi.wi.gov/cal/virtual-learning-time
Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative (WDLC)
- used by over 260 Wisconsin school districts
- 40,000 course enrollments per semester
- full AP Course catalog

Wisconsin Association of Distance Education - Networks (WADEN)
- 20+ regional networks
- Learning experiences beyond brick and mortar classroom walls

Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) (DOA)

BadgerNet (DOA)
Online and Blended Learning Options

The above chart shows that most districts use a variety of formats to provide online learning.

1:1 Implementation Data

The chart above shows how many districts have assigned a mobile device to all of the students in at least one grade within the given grade band. 110 Wisconsin districts, or 26% of all districts, do not have any grades where every student is assigned a mobile device.

Online and Blended Learning Guide

https://dpi.wi.gov/online-blended-learning
Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative

Field-led, field-tested resources for online and blended learning programs.

https://www.wiwdlc.org/
Sign up for monthly updates and resources
“The Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative offers a wide variety of online and blended learning opportunities in which students may enroll and receive credit, all through their own local districts.”
~State Superintendent Tony Evers

- 200
  Over 200 digital course offerings available (owned, licensed, and developed)

- 6-12
  Digital solutions for grades 6-12

- Flexible Options
  Use local instructors or enroll with a WI licensed instructor. Access resources for online, blended, or traditional programs.

- Financial Savings
  Basic economics... Increased volume decreased cost.

- Efficiency
  One single point of entry using a single sign on for students and instructors with broad access to solutions. Focus on educational outcomes without the procuring, business, and operational headaches.

- Collaboration
  Why recreate the wheel? Learn through collaboration with more than 20 combined years of experience.

Connecting Wisconsin Stakeholders
~ system efficiency, local control, and economic leverage

https://www.wiwdlc.org/
Wisconsin Professional Learning Options

- Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan resources
- WDLC Blended Learning
- CESA professional learning and networks
- Professional organizations and networks
- Social networks
- Online and print resources
Future Ready to Support Local Planning Tool Set

- Create your collaborative leadership team
- Leverage the strategic planning and school improvement toolset
- Use the Future Ready 5 Step Planning process
- District Future Ready dashboard for to address “opportunity gaps” (dashboard framework, funding components and staffing support)
- Use the best practices and innovative ideas section
- Date for local ESSA plans
Audience Questions

What is your feedback for our collective DPI team present today about the vision and resources to support rural school districts?

What are the top issues for the State Superintendent and Department to prioritize?
Digital Learning Resources

- **Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan** built on elements of Future Ready Schools
  - Leadership Resources
- **WI Information and Technology Literacy Standards**
- **Keeping Kids Safe Online: Digital Citizenship**
- **Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative**
  - WDLC resource and school district site

- **WI DPI Digital Learning Planning Toolset**
- **Online and Blended Learning**
- **Personalized Learning**
- **WI Data Privacy Resources**
- **ESSA IVA** (funding source to support personalized learning)
- **WI 1:1 District Programming**