



# SD 42 IT Plan to Support Learning for Tomorrow

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2012 - 2015

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*“Students today expect to learn in an environment that mirrors their lives and their futures - one that seamlessly integrates today’s digital tools, accommodates a mobile lifestyle, and encourages collaboration and teamwork in physical and virtual spaces.”*

Apple Classrooms of Tomorrow -Today

*“...an interesting shift that I believe is happening: a shift between using technology to support the individual to using technology to support relationships between individuals. With that shift, we will discover new tools and social protocols for helping us help each other, which is the very essence of social learning. It is also the essence of lifelong learning...”*

John Seely Brown: Growing up Digital

## **Learning For Tomorrow – A Three Year Plan**

On November 16, 2010 more than 200 parents, students, teachers, school administrators and community members participated in a forum for the purpose of helping shape the future direction of learning in Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows School District. The wide-ranging discussions centered on key questions and were captured in more than 750 responses that were posted by group recorders. One of these questions related to the structure of schooling and directly related to teaching and learning using technology.

### TEACHING, LEARNING AND THE STRUCTURE OF SCHOOLING

What would learning need to look like and how might schools be organized to deliver an education that would ensure that our students are well prepared for the future that awaits them?

Essential Skills – The development of the knowledge, skills and attributes that we expect our students to have is pervasive across all curriculum areas. Particular emphasis is placed on creative and critical-thinking skills and problem-solving strategies.

Knowledge – It is understood that the educated citizen possesses certain essential content knowledge, which is acquired in a number of ways including memorization. That said there should be a greater emphasis on knowledge application rather than knowledge acquisition.

Integration of Curriculum – Students are engaged in relevant and contextual problem-based and project-based learning experiences. Learning is focused on the connections across curriculum

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## **Moving Towards Teaching for Tomorrow in SD42**

### **PD Development and Strategy**

#### **District Strategic Approach**

- 4 staff (Learning for Tomorrow District Helping Teachers)
- Online Learning Center
- Large group PD
- Peer mentoring
- Evening learning rounds

#### **Online Support**

- IT Help Desk Support
  - Remote desktop access
  - Ticket-driven helpdesk support for schools, away from individual tech per school
  - Creation of IT knowledge base
  - Creation of Self Help IT Website for Teachers and Staff
  - Emergency Bulletins for IT Global Events
- District Online Repository
  - Teacher-driven and created content
  - Online video hosting and sharing service for SD42 teachers
  - District-created content and licensed content
- Parents Portal
  - Creation of online interactive portal for parents. This portal will be the central location for parents to communicate with schools and vice versa, online payment, and online registration. This portal will be fully launched in September 2013.

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## **Elementary**

### Current Initiatives & Directions

- 1-1 laptop inquiry program  
Continue to explore how tablet / laptop technology could enhance inquiry learning
- Grade 3-4 iPod reading project  
Continue to expand
- District SmartBoard program/AppleTV



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- Continue to expand our district-owned library of e-texts and e-books
- Initiate electronic resource review committee that will embody representatives from all district stakeholders

### **Infrastructure**

In an effort to enable the infusion of technology within our classrooms, it has been recognized by management and the IT Department that it is paramount to lay the proper network foundations. Our focus is to globally deploy a stable-wired and wireless network throughout our schools and to increase the bandwidth capacity of our LAN/WAN to allow for proper data flow between schools and DEO/Internet.

Other initiatives such as the centralization of Web 2.0 resources and web hosting were taken to allow for a standardized approach to resources that are student and public-facing. This will enable the IT Department to efficiently serve our schools with the latest collaboration tools. Centralizing these

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### **Access (WAN/LAN)**

We have recently upgraded all our secondary schools and 4 elementary schools to 100 MB. Shaw was purchased to complement PLNET lack of funding to enhanced 4 elementary schools. Efforts will be made to move all our elementary schools to 10/ement 4 solht s

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