

As I reflect over the past five weeks, I realize how many things we've already done. Reflecting is a great way to refresh my memory on all of the things we've covered.

It amazes me how I have grown as a connected learner. There are so many tools that I didn't even know existed and there have been so many readings that either opened my eyes or validated my current position and philosophy of education. The readings, videos and discussions for this class have been absolutely perfect. I have been inspired by many of the videos as well. I feel much more knowledgeable about what it means to be a good leader and I have realized a lot about myself and the possibilities my future could hold. In talking about Mavens, connectors and salesmen, I find it very difficult to choose people that I don't know well and fit them into these categories. It is simple to do in my own personal and professional life and I enjoyed the readings about them but it's so hard to know virtually who fits these roles. One person for sure that I know fits probably all of these roles is my teacher, Lucie. Lucie, I have learned so much from you already. The amount of great resources and knowledge you bring to the table is amazing. I feel like each week I learn something new about you. For example last week, your 20 year project getting more girls into the maker world.

I did find a lot of value in a couple of Twitter people that I follow. One of them mostly because his writings make me feel good as a teacher and as a librarian. He wrote an article that sounds like my exact words when explaining the learning environment in both of my libraries. I enjoy reading his posts and actually look forward to them at the end of the day.

I hope I have added some value to others in my connected learner network. I think it is hard for me to know that for sure. In my own professional life I feel that I have more to offer to other faculty members and I have had several long conversations with our curriculum director about Twitter and some of the other platforms. I have also talked with her about assessments because that is the other class that I am taking this semester.

I would say the biggest challenge for me this semester was learning all of the new platforms. I was so hesitant to Twitter and now I love it. Learning new technology is always a challenge but it has been so valuable for me to do so. Writing blogs was at first a challenge but after the first one I thought "well this isn't so bad." The greatest

benefit has certainly been the building of my personal learning network, the connections and the information I've gathered.

I will continue to build my PLN using Twitter. I will continue to stay connected. I have learned how important these connections really are. Education is such an evolving world it is essential to stay into as much of it as you possibly can, they will make me a better leader.

The book study on Learning Supercharged was very interesting. I gained a lot of good information from the book but the chats were less intriguing for me. Some days I had a lot to say about the reading and of course my Twitter response had to be very short. It was hard to navigate the chats for some reason?? It took me a while to figure out how I could see everybody's tweets. I felt like they all had similarities to them because we couldn't really explain much of what we wanted to say because it was so short. I did enjoy the book and the ideas it gave. A virtual field trip?? How cool. If I had to rank the topics that stuck out to me, it would be; Digital Citizenship, Gamification, Personalized learning and then I would group STEM, Coding, Makerspaces, and Virtual learning as important but not my first priority. I am a HUGE fan of Makerspaces but my reasonings that I'll explain are why they didn't make the top of the list.

As I look at a school I see students, administrators, teachers and teacher supports. I am a firm believer that in order for students to learn and be successful in school they must feel safe, feel encouraged and have a little bit of fun. I believe Digital Citizenship could shape a school. I was most inspired by this topic because social media as it is for most schools is a huge problem at our middle and high school. Kids have stopped coming to school because of events that were escalated on social media. If social media has such a negative impact on a school, why can't it have a positive impact instead? even if its just to balance it out? After learning more about digital citizenship and watching the video, I was completely inspired. I loved the story about the high school student who was trying to sell her prom dress and how well a sad story turned awesome. The high school principal and myself are creating an Instagram. It will be all nice and positive information about students, college acceptance, prom court, birthdays, etc. My goal is to make the students feel good and receive positive comments throughout their day. I believe life is all about the little things. I work hard to teach that to students. Next is the staff. In order to teach effectively, teachers need to enjoy what they are doing and they need to get something out of professional development time. We all have to sit through it so why not make it fun? Why not have some gamification on

a daily basis and at professional development. The more positive our work experience is the better teachers we will be. Now the students are feeling, encouraged and safe, the teachers are enjoying themselves with some help of gamification, lets create an environment where students are responsible and working with parents and teachers in their own learning. I love the idea of personalized learning. Makerspaces, coding, robotics, Stem and virtual learning such as field trips are all great things. I often have makerspaces in my library and the students absolutely love them! They are only on my list where they are because I feel so strongly about the school environment. I think every school should implement some form of hands on activity to align with their curriculum.