

Digital Skills Curriculum with Equity at the Forefront

Panelists: Theresa Sladek (Northstar Digital Literacy), Julian Alexander (Hacienda CDC), Stacy Rozier (Goodwill of North Georgia), Ina Montgomery (Urban TEC)

Moderator: Ji Soo Song (US Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology)

L2/28, 10:30am to 11:30am CST

Notes

Why are learning basic digital skills important?

Children really don't understand full computerization.

Digital resilience! Apply skills. Digital natives can be naive!

Children are not receiving basic digital skills class in schools and are unprepared upon graduation. File management is an example of an unknown skill. Kids are assumed to be digital natives, therefore they are overlooked when it comes to digital skill building. However, they do not fully grasp the technology and we want to encourage a feeling of empowerment for them to fully learn the skills. Fully learning skills builds confidence that transfer to other platforms and endeavors. Digital resilience, knowing multiple platforms/software to be able to complete tasks. Being able to seek out the solution on unknown digital platforms is a skill itself. Being able to navigate new technology.

How do we define necessary skills, why is it important individuals can be fluid in using different platforms?

What are employers looking for?

What are clients looking for skill-wise to complete their goals/needs?

- Remember digital literacy is important in all aspects of life.

Input from funders?

These three combine to help decide the curriculum to use. Multiple platforms makes students more competitive in job market.

Critical Thinking - Helps student being able to see a new technology/platform and be able to find a solution for it

Collaboration, communication, creativity

What competencies are necessary for students to succeed in a digital environment?

[ISTE standards](#)

*Teach skills to access resources (Jobs, housing, financial aid)

* teach Microsoft office suite because Google workspace is not really used for college or jobs

* advocate for computer science classes in schools K-12

* teach curriculum that helps people use multiple platforms

- * video conference software skills
- * make sure clients have a transferable skill
- * critical thinking, collaboration, creativity
- * talk with clients about what they're goals are and then formulate a plan to assist them accomplish them
- * class about how to shop for good deals online (digital skills, web navigation, fun learning) holidays, back to school, birthdays
- * ISTE standards
- * assess skills, so that we can show progress in client(dignity equity)
- * digital literacy assessment.org (North Star)

Pre-assessment > teaching > post-assessment - shows progress which is powerful and gives students a feeling of agency. Shows them that time invested in learning can make a difference and encourage them to learn other skills.

Find the driving motivation for learning of your community, and don't be afraid to adjust curriculum to teach the skills your community is excited to learn.

Reach out to community organizations and partners to assist with outreach. Community centers have already built trusted relations with the community around.

Collaboration is key
 Be the change you want to be
 Listening to your client goals and needs
 Create a space for community to be excited and have fun

Questions for Panel:

How is assessment administered?

Is Northstar taught in person? Northstar can be taught in person or remotely by instructors, tutors, digital navigators, etc. Northstar also has self-directed online learning that the learner can use by themselves wherever they have access to a device and the internet.

Links

- OET resources

- The [2023 OET Dear Colleague Letter: Leveraging Federal Funds for Teaching and Learning with Technology](#) provides information to state, district, and eligible partnership grantees on core areas for maximizing investment in innovative technology-based learning strategies.
- In 2022, OET committed to advancing digital equity through the Digital Equity Education Roundtables (DEER) Initiative. Through DEER, OET hosted a series of national conversations with leaders from community-based organizations, as well as families/caregivers and learners furthest from digital opportunities. The [“Advancing Digital Equity for All”](#) guidance resource illuminates insights from these conversations to highlight the barriers faced by learner communities and promising solutions for increasing access to broadband and technology for learning.
- [States Collaborate with Education Leaders on Digital Equity Plans](#): This recent OET blog highlights how nine states are working in collaboration with education leaders to address the needs of learners through the digital equity planning process.
- [Digital Equity Story Engine](#): OET will publish stories of impact throughout 2023 to provide a “north star” for ways in which different sectors can advance digital equity in education by leveraging their unique perspectives and influence.
- [Tech.ed.gov](#)
- [Northstar Digital Literacy](#)
- Educator Learning Resources
 - Microsoft Certified Educator training: [21st century learning design - Training | Microsoft Learn](#)
 - Free course
 - Practice tests: [Microsoft Certified Educator exam CertPREP practice tests :: Store \(Certiport.com\)](#)
 - MCE exam: [Microsoft Certified Educator - Certifications | Microsoft Learn](#)
 - Fact/Data sheet: [Resources :: Microsoft Certified Educator \(MCE\) :: Certiport \(pearsonvue.com\)](#)
 - This course/exam helps educators learn how to implement dimensions of 21st century skills in k-12 lessons
- An [ISTE](#) initiative - SkillRise: [SkillRise](#)
 - Adult digital skills training/workforce development
 - Partners with Northstar Digital Literacy for the assessment which leads to a digital badge
 - Now leads to a digital badge issue by ISTE
 - [ISTE standards](#)
- Digital skills resources available for use

- IRC-RAI Economic Empowerment instructional videos
 - [English](#)
 - [Dari/Farsi](#)
 - [Haitian Creole](#)
 - [Karen](#)
 - [Spanish](#)
 - [Swahili](#)
- Digital Literacy for Workforce (English/Haitian Creole)
 - [Part 1](#)
 - [Part 2](#)
 - Part 3 and 4 to come
- Oasis Connections online safety resources
 - Oasis Connections Guide to Online Safety–self-paced online course
<https://connections.oasisnet.org/oasis-connections-guide-to-online-safety/>
 - Oasis Connections short security and privacy instructional videos in English
https://youtu.be/zX_MyGN06r4
 - Oasis Connections short security and privacy instructional videos in Espanol
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM3hQ1nhCVMpawt7a7n6ct2NM3LzDEmPk>