Leadership for Digital Learning

HOW CAN SCHOOL SYSTEMS FIND SUCCESS WITH 1:1 IMPLEMENTATIONS? START WITH THE "WHY"!

Too many school systems haven't thought through the fundamental reasons why they need 1:1 devices for their students–they start with superficial reasons such as keeping up with the digital natives, or fulfilling a board mandate. Without a coherent, shared reason for implementing 1:1, the project is likely to be diluted and not have as strong an impact. But when school systems rally around reasons like "preparing students for life and work in modern times," their decision-making grows stronger, and their impact is multiplied.

FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT, school systems need to prepare both their technological and human platforms for new ways of doing things and for continual, ongoing improvement.

Technological platforms

- Adequate bandwidth for current needs and future growth
- Robust, data protected, reliable infrastructure
- Resilient networks with multiple paths
- Personal, connected devices for each student
- Efficient cloud strategy
- Provide just-in-time learning for device care and student accountability
- Stabilize and protect the network

Human platforms

- Shared goals and metrics that align to the "why" of 1:1 implementation
- Prioritize continual improvement and support for teachers
- Student-centered approaches
- Data-informed instruction and decision-making
- Place curriculum at the forefront
- Provide after hours help desk support for families

SCHOOL SYSTEMS ALSO NEED to execute the nuts and bolts of delivering the program

Program management

- Planning
- Implementation
- Continual improvement
- Learn from successes and previous challenges

Communications

- Marketing to press, community, parents, students, and school system staff
- Clear lines of communication within school system
- Feedback obtained from students, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders

Leadership for Digital Learning is a CoSN initiative. For a comprehensive collection of downloadable resources, videos, case studies, and more, go to **https://www.cosn.org/edtech-topics/state-of-edtech-leadership**.

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