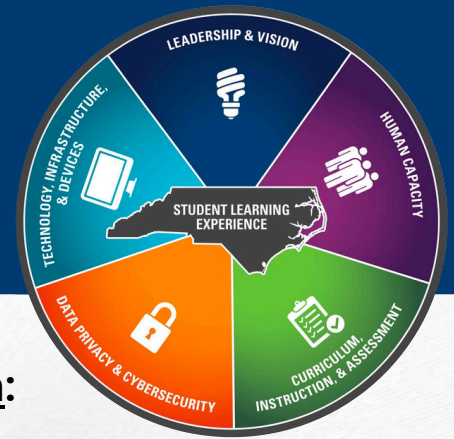


NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL LEARNING PLAN



The Challenge:

Navigating the post-COVID digital landscape, required a thorough reevaluation of how the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) approached digital teaching and learning environments in K-12 schools. This entailed refocusing the Office of Digital Teaching & Learning's vision to ensure alignment with evolving educational needs and technological advancements. Additionally, discrepancies in goals among public school units (PSUs) within the state underscored the critical importance of strategically allocating state provided funds to make sure the supports and programs that are being put into place support the creation of the best possible student learning experiences for North Carolina scholars.

The Solution:

By convening educators from diverse roles across the state, NCDPI reformulated its Digital Learning Plan to vertically align goals and objectives for schools, school districts, and the NC Department of Public Instruction. This approach ensured that efforts in each domain were mutually supportive, fostering cohesion and alignment across the educational landscape. Additionally, the plan facilitated the adoption of a statewide common language regarding the essential components of optimal learning environments for students, achieved through the effective utilization of digital resources.

Learning Impact Outcomes:

The learning impact outcomes of these programs encompass various dimensions:

- Enhanced Professional Skills
- Innovative Instructional Practices
- Improved Utilization of Edtech
- Improved Instructional Support
- Expanded Professional Networks
- Alignment with National Standards

Overall, these programs contribute to a more skilled and connected educational community, ultimately leading to improved student learning outcomes and educational experiences across North Carolina.

Return on Investment:

Since the introduction of the Digital Learning Plan, statewide initiatives have been initiated to support and foster growth in educational technology across all five domains of the plan, facilitating professional development opportunities for educators in various roles. These initiatives include the following programs and resources:

- Professional Memberships | Providing educators access to CoSN and ISTE memberships, ISTE Certified Educator Cohorts, Certified Educational Technology Leader Certifications, and Trusted Learning Environment Cohorts.
- North Carolina Beacons of Leadership Development | Providing professional learning to classroom teachers across the state focused on high yield instructional practices and ISTE Standards.
- Coaching and School Library Media Collaboratives | Providing professional learning, supports, networking, and resources infused with the ISTE Standards for instructional support staff.
- Digital Learning Progress Workshops | Providing workshops to empower PSU teams as they assess themselves against rubrics and develop action plans.
- Digital Leaders Exchanges | Providing professional learning and resources to educational technology leaders across the state in concert with domains of the Digital Learning Plan.
- Artificial Intelligence Summits and Collaboratives | Providing space and time for resource building and conversations around AI. go.ncdpi.gov/NC_AI_Resources