

TO: Board of Education
Dr. Philip Bender

FROM: Terri Bresnahan, Director of Technology

DATE: January 23, 2012

RE: Technology Coach Pilot Update

The purpose of the following presentation is to update the Board of Education on the progress of the Technology Coach Pilot.

DISTRICT 64's TECHNOLOGY COACH MODEL

The three technology coaches have continued to provide professional development to teachers in their designated buildings. Teachers have worked individually, in small groups, and in large groups with the technology coaches on a variety of topics related to technology integration. Coaches have continued to model lessons, co-plan with teachers, assist in the development of innovative lessons, developed and provided technology-related resources, provided professional growth opportunities, participated as members of the Technology Implementation Committee, and worked collaboratively with building principals and technology staff to support the use of technology in the District.

RESULTS

The presentation for the Board includes a summary of the data collected thus far for the pilot program.

A survey was administered in the fall of 2011 to capture data related to the use of technology in both the pilot and non-pilot schools. A post-survey was administered in late December and early January to determine areas of growth in terms of specific technology usage. There were some significant gains made in the usage of certain technologies. However, due to a decline in the number of participants in the post-survey, the results were found to have too great of variance in the responses. In order to collect more reliable data, the post-survey will be administered again in the spring and included in the final pilot report to the Board.

Focus groups were also conducted at each of the pilot schools to gather qualitative data related to the impact of technology coaching. As the presentation outlines, there were 4-7 participants at each building that varied in teaching assignments and number of years of experience. The data from the focus groups was analyzed to determine emerging themes and those themes are detailed in the presentation.

Overall, the outcome of the pilot thus far has been exceptionally positive. As teachers from each of the pilot schools will attest, there has been a significant impact on teachers and students as a result of working with a technology coach. The results found to this point support the use of technology coaches as an effective method for accelerating the advanced use of technology in District 64.

FUTURE STEPS

Data and feedback will be collected through the end of the pilot as the technology coaches continue to collaborate with teachers and work towards the goals of the Strategic Plan.

A formal recommendation that supports the use of technology coaching as a means of professional development for all teachers will be presented to the Board in the near future as plans for year 3 of the Strategic Plan are made.