

April 8, 2016



DTL InSights



Greetings from the Division of Digital Teaching and Learning (DTL) and welcome to the inaugural issue of DTL InSights! We want to ensure that you have regular updates from our division and will be sharing digital learning highlights and happenings with you periodically throughout the year.

We are pleased to launch our Connect, Share, and Grow Lunch and Learns for SLMCs and ITFs. Our first Lunch and Learn took place on Tuesday, April 5th in Craven County and was attended by 70+ SLMCs and ITFs. What a great way to kick off School Library Month! Please consider how you will celebrate the vital role that libraries play in student learning and teacher effectiveness during the month of April and beyond.

We're very close to fielding the new Digital Learning and Media Inventory (formerly AMTR). Look for an email about this next week. We did a soft launch on April 5th and have a few LEAs providing feedback. The new Digital Learning and Media Inventory questions are streamlined and aligned to the NC Digital Learning Progress Rubric. I hope that you will be pleased with the modernized tool and implementation resources developed by the DTL team.

Hope you all have a great weekend!

Cheers,
Verna



NCWiseOwl Update

NCWiseOwl had a facelift! Check out the new website:
<http://www.ncwiseowl.org>

Just a reminder that the following EBSCO resources are being discontinued and have been replaced by Explora: Student Research Center, Kids Search, Searchasaurus

Please share this information with school staff who use NCWiseOwl resources.

Home Base Pricing for 2016-2017 Announced



The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is pleased to announce that the full suite of Home Base tools will be provided to all districts and charter schools in the 2016-17 school year for \$1/ADM. This pricing includes access to content across multiple subject areas within Home Base. Please remember, unlike last year, Canvas licenses (\$3.74 per user) will not be paid directly from the State, but rather is an expense covered by the district or charter school due to the end of Race to the Top funding. School districts and Charter Schools need to indicate planned usage for school year 2016-17 using the online form (<http://bit.ly/1LaDy2b>) by June 15, 2016.





Coming Soon: IAM Service Security Compliance Changes

Starting in April, employees who use the IAM Service for access to Home Base will need to change their password every 90 days. The NCEdCloud IAM Service has been upgraded to enforce the expiration of employee passwords for improved security.

The new password policy will be piloted with a single district beginning March 29, then introduced incrementally -- based on the alphabetic order of employees' last names -- beginning April 4 and continuing through May 18.

Once the password expiration policy is turned on according to the schedule, users will be prompted to change their passwords when logging in if they have not changed them in the last 90 days.

Otherwise, users will begin seeing a notice 80 days from their last password change, that their password will expire.

LEAs and charter schools can also opt-in to implement a student password expiration policy.

The IAM Service password rules and FAQ can be found at <https://ncedcloud.mcnc.org>.

ESSA Update, North Carolina State Board of Education

At the April 5th, NC State Board of Education meeting, Dr. Lou Fabrizio, (Director, Division of Data, Research, and Federal Policy), provided an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ESSA presentation attachments are available at: <http://tinyurl.com/ESSA-presentation>



April is Future Ready Leaders Month

The Office of Educational Technology recently released Personalized Professional Learning for Future Ready Leaders. This new set of personalized learning tools support superintendents as they develop plans to implement research-based digital learning strategies to provide equitable access to transformative learning experiences for all students.

Feel free to participate in events throughout the month of April and join other educators blog, tweet, chat and engage around the four key focus areas of becoming Future Ready: Collaborative Leadership, Robust Infrastructure, Personalized Student Learning, and Personalized Professional Learning.

Visit tech.ed.gov/leaders for more information.

April 11 8:00-9:00 pm EST – #edtechchat Personalized Student Learning

Join using Twitter hashtag #edtechchat to discuss Personalized Student Learning with other Future Ready Leaders – educators, superintendents, and other administrators.

April 18 7:00-8:00pm EST Slack Chat Playground – Robust Infrastructure

Hosted by: Joseph South, Office of Educational Technology; Brian Lewis, ISTE; and PLP co-founder and CEO Sheryl Nussbaum-Beach. Register here to participate

April 30 7:30-8:30am EST – #satchat Personalized Professional Learning

Join us on Twitter at the hashtag #satchat to discuss Personalized Professional Learning with other Future Ready Leaders – educators, superintendents, and other administrators.





ESSA Update

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the latest reauthorization of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act, is the new federal education law approved in December 2015 to replace the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. States are required to develop their own ESSA plan to comply with the federal law. The state plan must include academic improvement goals and a measure for school quality and student success.

Like the old No Child Left Behind law, ESSA requires:

- Student tests in grades 3-8 in reading and math
- Science tests at least once in elementary school and once in middle school
- College and career readiness in high school
- Measurements for all student subgroups

The ESSA also features provisions focused on: supporting and promoting technology use for improving academic achievement, academic growth, and digital literacy authorizing support for professional development opportunities designed to enhance educators and school leaders' capacities to use technology to support teaching and learning, while also strengthening technology infrastructure and program delivery.

Most ESSA Title II funding is directed to school districts: 95% of program funds are reserved for district level activities
1% is allocated for state administration
4% for state level activities
An additional, optional, 3% set aside for State activities directed at principals and other school leaders.

For more information, please visit:

<http://all4ed.org/essa/>

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/legislation/essa>

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/essasummary>

Lifeline Program for Low-Income Consumers

Low-income families will soon be able to purchase high-speed internet thanks to a March 31 vote by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to modernize its Lifeline program. Previously, the thirty-year-old Lifeline provided a discount on monthly telephone service to eligible low-income households, but it did not support internet access.

With the changes to the program, qualifying low-income consumers can use the \$9.25 per month that they receive through the Lifeline program for stand-alone mobile or fixed broadband service, as well as bundled voice and data service packages.

For more information on the changes to the Lifeline program, read the FCC's press release at http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0404/DOC-338676A1.pdf.

