Scott Himelstein, Director, Mobile Technology Learning Center; Dr. Veronica Garza; Dr. Katie Martin

Transforming teaching and learning: Implications of a one-to-one laptop initiative professional learning and teacher practice

Increased access to technology in districts across the nation has increased the demand on teachers and administrators to transform traditional teaching and learning models. These changes require a clear vision and plan to support educators through the transition. In this session, we will present findings from the first year evaluation of a one-to-one student laptop initiative in a large urban district in the United States that illustrates the impact of vision and planning on efforts to support changes in teacher practice, classroom culture, and student engagement. We will share how the evaluation has informed practice within the district to help move towards a more personalized professional learning approach designed to leverage the power of technology. We will share strategies and recommendations for how to better support district and school leaders using technology to enhance teaching and learning.

Rich Thome, Director of Professional Learning, Mobile Technology Learning Center; Dr. Katie Martin; Superintendent David Miyashiro; Superintendent Tim Baird

Technology integration in diverse contexts: Models of competency-based professional learning in three school districts

The session will provide participants with successful strategies to guide implementation of competency-based professional learning approaches. Three school district leaders from urban and suburban districts in the United States with high populations of second language learners, and will share their professional learning model, based on research regarding successful mobile technology deployments. The district leaders will share the strengths of their programs and challenges they have faced supporting teachers to successfully integrate mobile technology. The focus will be on continuous learning by teachers, mostly in collaborative spaces and networking with thousands of their colleagues, worldwide, who are discovering new approaches to successful uses of mobile technology in real-time. A strong focus will be on differentiated professional development, teachers learning from their own individual and collective practice and demonstrations of teacher development linked to student outcomes. Program evaluation will be discussed as a key ally to staying the course to keep instruction and learning outcomes as the focus, while fostering communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking activities as key checkpoints for enhanced learning experiences, with mobile devices being the tool to transform teaching and learning.