WDE

Wyoming Digital Learning Plan Summary

2023-2028

In keeping with the requirements of W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xx), the 2023-2028 Digital Learning Plan (DLP) goal is to provide equal access to educational instruction and information to every student in the state. A representative Digital Learning Plan Advisory Panel was convened to guide development of the plan which is organized around six themes that were identified through stakeholder input via listening sessions, surveys, and focus groups. The six themes address staff professional learning; collaboration among the state's education system, parents, and the community; digital citizenship and digital literacy; robust infrastructure and educational technology; data privacy and security; and instruction and learning. These six themes reflect statutory requirements as well as the beliefs and ideas of a broad range of stakeholders who recognize the importance of educational technology and want to ensure that Wyoming students have the digital learning experiences they need to learn, work, contribute, and thrive.

The six themes work in conjunction to support student-centered learning with guidance from the vision of local and state leadership. The focus on student-centered learning is consistent with and supports State Superintendent of Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder's strategic plan, Governor Mark Gordon's Reimagining and Innovating Delivery of Education (RIDE) initiative, and the Wyoming State Board of Education Profile of a Graduate initiative.

For each theme, the plan includes a definition, strategic intents, and recommended strategies for addressing the intents at the state, postsecondary, district, and school levels. The strategies are suggestions, not mandates.

Each level of the education system has a role to play in bringing the vision for digital learning to life. The recommendations can help each level understand that role and guide decisions about where best to focus their efforts. Achieving the goal of equal access to digital learning will require schools, districts, postsecondary, parents, students, community members, and businesses to work together. For its part, the WDE will carry out the state strategies identified in the plan and support districts and schools as they implement plans to support teaching and learning in the digital age. In addition, the WDE will meet quarterly with the Digital Learning Plan Advisory Panel to review progress and work on the implementation of initiatives.

The 2023-2028 DLP acknowledges that technology will continue to evolve at a rapid pace. It also renews the commitment to ensure that Wyoming's students are prepared for a future where innovative technologies drive all aspects of their lives.

DLP Themes

Instruction and Learning: Student-centered learning provides students with more autonomy and responsibility for their learning by actively engaging them in the learning process. Instruction is focused on facilitating student-centered learning by using and managing appropriate educational technology and processes that support student-centered learning approaches, such as universal design for learning that includes students with disabilities and English language learners, competency-based learning, project-based learning, work-based learning, and personalized learning.

Digital Literacy and Digital Citizenship: Digital literacy is the ability to find, evaluate, use, share, and create content using information technologies and the internet. Digital citizenship involves using the internet and digital tools, including social media and artificial intelligence, in a safe, respectful, and responsible manner.

Human Capacity: Human capacity refers to the processes that support professional learning for educational staff to access, operate, and manipulate existing, new, and emerging technologies that facilitate academic achievement and student-centered learning.

Community, Higher Education, School, and Family Collaboration: Educators at all levels need to collaborate with colleagues, families, higher education, and the community to support equitable access to technology and digital learning experiences that prepare students for future career and vocational readiness.

Robust Infrastructure and Educational Technology: Digital infrastructure includes affordable and equitable access to high-speed internet, educational software/hardware, and devices to support student learning at school and at home.

Data privacy and security: Attention to data privacy and security are essential for ensuring safe access and use of technology. Data privacy refers to how personal data is gathered, shared, and used. Data security involves measures taken to protect data from unauthorized disclosure and access.