Jurisdiction Technology Contacts Event
ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

Leading and Learning in a Technology-Mediated World
October 19, 2016

Greetings from the Minister

Karen Andrews @karen007 · Oct 19
Future Ready –Students and adults need critical thinking skills now more than ever Minister Eggen #jtcevent #abed

Minister of Education, David Eggen

Minister of Education David Eggen was happy to provide greetings at JTC on behalf of Premier Rachel Notley and the Government of Alberta. On October 18, the Premier and Minister Eggen, along with the Ministers of Advanced Education and Labour, launched Future Ready, a new vision for education and training in Alberta. Minister Eggen expanded on Future Ready for JTC attendees, and encouraged everyone to fill out the curriculum survey as part of the Government's consultation plan for the major review of curriculum across six subjects.

http://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-survey.aspx

Welcome to JTC

Dr. Charmaine Brooks, Alberta Education

Charmaine opened the day by acknowledging that JTC is hosted on Treaty 6 territory, and welcomed the leaders from the Indiginous community who had joined us for the day. This JTC was unique in many ways, with greetings from Minister of Education David Eggen,along with being the first JTC for Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Walter. Charmaine underscored the value of face-to-face meetings like JTC and encouraged participants to make new connections and use the time to learn from each other. Finally, Charmaine asked colleagues to join in wishing Edna Dach, long time friend and amazing colleague, a wonderful new chapter as she leaves Alberta Education to embark on new adventures.

The Role of Technology in Preparing For, Working Through and Rebuilding After Disaster

Panel: Scott Barr, Fort McMurray Public Schools; Treva Emter, High Prairie School Division;
Francois Gagnon, Fort McMurray Catholic Schools and Gisèle Bourque and Jean-Marc Cloutier, Greater North Central
Francophone Education Region

Panelists shared inspiring stories of the dedication and commitment of school authority staff members in helping ensure students and staff were safely evacuated and no one was left behind. Technology played a critical role in enabling school staff, parents and students to communicate with each other and coordinate evacuation efforts. Social media and other cloud services such as Google Apps for Education have been essential for staying in touch and working collaboratively with school communities during ongoing recovery efforts and technology has also been important for supporting the continued operation of critical services such as payroll.

Laurel Beaton @laurel... ·2d ⌄
Pedagogy also changed after the fire. Classrooms opened up, collaboration is key now. Teachers see the relationship value of tech. #jtcevent

Craig Baskerville
@cbaskerville
Having student-owned devices in the classroom is a "life saver" in the case of an emergency. #JTCevent #BYOD

Image Credit: Fort McMurray Catholic Schools

New to the Party? Making the Most of your JTC Network

Presenters: Ralph Luedtke and Edna Dach, Alberta Education

Those new to JTC or unfamiliar with the Learning and Technology Policy Framework (LTPF) were energized by this orientation. They heard a bit about the history of JTC events, received an orientation to the Learning and Technology Policy Framework and had opportunity to discuss how technology was being used by their school authorities to support learning. Participants were given the opportunity to connect with one another and were further encouraged to use JTC as an opportunity to network with as many other JTC attendees as possible.

Learning Technologies that Support Students from Low-Incidence Populations

Presenters: Students from Edmonton Catholic Schools, Wildrose Public Schools, Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools and Edmonton Public Schools

The student panelists provided session participants insights into the ways that technologies have transformed the lives of those students who are part of low-incidence populations. This includes students that may be visually impaired; deaf or hard of hearing; or have difficulty communicating. Participants learned about an array of devices, flexible interface designs and powerful software that have enabled these students to communicate, access information and successfully complete school activities.

Did you know? There are about 700 visually-impaired or blind students in Alberta.

Presenter slide decks that have been shared can be found at atle.com

Alberta Government

Advice from the Field: Implementing Career and Technology Foundations

Presenters: *Joseph Clark & Danielle Nelson, Elk Island Public Schools; John Nedd, Edmonton Catholic Schools; Tracy Dalton, Calgary Board of Education*

The new Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) program of study for Grades 5-9 is at work in a number of Alberta schools. Panelists' excitement was evident as they recounted their experiences establishing CTF programs in practice. They noted that Minister Eggen and other leaders are stressing the importance of students being Future Ready. They see CTF as a crucial pathway for building these capabilities. A key goal for the panelists is to build a community with others. Through this, Alberta educators will actively share approaches they've found effective for designing, implementing and evaluating CTF. Contact David McCann at David.McCann@gov.ab.ca for more information.

Rhonda Jessen @rljessen · Oct 19
Playing name tag scrabble at the start of #JTCEvents - easy to spell 'goods' with two wild cards @ABSchoolTech

Under the Hood: Technology Management Tools and Processes

Presenters: *Corry Spence, Calgary Board of Education; Patrick Miller, Edmonton Public Schools and William LaHay, Calgary Catholic Schools*

Panelists from three of the larger school authorities introduced processes and tools they use to manage technology in their systems. They reviewed not only how they manage their environments, but how they supply data to help inform processes. Participants appreciated learning about ways that they might improve efficiency and effective decision making within their school authorities.

Fun Fact: Approx. 25% of the JTC attendees were new.

If I Knew Then, What I Know Now, I Would…

Presenters: Todd Kennedy, Golden Hills School Division; Lyle Roberts, Foothills
School Division; Ken Robitaille, Battle River School Division; Dan Durrand, Edmonton Catholic Schools

This session revealed some of the collective wisdom of several of Alberta's more experienced IT Leaders. Participants heard about the panelists' successes and challenges in our ever changing educational environments. The group contributed their own hard won experience and looked ahead to anticipate future developments in education and technology.

Leadership Digital Footprint Bootcamp
Presenter: Chris Smeaton, Holy Spirit Catholic Schools

Superintendent Chris Smeaton discussed core leadership principles summarized in *Shifting Minds* published by Canadians for 21st Century Learning and Innovation. Chris described ways that he has applied these principles as a lead learner in his use of technology. In keeping with these principles, he described using social media to engage a school community and enhance his own professional learning. Participants also shared strategies and tools they've used for ensuring both teachers and students understand the many facets of digital citizenship, especially as they move between the face-to-face classroom and digital spaces. For more information contact Chris Smeaton at SmeatonC@holyspirit.ab.ca.

Link to Session Video: https://www.youtube.com/user/HolySpiritSchools1?feature=mhee
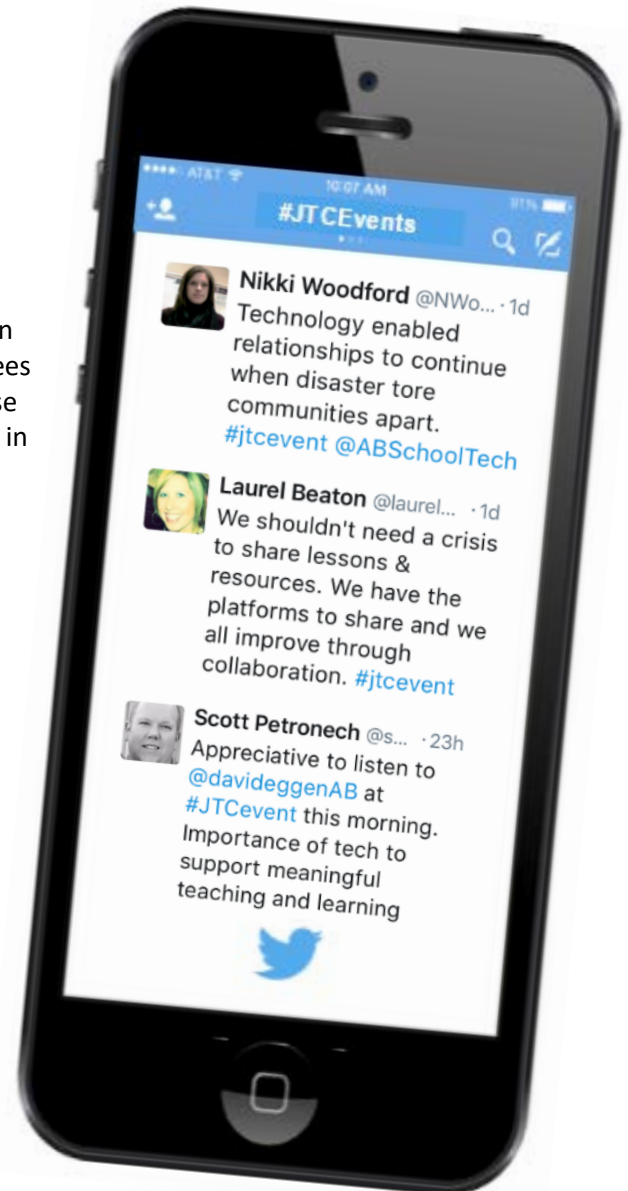
The Evolution of CyberSecurity Policy and Technology

Presenters: Kirk Davis, Edmonton Public Schools; Ted Harvey, Chinook's Edge School Division; Mark Linton, TripleCheck Consulting; Stephen Sabey, Alberta Education

The panel members provided different areas of expertise on security policy and technology which generated lively discussion about the shift in security issues related to technology. Attendees provided input on the difficulties in resourcing security expertise and engaging across the district. More discussion than could fit in the session was generated and there were some important opportunities identified for follow up.

Disaster Recovery Myths and Must Dos

Presenters: Clint Vair, Peter Ford and Tara Reimche, Alberta Education

Presenters shared some key misconceptions about disaster recovery and recommended some good practices to counteract the myths. Adopting a systems approach and working with senior leaders to determine organizational needs is an essential first step in ensuring that continuity and disaster recovery plans will be effective when an incident or disaster occurs.

In addition the link to the IT Disaster Recovery Planning Toolkit (http://bit.ly/techtoolkits) was shared with attendees. The toolkit was developed by Technology Leadership Branch in collaboration with IT leaders across the province and provides guidance on prioritizing IT services and developing a plan to recover from disruptions.

Contact Tara Reimche at tara.reimche@gov.ab.ca for more information.

Using Technology to Write Provincial Assessments

Presenter: *Pascal Couture, Alberta Education*

Pascal Couture from the Provincial Assessment Sector provided an information update with an emphasis on technology for all three assessments programs: SLAs, PATs and Diplomas. Pascal talked about striking the perfect balance regarding the user experience; exam design and administration. He indicated that changes were made to the "Using Computers" sections of the PAT (https://education.alberta.ca/media/3272849/06-ach-gib-2016-17-using-calculators-computers.pdf) and DIP (https://education.alberta.ca/media/3272760/07-dip-gib-2016-17-using-computers.pdf) General Information Bulletins. He noted that information on how to request use for Quest A+ for provincial assessments has also changed. Participants shared their experiences with administering assessments using Google Docs. Some challenges remain. Alberta Education is currently building a new online assessment system to accommodate a broader range of devices and incorporate additional functionalities. For more information regarding Provincial Assessment contact Pascal Couture at Pascal.Couture@gov.ab.ca.

Online Learning: Paving the Way with Policy and Indicators

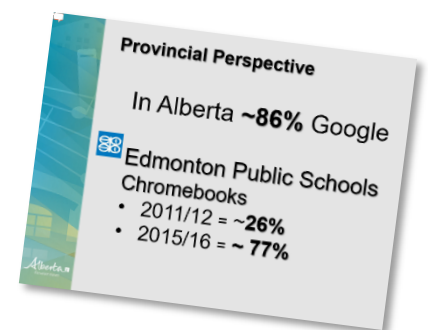*Presenter: Dr. Daylene Lauman, Alberta Education*

Participants learned about recent and planned changes in the Guide to Education. They shared challenges and best practices within their online and blended learning programs. Daylene discussed the response of the Technology Leadership Branch (TLB) to challenges shared at May's JTC and upcoming enhancements to the Provincial Approach to Student Information (PASI) related to student mobility. For more information, please contact Daylene Lauman at Daylene.Lauman@gov.ab.ca.

Moving Forward with Google: Challenges, Opportunities and Connections

Discussion Led by *Dave Hauschildt, Ralph Luedtke and Jason Paradis, Alberta Education*

Over 80% of school authorities in Alberta are using Google Suite for Education (Google Apps) in some capacity to support student learning. Participants were asked to share the current state of their Google implementations, along with future plans and any challenges they were encountering. Responses were submitted to the Learning and Technology Sector and will be examined to better understand where Alberta Education might be able to offer support to school authorities and how these tools might be leveraged in the years ahead. If you were unable to attend and would like to share with us how your school authority is implementing Google along with your future plans and challenges we'd love to hear from you. Please send your comments to Ralph Luedtke at Ralph.Luedtke@gov.ab.ca.

Stories from the Field: Supporting School Leaders Implementing the Learning and Technology Policy Framework

Presenters: Amber Darroch and Alyson Archibald, Horizon School Division; Peter Barron, Clearview Public Schools

The LTPF Leadership Community of Practice was established in 2015 to support jurisdiction leaders building their capacity to implement the LTPF. In this session, presenters from Clearview Public Schools and Horizon School Division shared their experience in the Community of Practice as well as the strategies and resources they used and created to support and develop their leadership capacity. For more information please contact Amber Darroch at amber.darroch@horizon.ab.ca or Peter Barron at pbarron@clearview.ab.ca.

Living in the Digital Age: Alberta's Participation in the International Computer and Information Literacy Study

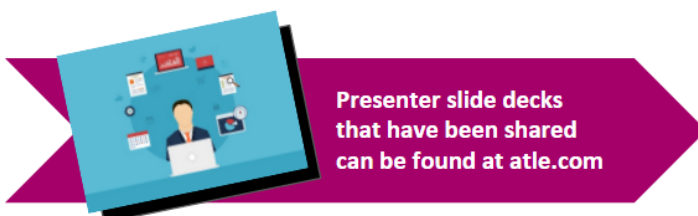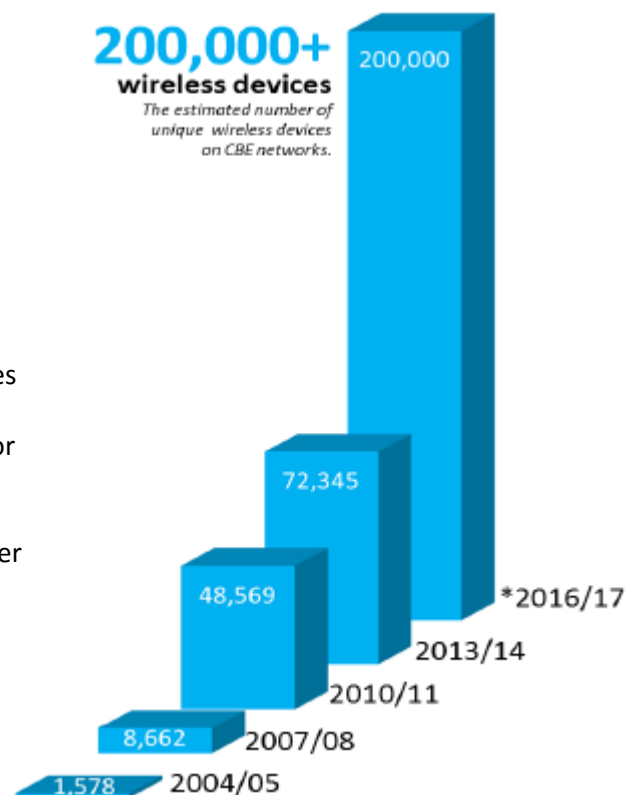*Presenters*: Belina Caissie and Janusz Zieminski, Alberta Education

Participants learned about the International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS). A few highlights from ICILS 2013 were discussed. In addition to providing research data on students ICT knowledge and skills in Alberta, ICILS 2018 will provide information about conditions that influence student achievement in computer and information literacy. The process for Alberta's participation in ICILS was shared.

Participants learned about ways the data gathered from this study will help inform policies, curriculum related to computer and information literacy, and implementation of the Learning and Technology Policy Framework (LTPF). Also, participants had the opportunity to discuss what would make the ICILS research data most useful for their school authorities.

Rethinking Wireless

Presenters: Justin Ramdin and Mike Rinkel,
Calgary Board of Education

Presenters from CBE described the history of approaches to wireless in their district. Underscoring changes in technology and requirements was a growing appetite for both service and flexibility in wireless networks. The presentation told the story of an ambitious program of research and engagement and the implementation under way, along with the many indicators of success so far. Attendees were clearly interested in more than just technology as questions ranged across all elements of design and deployment.

200,000+
wireless devices
The estimated number of unique wireless devices on CBE networks.

200,000 — *2016/17
72,345 — 2013/14
48,569 — 2010/11
8,662 — 2007/08
1,578 — 2004/05

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CTF MakerSpace Innovation Zone

Participants explored the **CTF Makerspace Innovation Zone** showcasing the resources available to school authorities to support the creation of makerspaces in their schools and discover the possible tie-ins to the new CTF curriculum.

Check out the brand new **ATA Makerspace Collection Kits** available for sign out from the ATA Library at http://library.teachers.ab.ca

Low Vision Showcase

Services for Students with Visual Impairments (SSVI) provided the opportunity for attendees to view and use some of the specialized equipment and learning kits provided to visually impaired and blind students across Alberta. A featured item was a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) where participants were not only able to view a book in a different manner but also magnify items and people from across the room. In addition, the braille notetaker let them discover how sensitive their fingertips really were, while the Pictures in a Flash (PIAF) tactile image maker machine allowed users to see a machine use heat to raise the dots enabling them to create tactile diagrams.

Did you know that one chemistry textbook when transcribed in braille is 55 volumes and takes up 7 feet & 6 inches of shelf space? Contact EDC.SSVI@gov.ab.ca for more information.