
Indicators of Digital Readiness

Indicator	Connected Leaders
Theme	Leadership
Priority Level	P3
Organizational Level	School

Description of the Indicator

A Digital Schools district fosters a culture and climate that supports and encourages faculty & staff to create and participate in personal learning network(s). These personal learning networks are inclusive of virtual and face-to-face opportunities for collaborative learning that supports professional growth. Virtual opportunities (i.e. social media tools, blogs) and face-to-face opportunities (i.e. CoffeeEdu, unconferences, edCamps, technology conferences) provide space and time for collaboration that is supportive of professional growth. Effective use of technology and digital collaboration is essential within schools, districts, states and globally. Participation in personal learning networks requires participants to be actively engaged in collaborating, communicating, creating and thinking critically about their own professional learning experiences. Finally, while participation is important, it is critical for school leaders to reflect and then transfer their learning into their current roles/positions to support district, school, and/or student growth.

Why is this indicator important?

To thrive in a constantly changing educational environment, it is essential that school leaders connect to the world outside of their own buildings to enhance perspectives and build best practice skill sets. A PLN (Personal Learning Network) allows leaders to personalize their professional learning, training, and experiences. The PLN allows leaders to not only absorb information, but also to share their knowledge within our global society. The network can include educational professionals and/or experts in other fields to build resources and opportunities for school application and beyond. It is vital that the school's leadership models and promotes such learning.

Indicator Rubric

Insufficient Evidence of Implementation (0 Points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● There is no importance placed on school leaders developing their personal learning networks
Foundational Stage of Implementation (1 Points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● School leaders connect with in-district colleagues to build a hybrid (virtual & face to face) personal learning network
Achieving Success in Implementation (2 Points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● School leaders connect and collaborate with in-district members AND members of other districts to build a hybrid (virtual & face to face) personal learning network.● School leaders attend local, state, and/or national conference
Exemplary Success in Implementation (3 Points)	Evidence is provided for previous rubric level, as well as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● School leaders present at local, state, and/or national conferences● School leader shares best practices with PLN through a blog, podcast, webpage, video newsletter, etc.

Who in the school/district should lead and be involved with this indicator?

- Superintendent
- Principals
- Supervisor(s)
- other school leaders

How to execute the indicator

- Professional growth is incorporated into leader's professional development plan (PDP).
- Attend/present at conferences and events outside of the school district.
- Training for staff on professional social media, webinars, blogs, etc. for networking purposes.
- Participate in online forum, twitter chat, or other groups to collaborate/share.
- Create a blog, page on website, podcast, etc.

Recommended evidence to submit for successful execution of this action

- PDP goals
- Evidence that leader has participated and/or presented in technology-related/personalized learning professional development.
 - Electronic portfolio of virtual collaboration showing contributions on social media (Twitter, Voxer, Pinterest, LinkedIn, Google +, etc.), subscriptions, websites and/or blogs, meeting minutes, webinars etc. for professional purposes and supports educational learning.
 - Certificates from technology professional learning conferences/workshops (Techspo, NJECC, edCamp, TeachMeet, NJASL, ISTE, Learning Forward, etc.) and reflect on the experience or list of turn-key presentations/trainings.
- Blog, webpage, videos, etc. published to share with educational community
- Meeting minutes/agendas

Resources schools can use to complete this action successfully

- Collaboration time for school leaders (i.e. Admin Councils)
- G Suite/Onenote/iCloud (cloud computing productivity tools)
- Social Media (Twitter, G+, Pinterest)
- Google Hangout/Skype/Facetime
- Emailing/Blogging/Podcasting/Youtube
- [NJECC](#) - New Jersey Educational Computing Cooperative
- [Twitter Challenge](#)
- [Edcamp](#)
- [TeachMeet NJ](#)
- LMS Communities including: Schoology, Edmodo, and Google Classroom
- [ISTE Professional Learning](#)
- [Learning Forward Standards for Professional Learning](#)
- [NJASA](#) - Techspo
- [#EduCal](#)

Certified Schools Exemplars: See links for school evidence

No certified schools are available at this time. Check back next year!