

Part II: Reflection

CANDIDATE REFLECTIONS:

(Minimum of 3-4 sentences per question)

1. Briefly describe the field experience. What did you learn about technology facilitation and leadership from completing this field experience?

This field experience involved looking at, analyzing and reviewing the current Technology Plan for Atlanta International School. Benchmarking with many of my peers in other schools on this course, it would appear that we are well ahead in the ideas behind creating the vision and implementation of a SWOT and Action Plan in our school. While at first glance, the document was impressive, it was clearly apparent that much of the ideas contained therein were not in action at our school. I scheduled two meetings with my mentor and Director of Technology to discuss some of the components of the existing Technology Plan and where the school would like to go from this point. My revisions were based around this document and data from those discussions and observations concerning the roll out of technology to this point.

2. How did this learning relate to the knowledge (what must you know), skills (what must you be able to do) and dispositions (attitudes, beliefs, enthusiasm) required of a technology facilitator or technology leader? (Refer to the standards you selected in Part I. Use the language of the PSC standards in your answer and reflect on all 3—knowledge, skills, and dispositions.)

PSC 1.1 (ISTE 1a): It is essential that a school has a shared vision of what technology should do, feel like and operate holistically in a school setting. The skills that need to be employed by the coach should encompass careful planning and change management including appropriate attitudes that will facilitate the onboarding of a diversity of faculty and students involved for teaching and learning. This also involves full involvement of leadership.

PSC 1.2 (ISTE 1b): I am knowledgeable on how to plan, write, communicate and implement a technology plan and look to it's authentic evaluation using data driven evidence from both qualitative and quantitative observation.

PSC 1.4 (ISTE 1d): I know how to look at how to continue to implement and sustain technology within a diverse and dynamic school environment. The skills that will continue to be useful are the ideas behind successful change management and insuring continued communication with all stakeholders (students, teachers and parents).

3. Describe how this field experience impacted school improvement, faculty development or student learning at your school. How can the impact be assessed?

This experience allowed for me to visit with existing documentation and to cast a new eye over the ideas. The experience allowed me to ask some deep and difficult questions for our administration concerning our technology integration. The experience also gave me an opportunity to work more closely with the Director of Technology in the school and appreciate the diverse and wide-ranging job that he has. It's much more than just teaching and learning – the business end of the school also commands much of his time for their own IT needs.

Faculty development and student learning will be tricky to ascertain. While there are student feedback surveys, the questions don't really cover the ideas about technology integration - they assess the teacher ability more than anything. Thus one of the actions should be looking to create a task force that will better look to the authentic integration of the technology plan revisions.