

LT Community Advisory Council
Consensus of Table Discussions – September 13, 2023

1. With more technology tools available to students and families, what tools would parents/guardians like to have more access to?
 - Felt everything parents had access to was sufficient
 - More access to SchoolLink since its related to life after High School
 - Can parents have access to help tools from FAFSA?
 - Ordering/paying fees could be improved on Infinite Campus
 - Policy around number of teacher emails sent
 - Inventory of how many emails parents receive from LT
 - Instruction on how to organize (file emails, EF skill, offer course for freshman)
 - Providing instruction for parents to access info – is there a way to have 1 rather than canvas plus infinite campus
 - How to video on how to be a classroom observer on canvas
 - Simple email grid for parents – download infinite campus app
 - Students to find canvas page easier on LT website
 - Keep athletics schedule clearer on the website (it is confusing how its listed)
 - User friendly LT website
 - Grades and attendance mostly
 - Maybe not more tech access for parents but more explanation (discrepancies between canvas and IC, standardization, teachers inputting in a timely manner and HW)
 - Parent how to already exists
 - Clarification from teachers on how they use canvas, where to find things (not being covered in your open house)
 - Updated club pages, they are not being used. Sponsors should be able to update
 - Understanding where to go to reference specific problems the student is facing
 - Consolidation of Canvas and IC
 - SSO to all the apps needed to support students
 - Universal parent guide at the beginning of the year on how to use the different technologies;
 - IC very helpful can have a fact-based conversation with your child about what's happening
 - Can access transcripts
 - Can access food service fees
 - Goal setting conversation
 - Canvas prompts, does IC? Automatically sends grades if sign up
 - SchoolLink workshop for parents already available
 - You tube presentations
 - Could applications be streamlined
 - Can canvas do attendance and grades do you don't have to check IC
 - Training on the various online resources including canvas and IC, how to set notifications, and the various applications used by the students, including the apps on the kids home screen on the kids chromebooks.
 - Having access to SchoolLink/Naviance to support our kids
 - IC is sufficient
 - Website is helpful to allow us to search for what we need to reach stuff
 - A parent canvas account with more detail on teacher comments feed back
 - Would like to know when our kids visit counselors, support, career advisors, maybe not the details but just that they touched base with various advisors
 - Batch emails notifications – too many

2. What resources do students need in order to be better connected and supported by technology at LT?
 - Why not combine IC and Canvas?
 - Email is too excessive – try to consolidate or teach how to turn off the resources
 - Quality on-boarding – best practices
 - Most kids are very familiar with canvas and can navigate it well.
 - More condensed links on canvas
 - Can we eliminate or consolidate the emails/apps – it’s overwhelming
 - More links on canvas and email – especially canvas. It grows harder and harder to keep track of the more sites we acquire when they are all spread out. Condense resources into less sites.
 - The kids need better onboarding when they are new to LT. They need a sit down explanation of how to use email, how to use canvas, how to use an online calendar, and how to use various apps.
 - A social media site on Instagram that has technology tips since that is where the kids go to find information.
 - We need to teach ‘electronic executive function’
 - Curriculum heads should create more consistency across subject lines with technology (using canvas and similar content in canvas or technology tools). Have accountability with technology and consistency. Tech Coaches helping teachers create consistency and accountability
 - Increase utilization of drop in center
 - Increase detailed feedback on what is wrong with incorrect questions/responses
 - Training on email etiquette
 - More thoughtful default notification settings in Canvas – Goal: reduce unnecessary email volume
 - Continue to support high speed access for low income families and communicate options
 - Ongoing connectivity updates/access
 - Canvas – teachers use differently, difficult for parents and students to find things.
 - Is there best practice or ongoing communication to staff? Standardized use? Best use?
 - Lack of long-term planning when only use weekly mode, especially concerning for students with EF deficits and just busy students
 - Flooded inboxes/email management
 - Wifi consistent throughout building
 - Outlets
 - Microsoft proficiency
 - Moving towards integrating college level apps like excel
 - A goal towards having LT having loads of tech savvy students
 - Larger projector screen/smart boards (4:3 ratio)
 - iMac labs at both campuses for fine arts
 - Battery issues with chrome books not lasting long enough even though students charge it all day
 - Delayed texting from students to parents in the building.
 - Feedback on assignments: assessments within canvas or tech
 - Adaptive learning metric – how do you use this technology (AI) data to help students on future assessments. ie PSAT or in class – feedback on mastery – standards mastery in order to reinforce concepts to ensure student growth
 - Instruction on tools AI provides students and teachers
 - Improve internet for phone services at campuses. Wifi on computers can be slow and prevent students from getting work done.
 - Sometimes not able to receive/send text messages to parents if very important
 - Offline editing on google drive

3. Should LT investigate a change in funding textbooks to allow for more current digital resources?
 - Invest in it and have a pool of money for people who cannot afford it
 - Phase it into students by subject or grade level

- Hybrid approach since math doesn't change as world politics does.
- Could we join with other high school districts to increase purchasing power which would lower costs
- Timing is important when reviewing textbooks and materials for next year
- Evaluate usage of digital textbooks and physical textbooks – quarterly basis? Look at user management (application* lifetime management)
- Departments pilot digital resources and then review usage
- Explore built in grading platforms with in textbooks
- What resources are other schools using? Apps? Textbooks, etc.
- Parents would be willing to pay to switch to digital – would there be funds/resources for families who couldn't afford fees?
- Student view would be fine switching prefers to work with math book copy to flip and work
- Easier to keep up to date with most recent copies
- Pilot with handful of classes
- Concerns about region-based books
- Choice?
- Keeping up w/Hinsdale- IF benefits the student's education
- Hinsdale has different demographics
- Hybrid
- Payment plan
- Is Hinsdale South with similar demographics having these same opportunities
- Digital textbooks can be translated and accessed everywhere
- But can everyone afford this
- Will everyone have wifi at home to access and thus benefit
- Co-ops with other schools to push back on publishers
- Physical booths ... online assignments
- Different learning styles, not everyone would be willing to commit, not everyone will agree.
- Options will everyone be forced to or will there be options based on income and environment.
- Digital rental vs. purchase site license
- Could parents rent books from other sties (like college students do)
- Concern for special needs or different learning styles and students who need paper physical copies how would this be addressed
- Understand evidence of improved outcomes before increase charges
- Re-evaluate whether textbooks are needed for certain classes (ex. Scuba)
- Post relevant sections of books online Reduce dependence on whole books
- Classroom based sets of books, not student-based book distribution
- Yes, but we should start with programs where they will be the most impactful
- We also need a meaningful and thorough communication regarding the rationale for the increased fee and we need to explain that our other area schools are doing this. No one wants LT to fall behind our other area schools.
- A lot of students just use digital versions anyway- it saves funding and reduces paper waste
- Yes
- How much is each textbook being used per class (vs online resources)
- How long can the course last without a new book
- \$450 is too much of an increase for what we are paying now.
- Yes
- Access to all needs to be digital/all existing textbooks and future resources
- Students' futures are only going to be more technology driven so incorporating more tech and resources via technology will continue to prepare for a changing future.
- From Jackson at our table – really appreciates the ability to access text books digitally anywhere/anytime

- The price might be a critical factor to some families
- Leaning towards electronics is the way to go but funding is a concern.
- Appreciate still the value of holding a book and highlighting a book
- Ebooks are more environmentally friendly
- Why is ebook more expensive, that is not clear
- Hybrid model – use both