

**Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Compact Committee Minutes
January 12, 2018**

Attendees:

Tracy Demmo
Ashley O'Connor
Patrick Mussolini
Anne Pecunia
JP Kaminski
Lynette Colon
Jen Hickey

Minutes:

- Explanation of Tri-State Consortium, is a group of high-performing districts who join together to serve as critical friends. They visited Dobbs Ferry on March 1-3, 2017 to review our work on technology integration.
- Participants reviewed the Essential Question #1 section of the Tri-State Consortium Consultancy on Technology Integration (March 1-3, 2017).
- DFMS staff members explained the role of the Technology Integration Coach, Jen Cronk.
 - She is in the district two days a week
 - Meets with department and grade level teams to educate teachers about the use of technology
 - Meets with administrators to increase their technology knowledge
 - Technology Surveys of the staff are conducted and reviewed with the building admin, goals and priorities are established
 - Teachers can meet one-on-one to learn more
 - Jen will help plan and co-teach lessons involving technology (she will teach the tech and the teacher the content)
- DFUFSD added an additional coach, Amber Riley, for one day a week.
- How does that help the students learning that tech help them learn the 21st century skills?
 - Jen Hickey provided an example from her lesson which uses Flipgrid
 - The students had to record an explanation about the content.
 - Students had to record specific and meaningful feedback:
 - I agree with you because
 - I learned this from your video
 - It makes the skill a little more enjoyable for the students
 - Problem solving is also used to work through the technology.
 - Structured helps them achieve it. That word meaningful is very important.
- Teachers feel supported to take risks and try out new technology

- At times, just trying something new is ok and increases motivation. However, a lot of emphasis is put on using the technology to achieve the instructional objectives not to lead the instruction. We also analyze the use of technology to determine the effectiveness and “prune” and revise the lessons to maximize learning.
- Parents commented on how Springhurst seems to be to a much better job of preparing students on the use of technology.
- The schools are doing a job of teaching the technology skills. Student skills are mainly limited to fun programs and social media. The schools need to explicitly teach students how to use technology for academic purposes.
- The SAMR model was mentioned in the report (Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition). When teachers are in the Substitution or Augmentation phase the work is being done for the purpose of using technology. When teachers are in the Modification and Redefinition phase, the work has a greater effect on student learning. We will provide more detail at the next meeting.
- A few years back we did a community read on Tony Wager’s book *The Global Achievement Gap* which detailed 21st century skills.
- We asked the Tri-state to use those skills as a starting point; however, we have implemented MYP at the middle and high school. The MYP model details Approaches to Learning (ATL) and requires these ATLs to be explicitly taught. These skills are used to help students “learn how to learn.” There are five categories of skills (Thinking, Social, Communication, Self-Management, and Research).

Questions Raised:

Where do we improve our current technology?

What technology can support the development of 21st century skills/ATL?

Are we heading in the direction that we really want or are we focused on trying new things?

How do we continue to communicate what is happening in the schools to the community?

Next Meeting:

Friday, March 2nd, during 3rd period

The Focus will be on the remainder of the report and its recommendations.

We will provide additional information on ATLs and the SAMR Technology Integration Model.