

Digital Equity Resources for Low-Income NH Students

The Digital Divide Can and Must be Closed

The Digital Opportunity Consortium is a highly strategic partnership among national leaders that provides essential resources for major dimensions of the digital divide for the nation's low-income children and their families:

Connectivity: Comcast launched the Internet Essentials program last year, offering high speed home broadband at \$9.95/month for children and their families that qualify for free or reduced school lunch in Comcast footprint communities nationwide. See www.internetessentials.com.

Hardware: In April 2013, the Consortium will make available deeply discounted Dell laptop and tablet computers for low-income students and their families. To receive the announcement when the information becomes available, send a request to mclaughlinbob@gmail.com.

Educational Content: EBSCO, the nation's largest provider of full-text digital educational content, will provide deeply discounted access to its stellar full-text databases across the P12 curriculum. To receive the announcement when this information becomes available, send a request to mclaughlinbob@gmail.com.

Tech Support: The American Association of School Librarians has agreed to mobilize its members to inform the nation's free/reduced lunch-eligible schoolchildren and families about these digital opportunity resources and help them use them for educational and economic opportunity. Information for purchasers of the discounted hardware on how to access ongoing tech support will be provided in conjunction with their purchase.

Financing: The Consortium is seeking funding for a revolving loan fund offering interest-free financing to low-income families with bad or no credit, enabling them every three to four years to purchase a computer bundled with educational content, tech support and connectivity. To receive the announcement when this information becomes available, send a request to mclaughlinbob@gmail.com.

Supporting organizations include the American Association of School Librarians, Association of Teacher Educators, Comcast, Dell, GenYes, GovConnection, National Association of State Boards of Education, National Council of Teachers of English, Software and Information Industry Association, State Education Technology Directors Association, and the Verizon Foundation.

Digital Opportunity Symposium on Friday October 11th at Comcast's Manchester NH facility. This free day-long professional development event will assist P12 teams from NH communities served by Comcast and from NH IHEs with educator preparation programs to develop digital opportunity action plans. For more information, please contact Bob McLaughlin at mclaughlinbob@gmail.com.

For more information, please contact consortium co-chairs Dr. Robert McLaughlin, Digital Opportunity Consortium, 145 Broadway, Concord New Hampshire 03301, (802) 249-1159, mclaughlinbob@gmail.com, or Dr. Paul Resta, professor and director of Learning Technologies Center, University of Texas at Austin, Austin 78712, (512) 471-4014, resta@austin.utexas.edu.



New Hampshire Digital Resources Consortium

NHDRC Communication. Collaboration. Online. Ongoing.

www.nhdrc.org

Communication

NH Common Core Group Sharing of resources, curriculum units and crosswalks.

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/nhcommoncore>

NH Google Apps for Edu Teachers NH Educators Using Google Apps in the Classroom

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/nhgoogleteachers>

NH Google Apps for Edu Administrators NH Google Admin Discussions

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/nhgoogleadmin>

Collaboration

Collaboration Rings A Collaboration Ring is a group of teachers who are interested in working with other teachers and classrooms with similar focus or interest. This could be a group formed along traditional grade level and subject lines or by other concepts such as Extended Learning Opportunities or Inclusion. Participants are connected with a Google Site and Google Group to get help, share resources or develop shared projects. The NHDRC has established 24 Collaboration Rings which are currently running in the state.

<https://sites.google.com/a/nheon.org/nhdrc-collaboration-ring/home>

Online

Institute in a Box A set of Professional Development workshops that districts and teachers can use to enhance their teaching and learning opportunities. The workshops are arranged in Institutes that can be delivered face to face, online, or in a blended format. The NHDRC has created 8 Institutes in a Box that house a total of 69 one hour workshops.

<https://sites.google.com/site/nhinstitutes/>

Ongoing

Common Core Lesson Sharing An ongoing, growing, searchable database of Common Core lessons shared by NH educators.

<https://sites.google.com/a/nheon.org/nh-common-core-standards/>

Google Apps for Education In the summer of 2012, nearly 100 technology administrators were trained on Google Apps for Education deployment and administration. Also, over 250 teachers were taken through an extensive Google Apps for Education day long training in the use of the digital tools provided in the Google Apps for Education package. As part of the commitment to ongoing professional development, these educators agreed to be available to provide trainings in your school or district. Contact your local LESCN site for more information on training.

<https://sites.google.com/a/nheon.org/nh-digital-resources-consortium/home/nhgafe>

For a list of trainings and trainers, visit the 2012-2013 Google Apps training page.

<https://sites.google.com/a/nheon.org/nh-digital-resources-consortium/home/nhgafe/google-apps-nh-boot-camp/-google-apps-training-12-13>

For more information on the NH Digital Resources Consortium, contact Deb Boisvert, dboisvert@sau53.org