

## **Activating the Voice of the Student Through Digital Resources**

### **Workshop Overview**

Digital Resources provide many opportunities to engage students, allowing them to contribute to their learning process by increasing the voice of the student. Transition from the teacher asking questions with one or two students called on to answer vibrant classroom environments where all students have the opportunity to have their voice heard in the classroom. The participatory nature of digital resources provides opportunities for students to co-create learning experiences, build knowledge, have choices regarding the work they are doing, pose questions, and provide feedback.

In this one-credit self-paced course, K-12 teachers will learn how to use digital resources to make each student's voice visible and valued. After identifying the characteristics of digital resources and reviewing the selection criteria for digital resources, educators will then explore a range of digital resources, select digital resources to apply to teaching and learning, create an instructional product or sample student product using each digital resource, and provide an artifact and reflection of the use of one of the products in the classroom.

### **Outcomes**

During this workshop, participants will learn skills and strategies to:

- Participants will develop a definition of student voice and an understanding of the affordances of digital resources, while exploring the considerations that must be made when digital resources are examined for inclusion in a teaching and learning environment. (1.5 hours).
- Choose digital resources appropriate to providing student voice in a specific content/grade level. (1.5 hour).
- Integrate five digital resources into five specific instructional plans by creating a digital artifact demonstrating the use and application of the digital resource.
- (10 hours)
- Use a digital resource in the classroom and reflect on the implementation of that resource in regard to enhancing student voice (2 hours).

### **Alignment to Standards**

This workshop meets the standards for Content, Instructional Design, and Technology as defined in the [National Standards of Quality for Online Courses](#), published by the [Aurora Institute](#) (iNACOL).

This workshop provides teachers with an opportunity to meet the Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership standard as defined in the [National Educational Technology Standards and Performance Indicators for Teachers](#), published by the [International Society for Technology in Education](#) (ISTE).

The Maryland Teacher Technology Standards (MTTS) provide the basis for the professional knowledge and skills teachers need to master to address the student learning needs. The course participants will develop skills and understandings for the following MTTS standards:

- Access, evaluate, process and apply information efficiently and effectively.
- Use technology effectively and appropriately to interact electronically.
- Use technology to analyze problems and develop data-driven solutions for instructional and school improvement.

- Design, implement, and assess learning experiences that incorporate use of technology in a curriculum-related instructional activity to support understanding, inquiry, problem solving, communication and/or collaboration.
- Develop professional practices that support continual learning and professional growth in technology.

## **Course Outline**

### **Session 1: Student Voice Through Digital Resources**

#### **Guiding Question:**

What are digital resources and how do I select digital resources that will enhance student voice in my classroom?

#### **Description:**

The term digital resource references web applications that facilitate knowledge consumption, creation and collaboration on the Internet. In this introductory session, you will read articles to extend your understanding of the capabilities of digital resources to support instruction as well as articles to understand the concept of student voice. You'll investigate classroom examples of digital resources being used in the classroom and make connections between those resources and student voice.

#### **Outcome:**

Participants will develop a definition of student voice and an understanding of the affordances of digital resources, while exploring the considerations that must be made when digital resources are examined for inclusion in a teaching and learning environment.

#### **Indicators:**

Participants will:

- Identify aspects of data privacy, accessibility, and interoperability to consider when selecting professional and instructional digital resources.
- Establish instructional goals connecting digital resources with instructional strategies that support student voice.

### **Session 2: A Multitude of Digital Resources**

#### **Guiding Question:**

Which specific digital resources are best for facilitating student voice for the students in my classroom?

#### **Description:**

There are a multitude of digital resources that are available to use in the classroom, but teachers must evaluate each one from the perspective of their own classroom including the age of the student, the content being taught, and the instructional goal sought to accomplish. In this session, you'll explore a range of digital resources that have been used to facilitate student voice in the classroom and choose five digital resources to apply to instruction and justify your choice.

**Outcome:**

Participants choose digital resources appropriate to providing student voice in a specific content/grade level.

**Indicators:**

Participants will:

- Reflect on their own instructional practice while reviewing digital resources, identifying those that will enhance student voice in their specific content/grade level.

**Session 3: Integrating Digital Resources into Instructional Planning**

**Guiding Question:** How can I integrate digital resources into my instructional planning to enhance the student voice within specific lessons?

**Description:**

Using the five digital resources that were identified in the previous session, this session will focus on the integration of these resources to enhance or extend curricular standards or lesson outcomes. In this session, you will focus on models and samples of digital resources being integrated into instruction to extend the voice that students have in the classroom. After reflecting on the resources, you'll reflect on your own instructional plans and enhance those instructional plans with digital resources.

**Outcome:** Participants will integrate five digital resources into five specific instructional plans by creating a digital artifact demonstrating the use and application of the digital resource.

**Indicators:**

Participants will:

- Identify five digital resources that will enhance a lesson or instructional activity.
- Use web-based resources and tutorials to learn how to technically use a variety of digital resources.
- Apply digital resources to an instructional plan by designing and reflecting on a digital artifact.

**Session 4: Activate the Voice of the Student****Guiding Question:**

How did using digital resources enhance the voice of the students in my classroom?

**Description:**

You've explored five specific digital resources, learned how to use them technically, and explored possible ways to use them in the classroom to extend the student voice in your classroom. In this final session, you will fully develop an instructional lesson plan, applying at least one digital resource, specify how that resource will enhance student voice, and reflect on

the effectiveness of that resource in extending student voice.

**Outcome:**

Participants will use a digital resource in the classroom and reflect on the implementation of that resource in enhancing student voice (2 hours).

**Indicators:**

Participants will:

- Develop a lesson plan that integrates a digital resource to enhance student voice.
- Deliver a lesson that integrates a digital resource to enhance student voice.
- Reflect on a lesson that integrates a digital resource to enhance student voice.