



SEDC Endorsements pg. 2



EDCamp 2020 pg. 2

Winter 19-20

SEDC SNAPSHOT

TEACHER ESSENTIALS FOR TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY

The following is taken from Common Sense Media- Written by Jamie Knowles.

When and how much should students be using technology in class?

When and how much you use technology depends on the subject and age you teach, as well as other factors. The classroom is a great place to model media balance. For example, technology can be helpful for students researching and collaborating on a topic, but tech use may be limited or restricted during in-class discussions. Knowing whether to use devices comes down to the purpose of the activity and what you're trying to accomplish. You can also promote media balance by making sure students are actively using the technology as opposed to passively consuming media. One way to do this is by encouraging students to learn how to use digital creation tools.

At the end of the day, the question is more about quality than quantity. Be sure to research best media and tech recommendations to make sure you're using device time most efficiently. And ask yourself these essential questions: (1) *Is your use of technology in class enhancing student learning, both in and outside of school?* (2) *Are there times when it's detracting?* (3) *Which policies and procedures will help me get the most out of teaching with technology?*

How can I keep kids on task when they're using devices?

Along with the power of exploration and creation, devices come with the increased risk of distraction. For example, allowing kids to collaborate using shared docs means they might also use the doc to socialize. This potential trade-off, however, doesn't have to be a showstopper. Being proactive about potential distractions from the beginning can help students be responsible and realize the benefits of a tech-rich classroom.

Some practical things to consider to help keep students focused:

1. Make it meaningful- Make sure that you're intentional about how you use technology in class. Choose apps and activities that require collaboration (both within the classroom and externally), creativity, and higher-order thinking and that generate meaningful products.

If students are allowed to be on devices for "free time" or if assignments on devices are unstructured and lack concrete deliverables, then students are less likely to be focused and engaged when they're using them.

2. Address digital distraction in your policies and procedures- Don't underestimate how straightforward and clear it needs to be for students. Be explicit about which behaviors -- and which websites and apps -- are allowed in class and which aren't. It's likely that your school or district has already decided to block certain apps or websites, but it's still a good idea to address them head-on. If students understand the rationale for blocking -- or for your classroom policy -- they are much more likely to internalize it and follow it.

3. Balance tech and non-tech use- Use of devices shouldn't replace meaningful non-tech activities. Students still need time for face-to-face discussion, hands-on creativity and building, journaling, and many other "analog" classroom activities. Varying your activities in this way will engage students and help keep them more focused when they're using tech.

For more helpful articles and teaching tips visit:

www.commonsense.org/education/articles

PBS NEWSHOUR WHAT'S NEW

STUDENT REPORTING LABS

PBS NEWSHOUR- Student Reporting Labs

SEDC has teamed up with UETN and PBS Student Reporting Labs (SRL) to create transformative educational experiences through video journalism that inspire youth to find their voice and engage with their communities. SRL lesson plans, assignment prompts and instruction tools facilitate project-based learning that builds critical thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, and communication skills. Now in over 150 schools, SRL youth media producers work on special projects with Labs and work with students on story

pitches, script-writing, narration, rough cuts and final videos. Students' stories are published on the website, shared on social media, distributed through partnerships and aired on local PBS stations and the PBS NewsHour nightly broadcasts. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Clint at clint@sedck12.org

SEDC OFFERS A VARIETY OF ENDORSEMENTS FOR SPRING 2020 : ED-TECH, MATH, & GIFTED

Endorsements are a great way to build your professional expertise in various subject areas. Most districts allow endorsement courses for salary advancement.

Our next block of [Educational Technology Endorsement](#) courses are now open for registration. There is no cost to participate in the class, just a transcription fee to SUU at the end of the course.

- **Classroom Integration of Ed. Tech**, begins on **January 9 2020**. This 12 week online course offers students an opportunity to explore more deeply the theory and practical applications and methods of purposeful integration of technology into the K-12 learning environment. This is a 3-credit course and is required for the ETEP endorsement.
- **Blended Learning Methods** - Participants will learn about the different blended learning models and frameworks and how best to use digital tools in order to successfully integrate technology in the classroom. This 6-week, 1-credit course will begin **January 9, 2020**.
- **Technology to Improve Student Research** - In this online course, participants will learn how to use various databases to cite, organize, and research. Participants will explore strategies for using Utah's Online Library and research tools to challenge and engage students and enhance learning. This 6-week, 1-credit course will begin **February 27, 2020**.

The [Elementary Math Endorsement's](#) next course will begin **January 6, 2020**. EDUC 5530 is the fourth class in a series of six required for the endorsement. Teachers are welcome to join the endorsement at the beginning of any class. EDUC 5530 is titled **Geometry and Measurement for Practitioners**. The classes are taught over Interactive Video Conferencing so you can attend from your own school district. Currently there is grant to reimburse teachers for taking classes in the area of Math, so this class is essentially free! The class meets on Mondays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

EDUC 5640 is the next class being offered in our [Gifted and Talented Endorsement](#) program. **Improvement of Curriculum & Instruction in the Content Areas** is a great class for all teachers. Teachers will learn how to foster creativity of the gifted population in all content areas. This class is also offered over IVC, so you will not have to travel. There is a \$210 class fee and a \$45 tuition cost for this class. Classes are held each Thursday starting **January 9th** from 4:30 to 7:30 pm.

Visit sedck12.org/category/professional-development/endorsements for more information on all of these endorsement classes, or call us at **435-586-2865**

SMARTER TEACHING: Reducing Student Stress

How do your students feel in the classroom? Research is starting to show pretty conclusively that the answer to this question can have a profound effect on learning. Here are six simple things that teachers can do to help reduce student stress in the classroom.

1. Create learning spaces that promote creativity
2. Give students work in their Zone of Proximal Development
3. Make learning relevant and feedback specific, useful, and easy to understand
4. Have clear learning goals that students can articulate in student-friendly language
5. Create a schedule that supports students
6. Promote a growth mindset and healthy 'self-talk'

-teachthought.com

EDCAMP- ST. GEORGE

Come and find out what it is like to be part of an "un-conference."



Edcamp is a form of unconference designed specifically for teachers and their needs. What makes Edcamp an unconference? Unlike traditional conferences which have schedules set months in advance by the people running the conference, Edcamp has an agenda that's created by the participants at the start of the event. Instead of one person standing in front of the room talking for an hour, people are encouraged to have discussions and hands-on sessions. Sponsors don't have their own special sessions or tables, all of the space and time are reserved for the things the people there want to talk about. People could pay hundreds of dollars to attend another conference, or they could go to Edcamp for free.

Built on principles of connected and participatory learning, Edcamp strives to bring teachers together to talk about the things that matter most to them: their interests, passions, and questions. Teachers who attend Edcamp can choose to lead sessions on those things that matter, with an expectation that the people in the room will work together to build understanding by sharing their own knowledge and questions.

SEDC is proud to help sponsor EdCamp- St. George 2020. It will be held **Saturday, February 8, 2020**, 8:00 am until 3:00 pm at Tonaquint Intermediate School in St. George, UT. Registration is now open at <https://bit.ly/36bjwJK> and it's **FREE!**



Professional educators from all over the State of Utah will gather at the **2020 Utah Rural Schools Association's Annual Conference** on **July 8-10, 2020** in Richfield, Utah. This is the conference for dialogue, learning, and exploration of topics critical to districts, schools, and individuals dedicated to the education, development, and growth of students in Utah's rural communities. Please consider being a presenter at this year's conference. Applications for Presenters is now open at utahruralschools.org. The deadline for presenters is March 15, 2020. Please come and share with others while you learn!