DO YOU KNOW?

Ten Things Everyone Should Know about K-12 Administrators' Views on Digital Learning

#1. WHAT'S WAKING YOU UP AT NIGHT?

55% of school principals and district administrators say it is their concern that they do not have adequate technology for students to use at school. Almost 50% believe that leveraging digital textbooks, online classes and mobile devices could improve student outcomes.

#2. ARE YOU A MOBILIST?

Why, yes, thanks for asking! Administrators are more tech-enabled than ever with laptops (96%), smartphones (87%), and digital readers, too (26%). And 44% of district administrators are now using a district provided tablet.

#3. BYOD ANYONE?

Signaling a big shift in one year, over one-third of school principals (36%)now say that it is likely they will allow students to "bring your own device" to use in class. In 2011, only 22% of the principals were endorsing this approach.

#4. MEET YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

Look out students – your principal is on Skype (51%), Facebook (48%) and Twitter (22%). Don't worry – only 2% say they are participating in MMOGs (massively multiplayer online games) though!

#5. USING TECHNOLOGY FOR PROFESSIONAL TASKS?

It is not just about creating PowerPoints anymore. Today's administrators text colleagues (79%), watch online videos for professional growth (69%) and use tablets for classroom observations (32%).

#6. WALKING THE TALK?

Over three-quarters of school principals (74%) and district administrators (80%) think that teachers' evaluations should include an assessment on their use of technology to enhance instruction; only 43% of teachers agree.

#7. DO YOU TAKE YOUR CLASS BLENDED OR FLIPPED?

Six of 10 principals (62%) say their school has already implemented a flavor of blended learning; 27% of principals would like their teachers to try flipped learning this year!

#8. SOUNDS GREAT, BUT WHAT'S THE CATCH?

Lots of great benefits to online assessments but the challenges seem overwhelming: not enough computers (59%), the costs to implement the tests (56%), and the need to train teachers and students (54%).

#9. WE NEED A BIGGER PIPE!

Hurrah for the 15% of school districts who say that they have enough bandwidth capacity to support their instructional needs. Reality is that 69% of districts are concerned about the impact of implementing more digital content on their current capacity. Ouch!

#10. SHOW US THE MONEY, PLEASE!

91% of district administrators would like to see a new federal funding program to support greater investments in classroom technology – no surprise, 91% also say that the effective use of technology within instruction is important to their district mission of high student achievement.