To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Robin LeClaire, Chief Academic Officer
       Ben Carter, Director of Workforce and Innovation

Date: December 13, 2019

Subject: Digital Learning / Community Advisory Grant

As Indiana has impressive capacity surrounding technology in the K-12 space, education is transformed only if we maximize relevancy and engagement for students. Relevancy and engagement can be enhanced by connecting academic concepts to real-life applications both in the classroom and in the community. This can be achieved by purposeful and strategic integration of technology into instruction. Planning for such can be conducted in a manner by transforming 1) Instruction and Learning; 2) Leadership and Development; and 3) College and Career Ready.

To incentivize districts, a minimum of 50 grants of $50,000 will be made available on a competitive basis for districts to strategically develop a plan for technology integration into the classroom. Districts will further develop capacity by reviewing current practices and implementing one or more of the following three strands:

**Strand One:** Instruction and Learning
- Develop districts’ capacity to practice innovation through technology integration.
- Enhance student program and course offerings utilizing IDOE’s vetted curriculum and program providers ([Evidenced-Based STEM Curriculum](https://www.idoe.in.gov/curriculum/STEM) | [School Improvement Technical Assistance Providers](https://www.idoe.in.gov/technical-assistance))
- Maximize use of districts’ digital tools to support student learning through digital content curation, and creation.

**Strand Two:** Leadership and Development
- Establishing a professional development plan to increase school-wide capacity related to innovative practices with a focus on technology integration.
- Develop district-level, building-level and classroom-level leadership to implementation of the aforementioned plan.

**Strand Three:** College and Career Ready
- Expand opportunities for students and K-12 educators to incorporate Indiana’s K-12 Employability Skill Standards and/or work-based learning opportunities through the integration of technology and community partnerships.
Grant Funds May Be Used to Support:
  ● Professional Development Activities and/or Services
  ● Curriculum and/or Programs

*Appropriate use of funds excludes the following: 1:1 devices, learning management systems, student information systems, and full-time staff positions)*

Matching Grant Funds:
  ● Although matching funds are not required, taking advantage of these partnering dollars is encouraged. Eligible matching opportunities can be found [here](https://example.com).

Outcomes:
  ● Districts will further opportunity for students by introducing new or enhanced strategies to transform instruction and learning.

Grant Application:
  ● Digital Learning Community Advisory Grant [Application](https://example.com)
  ● Grant applications will be reviewed using this [rubric](https://example.com).

Timeline:
  ● December 13, 2019 - Grant Application Available
  ● January 24, 2020 - Grant Application Due
  ● March 2020 - Grants Awarded
  ● May 2020- Progress Monitoring Meeting
  ● June 2020 - Progress Monitoring Meeting
  ● October 2020 - Progress Monitoring Meeting

Questions regarding this grant opportunity should be directed to [Ben Carter](mailto:ben.carter@doe.in.gov).