

General McLane High School

Describe the ISSUES (facts, problems, and opportunities) in the case. Look for underlying issues as well as obvious problems the characters face.

- What common problems are addressed by the Experience Academy?
- Identify the most significant dilemmas General McLane faces related to the use of technology.
- What personnel and finance issues does the cohort model of staff development address?
- How does your school or district ensure technological competence for teachers and staff?

Consider the PERSPECTIVE of each character or group presented in the case. What is their unique take on the issues? What informs their point-of-view? What insight do you gain into issues by considering others' opinions?

- Since most of the General McLane teachers seem to be using technology for their own productivity (ie, grades and email), they are clearly not techno-phobes. Why do you think they have not more widely integrated technology in their classrooms?
- Judy Scaletta seems frustrated with technology use at General McLane. Why?
- Use the demographics in the case to examine the role of community at General McLane. What is the interrelationship between the community and technology?
- How might students feel about the levels of technology integration at their school?

What KNOWLEDGE might inform how to address issues in the case? Which sources of knowledge might you consider (professional, experiential, empirical)? What more would you like to know before proposing any actions or next steps?

- General McLane has put off applying for the Classrooms of the Future grant because they are not ready. Suggest resources that might put them on the road to readiness.
- What knowledge might have been helpful to Principal Rick Scaletta both before and during the implementation of the laptop initiative?
- What is the role of assessment when beginning a school-wide initiative? What instruments are available to administrators?

What ACTIONS might you recommend characters in the case take to address issues? What possible next steps might occur?

- Given the success level of the laptop initiative, what actions should Principal Rick Scaletta take to ensure teachers consistently use instructional technology?
- Besides the Experience Academy, what other actions might the school take to engage special populations of students?

- How might General McLane make better use of existing community partnerships?
- How might a leader's frustration with colleagues affect school climate and future initiatives? What compromises might improve relationships between leaders and their learning cohorts?

What are the CONSEQUENCES of proposed actions? What might happen, short- and long-term, intentionally and unintentionally, of following your suggestions? What else might you consider as possible results of suggested actions?

- How might the level of technology integration at McLane affect student performance after high school? What are the implications for college-bound students?
- Consider possible consequences--intended, unintended, positive and negative--of General McLane's staff development model.
- According to Judy Scaletta, what were the consequences of moving computers out of the classroom and into a computer lab? How might you improve the implementation of such a change to achieve positive results?