

Technology and Transition: Sto-Rox 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 issues is Sto-Rox hoping to address through its freshman academy?
- What problems and opportunities does Nolan Larry realize when he begins to use the smartboard? How is it similar or different from Tom Rea's experience with the same technology?
- Why will the Sto-Rox students benefit more than other students from access to laptop computers?
- What issues related to special education is Sto-Rox trying to address?

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?

- The students in Nicole Carmaioni's government class speak candidly of their low socio-economic status. What impact do you think this awareness has on the students?
- How do you think the students in Nolan Larry's class feel about being part of the freshman academy?
- Put yourself in the place of one of Tom Rea's students. How do they feel about his use of the smart board?
- How might the community react to the infusion of technology in Sto-Rox?

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?

- These teachers are just getting started with using technology. What kind of professional development might help them move forward effectively?
- What types of knowledge do the students need in order to benefit from the technology?
- Melanie Kerber has had some success in turning around Sto-Rox. What additional knowledge might she need to continue her work?
- Where might Tom Rea turn to learn more about using technology in special education?
- How is your own school addressing concern about freshman engagement in school?

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

- What actions did the Melanie Kerber and her staff take to make students feel connected to the school? What do you think should be the next step in moving forward with initiatives?
- What kind of support will the Sto-Rox teachers need as they continue to experiment with the use of technology?
- What actions should Nolan Larry take to make his technology use more seamless?
- Reflect on Nicole Camaioni's lesson. What actions might she take to improve the lesson?

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?

- What might be some of the consequences--intended, unintended, positive and negative--of the freshman academy?
- What might be the positive or negative consequences of Tom Rea's use of technology in his special education classroom?
- What lessons can be learned from Sto-Rox's early experiences of using technology?
- How might Sto-Rox further support the teachers who are experimenting with technology integration?