Literacy and Technology:
In Conversation with Dr. Dave Edyburn

This learning guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders or as a self-paced study to explore how technology can support student success.

What do school leaders need to understand about technological change?

This conversation guide is intended to be used after viewing the video clip, **What do school leaders need to know about understanding technological change?**

General synopsis

In this brief video, author and researcher Dr. Dave Edyburn talks about the importance of school leaders understanding technological change.

Key understandings

- When school leaders think about technology, they tend to think in terms of incremental change.

- Incremental changes are low risk, because leaders can see the trends, see how change is happening and make the connections.

- While incremental change is low risk and has value, the bigger challenge, and potentially bigger value, is in seeing broader trends and how they might converge.

- School leaders need to understand that since risk taking is an inevitable part of any technology planning process, building shared understanding of trends and emerging issues is essential.

Questions for reflection and discussion

- What kinds of conversations should school leaders be engaging in as they think about technological change?
- Who do school leaders need to talk to in order to make more informed decisions about technologies for learning?
- How can school leaders share their vision for the future in terms of technological change with parents and other community members? What are the challenges and risks in doing this?
- What examples of convergence of trends have you seen in the last decade? How did they impact education?
- What emerging issues might have an impact on technologies and schools? How can school leaders use their understanding of what may happen in the future, to make good decisions for today?

Link to the *Learning and Technology Policy Framework*

Policy Direction 4: Leadership

http://education.alberta.ca/admin/technology/policyframework/policy4.aspx

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