Sudbury Catholic District School Board: 2015 - 2016

Project Title	Creating a Culture of Collaboration
Description	The Sudbury Catholic District School Board will be enhancing and deepening colleague- colleague, teacher-student and student-student collaboration using technology by providing all stakeholders with access to collaborative technological tools (Microsoft Office365) in tandem with the transformation of Secondary School Libraries into Learning Commons to allow for equitable access to a variety of technological devices and tools by students.
	This research initiative is seeking to improve collaboration amongst and between administrators, educators, support staff and students through the use of digital tools (Microsoft Office 365) as well as a variety of technologies (iPads and Lenovo Laptops in the Learning Commons).
Context	*Number of students:* 300
	Number of teachers: 365
	Number of schools: 7
	Grades/Program: JK-12
Impact on Students	We have started to see an impact on student engagement and learning through this project, however it is not the focus for our project. Our focus has been the roll out of the O365 tools for teachers; however, we are ABLE to report that all students grade 7-12 have now been issued their own email address and teachers are beginning to use the O365 tools with students. Elementary students will be set up with accounts by the end of the year, so that teachers can begin using the O365 tools with students in September (2016).
	We have also included a question on our end of year survey asking about the perception of the impact on student learning and engagement. The survey revealed that 6% indicated a very positive impact, 24% some positive impact, 16% little impact and 24% no impact. This indicates that there may be a need for some additional focused professional development on how the O365 tools can be used to increase the collaboration and communication between learning partnerships.
Impact on Instruction	Teachers have become much more familiar with the O365 tools with a trend towards using cloud based storage. Approximately 25% more teachers have attempted to use one drive when compared to the survey from the year before. We have also seen a spike in teachers using One Note or One Noteclass Notebook. 24% more people are familiar with the tool this year when compared to last year.
	There has not be a significant increase in the number of teachers who are making use of the Sharepoint sites for communication between colleagues. Last year there were approximately 60% of people who had never accessed a Sharepoint

	School Staff Site. This year there were still 56% of staff who had never accessed a Sharepoint School Staff Site. Part of the issue is that we have had difficulty setting up all of the staff sites.
	Last year only 14% of respondents indicated that they had used a shared document to collaborate with colleagues. This year that number has risen to 31%.
	Teachers have slowly begun to use some of the O365 tools to collaborate and communicate with their colleagues electronically. This shift towards electronic communication has already started and the hope is that it will begin to translate to an increase in electronic communication not only between teachers but between teachers and students and between students.
Impact on System	SCDSB began by providing 'early adopters' with training in O365 to begin capacity in early 2015 by bringing in out-of-board experts to conduct training. SCDSB next created a Steering Committee/Training Team. Two members of the Steering/Training Committee were trained as Microsoft Innovative Educators and Expert Trainers (capacity building). The Steering Committee held a variety of training sessions and support materials to groups of teachers and support staff. The Steering Committee/Training Team continues to work with classroom teachers and students and staff to build capacity in the use of O365 for instruction, assessment and learning using a variety of O365 tools. At the end of the 2015-2016 school year two Technology Integration Teachers were hired (one at secondary and one at elementary). Their job was to provide any technology related professional development requested.
	The TLF Project is directly tied to the Board's Technology Goal: "To increase student engagement and achievement by providing more opportunities to demonstrate knowledge, skill and understanding through the use of technology." Microsoft Office 365 provides students with increased equitable access to a variety of learning and productivity tools that will provide more opportunities for student to demonstrate knowledge and skills, and to collaborate with their peers and teachers, and to receive feedback from their teachers in new ways.