

K12 Advisory Group Meeting

Teleconference Monday, September 29, 2014

Teleconference Notes

1. Introduce our newest member – Angela Stegall – replacing Ty Burns and Ann Vyoral
 - a. Angela has another commitment today, but she might be able to pop in for a few minutes. She comes highly recommended by Ann Vyoral, who is now presenting TexQuest for ESC20. TSLAC is committed to making sure our K12 Advisory Group continues to represent district size and geographic diversity.
2. Review and discuss ESC20's Quarterly Report:
 - a. This report is expanded beyond just the numbers for a fuller picture. Challenge now is reaching out to smaller ISDs and charter schools, the map on the TQ website shows districts that are and are not signed up, and is very up-to-date. We have seen quite a variety in signup rates across ESC regions. Region 8 for example, is 100% signed up because the ESC will be paying for every district in that region. We need to focus on regions 17, 16, and 14. The reported calls and email numbers can be low – replies and back-and-forth communication is not included. The program website shows high activity in August, once school went back into session. Usage stats are and will continue to be reported by individual database. ESC20, Gale, and Len have been very busy with training since program launch, and we have worked on collaboration between Gale, Region 20, and TSLAC (Len) to make sure we reach as widely as possible and avoid duplicating effort. So far, there has been one Gale webinar. Region 20 has created and provided toolkits, linked under training on the TQ website. Many of the email and phone call questions for the help desk were routine in nature. Upcoming events on the last section of the report as well as recommendations.
3. Review and discuss outreach and training activities to date.
 - a. Suggestions for reaching the smaller districts? Make sure we are not overlapping, coordinate who we are contacting – perhaps a document? Maybe a Google Doc? **Len will start one and share with all group members** – record on the document who did we speak to/email at each district. Can Susanna add what ESCs are doing to reach their districts? Some have not returned calls, so it is hit and miss. The next step is to share through ESC contacts. Members definitely want to help – assign an area for each member? Len will work on that document of need – will include everyone and include ESC region. Look @ calendar and recommend a training session for ESC contacts so they can train too. Focus on charter schools, perhaps contacting a principal. Len has contacted state charter school association and will continue to do so. Written version of what districts agree to via the commitment system for advisory group members. Include a notes field for us to keep track of how we got in contact, etc. **Region 20 will share this document with ESC contacts so we can coordinate ALL program outreach.**
4. Review and discuss TexQuest collection development policy.
 - a. It is a good idea to have something in writing. May be used to supplement instead of should be used to supplement. Keep terminology consistent – use “digital resources” consistently throughout. Please continue to go over the document and email comments this week; **Len will send out final version on Friday, October 3 for all members.**
5. Discuss priorities for future program purchases.
 - a. Process for determining priorities – we will need to go out for bid; we have a survey from last fall that we can use. Both broad areas of need and how to best determine priorities. One recommendation is to look at things that might be more for elementary students. School initiatives focus on digital resources for younger students, while the industry tends to focus on older students. Differentiation can be reached with younger resources. Britannica will likely help when it comes on board. Bids will be by category; will need to write in specs for different grade levels. TSLAC already does this, but it is good to keep in mind. Would another survey be helpful? The recommendation is yes, but in December or January so users can be more familiar with what we already have. **Len will re-send summary report from last time.** Look beyond traditional library walls? What other services could we provide to relieve areas of pressure? STEM objectives, CATE, make sure access is available for students @ home.

We wrapped up by thanking everyone (Advisory Group, ESC20, TSLAC staff) for their hard work on this project.