



News Release

Contact: Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, (517) 241-4395

Flanagan To Lead the Discussion on Technology in Education with a Public Facebook Webpage

MAY 14, 2013

LANSING – State Superintendent Mike Flanagan opened his Education Technology Work Group to the public today.

Flanagan was invited by Governor Rick Snyder to lead a transparent and inclusive discussion to integrate technology into Michigan’s system of education for today and into the future.

The Michigan Department of Education has developed a new Facebook page for this discussion: www.facebook.com/EdTechWG.

By “Liking” this Facebook page, the public will be able to follow and participate in the Work Group discussion.

This Work Group is transparent to the extent that it’s going “out to the world” to see what is going on out there technology-wise, according to Flanagan.

“I didn’t want to limit the Work Group to just the usual stakeholders,” Flanagan said. “You don’t have to be an educator to be involved. We want to hear from educators, but we also want to hear from the general public – from parents and students, and also employers; early childhood providers; college instructors; those in the foundation community; education advocates and reformers; and technology experts.”

This will be an evolving discussion that begins with a simple survey that individuals can access from the Facebook page. It will help lead a public dialogue on effective and innovative ways to integrate technology to improve learning and outcomes for Michigan students.

Flanagan said that this online public Work Group is groundbreaking in helping discuss and inform education policy and encourages everyone to feel free to speak up and weigh in on the postings to the Facebook page.

The online survey will help Flanagan better understand what is being done now with education technology and what is seen as needs for the future.

Watch Superintendent Flanagan's video here: http://youtu.be/B2_j6JEuuGQ

To access the EdTechWG survey, go here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QJK77PM>

People also can follow the Work Group on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/EdTechWG>

#