**Part 2: Professional Development**

**What should the professional development look like in your building?**

Our ed tech has already set up a regular professional development for technology called “Tech Tuesdays.” I think that this is a great format, and I wouldn’t really change it at all! The teachers all know what to expect and are used to it being on Tuesdays. I like that there are various topics and they are often applicable to specific issues that our school is facing. If there is anything that I would change, it would be creating smaller learning groups, more adapted to grade levels. If the 4 of us from class, and Camille (our ed tech) all had a small break out group, I think we could avoid a lot of the wasted time we get from having to go so slow to help so many teachers keep up.

**What type of professional development will you be comfortable leading?**

I think that I could be comfortable leading most technology types of professional development. I have learned a great deal about technologies over the past year, and I think that I in turn could teach them. I definitely don’t claim to know everything, and I know that there would be many topics that I would have to research before teaching, but I feel confident in my ability to learn new technologies. I would be much more comfortable in teaching to the lower elementary grade teachers. I understand the needs of these students, and I am able to better apply the technologies to teaching in those grades.

**In what areas will you need help?**

As far as other areas for professional development I wouldn’t be as comfortable. I think that technology comes easily to me, partly because I have grown up with it so much. But in areas such as reading, math, or classroom management I feel like there are other teachers who have a lot more to offer than I do. I also would not feel that I had a lot to contribute to teaching older grade teachers. I don’t teach older grades, and I never have. I have seen a similar problem in our endorsement class. It’s one thing to be able to teach about a technology, but it’s very different to really help a teacher to integrate it in their classrooms in a meaningful way when they don’t understand the dynamics of the age group. I do believe that technologies can be adapted to the majority of age groups, but it would be more helpful if the teachers were able to give specific ideas and tips as to how this could be accomplished.

**What types of informal Professional Development do you believe would help your staff?**

I think that our school would really appreciate learning about different technologies that would save them time rather than adding on to the stress. It feels like lately all of our professional developments are more things that the district is requiring us to do. There are many technologies out there that could make life much easier and not so stressful. I think that the only worry I would have is that it’s so difficult for so many of our older teachers to catch on to new technologies, that they end up just adding to the stress rather than relieving it. I could see changing this by doing smaller group professional development sessions. There are 4 of us from our school in this class. I think that if we were to split the classes and teach in a more one on one setting we might be able to make more progress!

**What is your plan for continued professional development and lifelong learning?**

I think that as teachers we have to always be willing to learn. Our jobs are ever changing, because the kids are ever changing. Luckily we have a district and a school that are consistently offering us opportunities to continue our education. I will continue to attend these types of training. I would also like to get a masters degree at some point in the future as well.