**Additional Qs on Educational Technology and responses from Dr. Amy Jackson**

**January 2023**

Is the ed tech research and selection process that you oversee separate from questions about student access to school tech?

**[I]t seems that this might be more a question about hardware and internet security…. that is an Information Services question… Dr. Sarah Johnson  (**[**sarah.johnson2@apsva.us**](mailto:sarah.johnson2@apsva.us)**) is the individual that provides answers to community questions regarding Information Services.**

Are students involved in the initial vetting process for new resources/apps? Do you get feedback from them during the annual review process? Is it the same for elementary and secondary?

**It has not been something that was previously done, the vetting process is evolving and I know that there has been discussion about having various stakeholders in the final review process. We are getting new software that allows us to capture feedback from teachers about the products they use which will assist in looking at the Return on Investment of the product.**

**Currently students have access to the APP catalog where they can provide feedback, although historically it hasn’t been widely used by students.**

What you have discussed seems more focused on digital software tools that would be available for students and teachers, but what about hardware (assistive technologies for special needs children)?  Is that part of Ed Tech or is that handled elsewhere?

**Our Assistive Technology department handles all hardware and software related to Assistive Technology, I support on the application/software side as part of the vetting process. Many times because Office of EdTech is looking at UDL practices of our applications, many of them already have tools and supports that benefit students who utilize Assistive Technology devices and tools.**

How much of the content program (program of studies) is given to digital technology to address. I.e., if it were broken down to a percentage, is there a statistic or number that suggests the program of studies is met by using ~30% digital technology?

**With this being the 2nd year of implementation of this office, we are still looking at how we fully implement the VDOE and ISTE Standards. Each of the Content Offices has an ITC EdTech Liaison that works with them to look at the digital technology being used in their content. Thankfully with VDOE creating the Digital Integration Standards as well as the Computer Science Standards, we have a very good blueprint on how to incorporate digital technology into all curriculum. This is done in conjunction with the content SOL because we always want to make sure that we are using the right tool at the right time.  (**[**Digital Learning Integration Site for VDOE**](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/k-12-standards-instruction/digital-learning-integration-standards-of-learning)**)**