AESD Computer Science Leadership Network Update

Completion of the 2018-2019 AESD Grant Goals:
(1) Provided three statewide convenings and numerous virtual meetings as regional AESD Computer Science (CS) leaders with the support of OSPI to discuss regional and statewide efforts/partnerships and how best to form a "CS leadership" PLC within our respective regions. In preparation for these meetings, we shared experiences and training, some work is presumed to be done by the Agency. We shared/developed outcomes and best practices to help coordinate and plan in our regions. The AESD CS leaders received training around SCRIPT(Strategic CSforALL Resource & Implementation Planning Tool), in order to support CS implementations, each region can now offer this opportunity to districts. As the Computer Science Leadership Team, we have supported each other as the work has continued to gain momentum, collaborating across the network to increase capacity, and have experienced professional growth within Computer Science.

(2) In the regional ESD CS "leadership meetings" or PLCs we have brought together leaders in our regional PLCs to share current practices, programs and needs, while drawing together partners and vendors as resources for these teams. This included:
- a specialized focus around Computational Thinking
- growing Computer Science Leadership practices
- State of Computer Science Education Updates
- using SCRIPT to set our vision and create communication opportunities
- integrating a virtual book study
- supporting growth in leader's Computer Science integration understanding and implementation
- creating a communication platform for our CS leadership network through Workplace
- establishing a statewide network of support for our CS Leaders outside of our PLC dates

(3) Developed a cohesive program evaluation using a variety of data collection tools that will be used for CS and Computational Thinking professional learning opportunities.

(4) Continued support with current CS partnerships as well as expanding opportunities to create new partnerships.

(5) Reviewed CS grant awards in our regions and found ways to support/expand their work.

(6) Set a priority focus around K-5 integration of Computer Science and Computational Thinking.

April 30th CS Leads Meeting Highlights:
The Regional Computer Science Leads, have met and exceeded all goals of our grant through successful implementation statewide as well as regionally, our data supports these conclusions. There is a collective desire to grow our Washington State Computer Science Leadership Networks, having grown as a network we are looking forward to a joint effort for 2019-2020. The Intentional focus will be on collaboration statewide, supporting the development of the Statewide Strategic Plan, defining Computer Science Education for HB 5088 and HB 1577, growing our CS Education Leadership Networks, supporting school districts' strategic planning and implementation of CS, and developing inclusive SMART Goals for continued success and growth Statewide.

To see current growth from the 2018-2019 Grant work, it is inspiring for us to look at the progress of our participants by reviewing their response padlets created during each meeting:
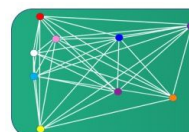Meeting 1: https://tinyurl.com/WACSPadlet
Meeting 2: https://tinyurl.com/WACSPadlet2
Meeting 3: https://tinyurl.com/CSLeadershipPadlet3
(Note: additional data and grant success will be seen in our final report being developed)

<u>The State of Computer Science and its Impacts on Our Work:</u>
Washington State's Operating Budget has provided grant funding of $1,000,000/year to support Computer Science Implementation for the upcoming next two years. There are three bills that impact our Computer Science work, SHB 1577, SB 5088, and E2SHB 1599.

SHB 1577: The state would have a better understanding of the demographics of students enrolled in computer science courses, qualifications of teachers leading computer science courses, and schools where computer science is taught.
NEW data collection for schools and districts June 30, 2020
1. Define computer science courses
2. Establish processes to collect the new data

SB 5088: Emphasizes the importance of computer science in preparing students for an emerging field and evolving workforce. The implementation dates would give districts time to train teachers, coordinate with a provider, or otherwise find a resource for offering a computer science course in each high school.
NEW course requirement for high schools and districts
1. Provide information on course options/teacher training
2. Opportunity for SCRIPT training
3. Develop a review process for exams to ensure its alignment with the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics and course equivalency requirements.

E2SHB 1599: School districts are encouraged to make all graduation pathway options available to their students, and to expand their list of options until all are offered, but districts are granted discretion in determining which options they offer to students.
In addition, the SBE is directed to <u>adopt rules to implement the graduation pathway options</u>.
**The pathways provided in the bill will not be accessible for fall students.
**Until full funding is provided to all students in the state, access to some pathways (such as CTE) will be limited.

The AESD Computer Science Leadership Team is planning on supporting OSPI and Districts with the impacts of these bills.