

Greater Arizona eLearning Association
AZBSN Arizona Broadband
 Stakeholder Network
 Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council

COVID- 19 Digital Access Task Force
 Meeting April 20, 2020



AZBSN

April 20 Task Force Agenda

- Introductions
- Thank Cory Ter Eick MSS and Terence Ford Insight
- Purpose Of Meeting; Begin the process of mobilizing the Subcommittees
- Federal and State Updates
- Purpose of Task Force & Digital Access
- Charge To Teams
- Survey and Champions
- Anecdotal vs. Data Driven Planning
- Timeline – 30, 60 and 90 days
- Engagement with others-newsletter, webinars, invites to participate in Task Force & Subcommittees - Online sign-up and input
- **Mobilizing The Subcommittee Teams – Cory and Terence**



What's The Problem

The COVID-19 pandemic is creating the **largest telecommunity of all time** requiring unrepresented demand for Digital Access/Digital Inclusion for all Arizona communities, including tribal, rural and other underserved communities and low-income neighborhoods, to support education, health care, economic development, public services, etc.



Digital Access/Digital Inclusion

Digital access is more than just access to fast affordable and reliable Broadband Internet access.

Everyone, especially students, also require access to:

- Technology such as computers, laptops, smart phones and other digital equipment such as routers, wireless hotspots, and web cams
- Digital content resources
- Skills to use technology effectively



About the COVID -19 Task Force

AZBSN, led by ATIC and GAZEL, in cooperation with many other stakeholder organizations, is facilitating the development of the COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force.

Task Force representation includes:

- State and local government officials
- Public policy makers
- Rural community leaders
- Economic development
- Education and libraries
- Local and state government
- Health services
- Public safety
- Telecommunications, technology and consulting companies
- More



COVID -19 Task Force

The Task Force will:

1. Facilitate collaboration, coordination, information sharing and communication among key public, private and nonprofit stakeholders
2. Collaborate on priority initiatives for schools, libraries, telemedicine, communities, and more
3. Develop a statewide COVID-19 digital access strategy to support, schools, universities, community colleges, students, homes, libraries, health care facilities, businesses and communities
4. Identify and advocate for funding and resources to enable implementation of COVID-19 Digital Access Projects



Task Force Activities

- Regular Task Force informational, coordinating and planning meetings
- Task Force Subcommittees including Education, Libraries, Technology, Communities, and Funding/Resources
- Regular Community, Stakeholder, and Citizen Communications by newsletters, webinars, web site, informational meetings, social media, etc.
- Service Provider Resources with Arizona Contacts
- Federal and State Digital Access Briefings
- Short Term Initiatives
- Online Database: Resources, Needs, Contacts, etc.



Task Force Activities

- Collaboration Platform
- A State plan defining short term plans and priorities that will identify challenges, barriers and recommendations related to key issues including Education, Libraries, Telemedicine, Technology, Communities, and Funding and Resources
- Digital Access Task Force Web Pages, with links to and from the Arizona Commerce Authority and other sites providing related information
- Statewide Webinars and stakeholder informational meetings
- AZBSN Newsletters to all relevant stakeholders in Arizona
- Social Media Announcements



Charge To Teams - Questions

1. What do you perceive are the major Digital Access/Digital Inclusion needs such as Internet access and devices, as well as training, funding and technical support. What are the issues/barriers?
2. What specific strategies, initiatives, resources, partnerships, technologies or opportunities can we recommend to help address these needs. If we can determine it, what specific funding do we need?
3. Who else needs to be involved in your Subcommittee?
4. Other Questions?



Education Team

Education Team Questions

- What are the Digital Access/Digital Inclusion needs such as Internet access, devices and other technology, as well as training, funding and technical support are needed for public and private K-12 schools, community colleges, universities, students, families, faculty?
- What are the barriers?
- What specific strategies, initiatives, resources, partnerships, technologies or opportunities can we recommend/initiate to help address these needs?
- What information or data do you need?

Libraries Team Questions

- **Libraries:** What are the Digital Access/Digital Inclusion needs such as Internet access and devices, as well as training, funding and technical support to enable access and support for libraries, library patrons and the community?
- What are the barriers?
- What specific strategies, initiatives, resources, partnerships, technologies or opportunities can we recommend/initiate to help address these needs?
- What information or data do you need?

Communities Team Questions

- What are the Digital Access/Digital Inclusion needs such as Internet access and devices, as well as training and funding to support community needs such as small business owners and employees, economic development, government services, public safety, nonprofit organizations, etc?
- What are the barriers?
- What specific strategies, initiatives, resources, partnerships, technologies or opportunities can we recommend/initiate to help address these needs?
- What information or data do you need?

Funding/Resources Team Questions(changed from Service Providers):

- What funding and resources opportunities are there such as:
 - Federal, state and local funding
 - Foundations
 - Technology donation campaigns
 - Volunteer support
 - Refurbished equipment
 - Funding, technology, tech support donations
- What information or data do you need?

Technologies Team Questions(changed from Service Providers):

- What Digital Access/Digital Inclusion technologies should be considered to provide Internet access to schools, libraries, families and communities such as wire line, satellite, mesh networks, cellular microwave, WiFi on buses, open schools and libraries Erate networks.
- What kinds of devices are needed and should be considered such as computers and tablets, cell phones, hot spots, web cams, software, conferencing services?
- What information or data do you need?

Anecdotal vs Data Driven Planning

We really need to be pragmatic about our expectations regarding timelines, Task Force process and recommendations.

I am not sure that we have a lot of data available at this point, so a lot of our recommendations will be made based upon anecdotal info rather than data driven.

Not ideal, but where we are in the state and what we have today.

Other Items

- Survey and Champions
- Anecdotal Vs Data Driven Planning
- Timeline – 30, 60 and 90 days
- Engagement with others-newsletter, webinar, invites to participate in Task Force & Subcommittees - Online sign-up and input



Mobilizing The Teams

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Contact

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