Unit 4 - Pedagogy Strand

Living with Standards & Developing your own PLNs
This pedagogy module will share some tips and tricks for mapping classroom activities to existing standards as well as growing your own Personal Learning Network (PLN). Participants will assess existing materials and begin to construct their own PLN.

This unit will link to more resources and readings than previous units to demonstrate and encourage the use of PLNs. Try not to just read the webpage we link to, but explore the entire site. Blog about your findings. Test out hashtagging on Twitter.

Learning Goals
After completing this module, you will be able to:
● Identify national and/or state Standards that are important in your own teaching environment
● Evaluate which lessons map to these standards
● Identify key people, organizations, leaders, blogs to be incorporated into their own PLN

Standards (CSTA & College Board Computer Science Principles)
Last unit, we discussed how the ISTE Teacher Standards emphasizes the presence of digital age technologies in the classroom and the role of the teacher as a model of a life-long learner. Below are links to more computer science specific standards. We encourage all participants to engage in active reflection on whether each set of standards are appropriate for their classrooms, its pros and cons and how they should be applied.

The Computer Science Teachers Association has [a set of standards that are mapped to the Common Core State Standards](#).

College Board plans on launching a new course, [AP Computer Science Principles (CSP)](#), in fall 2016 - but [resources from the pilot projects being run right now are available](#) (Pay special attention to the [Draft Curriculum Framework](#).

Personal Learning Networks (PLNs)
A personal learning networks is a collection of people with whom you engage and exchange information informally. Traditionally, PLNs consisted of family, friends and colleagues, but social media has flattened the world, removing limitations on who you can interact with. With less and less time to interact with peers in the school (in many schools, at least), PLNs can span the globe, taking advantage of resources online and offline as well as inside and outside of schools.

PLNs are not just a list of people who serve as resources, but also a set of resources that connect you with others.

Reesources

1. [The Common Core: The Good, the Bad, the Possible](#)
   - Using this article as a starting point, use your PLN to discover and build your own opinion regarding the common core and its ties to computational thinking
2. [The Social Media Guide to Growing Your Personal Learning Network](#)
   - A compilation of over 30 different tips, ideas, resources and social media tools to increase your personal learning network through social media
3. [Personal Learning Networks for Educators](#)
   - Youtube video on the purpose of PLNs for educators and examples of which resources serve which specific purposes.
   - Note: Google Wave has been shut down
4. [Creating a PLN](#)
   - A step-by-step guide to building your PLN. Each step introduces how to use a specific social media type.
5. [Profiles of Teachers Who Blog and Twitter](#)
6. Educational "Tweet-ups": http://bit.ly/officialchatlist

Reflection Questions
1. Are the Common Core Standards required or going to be required in your school? Think about how your current lessons are or could be mapped to these new standards.
2. Construct a visual representation of your own PLN.
3. Pick one Tweet-up from resource #6 above, follow along with it, and join in the discussion if you feel comfortable doing so.

Additional Issues to consider:
1. Are standards mappings useful for your lesson plans? Why or why not?