Digital Learning in North Carolina

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Digital Learning: Core Values

- Access to “sound basic education”
- Equity—“All students means all students”
- Digital literacy is a common good
- Readily transparent
Digital Learning: Core Values

• Fiscal Responsibility
  – Digital learning should be cheaper or add value
  – Cost of reproducing taxpayer-funded materials is near-zero
  – Efficiency can spur innovation
North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)

• Founded 2006
• Launched 2007
• Program Consolidation
• Now serving 22,000+ unique students (nearly 50,000 enrollments)
North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)

- All students means *all* students: AP, traditional, credit recovery, exceptional children
- 115 courses, with more in development
- All core areas, many electives
North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)

- Rapid scale-up
- Difficult to maintain
North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)

Future directions:

• Sharing content
• Student life
Digital Learning Now: Successes

• Strong State Virtual School
• Access to Multiple Providers
• Wide Access to Digital Content
• Quality Standards
Digital Learning Now: Progress

**Many efforts recommended are underway, but are not legislated.**

- Training and professional development
- Funding for completion
Digital Learning Now: Progress

• Approvals, appeals, and access
• Resource-level alignment (RttT)
• Mastery-based learning discussions
• Infrastructure and devices
Digital Learning Now: “It’s Complicated”

- Funding issues
- Caps on enrollment
- Equitable per-pupil distribution
Digital Learning Now: Areas of Concern

- Full-time virtual for elementary
- Graduation requirement
- Some issues aren’t digital
- DLN doesn’t address “churn”
- DLN doesn’t address differentiation
Digital Learning Now:
Areas of Concern

• What would a full-time virtual school offer that NCVPS doesn’t?
Digital Learning Now: “Low-Hanging Fruit”

• Increased access for middle school
  – Develop core middle school courses for 2013-2014 launch
  – Develop electives for 2014-2015 launch

• Stable, simple funding
Digital Learning Now: “Low-Hanging Fruit”

- Additional services from NCVPS
  - School counselors
  - Media services
  - Socialization and citizenship opportunities

- Digital textbook investments