**FHS STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – TECHNOLOGY – 3/28/14**

1. Please describe how and where you typically use technology at school.

* CAD
* 3D printer
* Smart board – makes things easy
* Edmodo
* PowerSchool on phones as apps
* Media Center computers used for typing papers; printing in the media center; would like more flexible opportunities throughout the high school environment for printing but it’s OK as is

1. Within the context of your schoolwork, are there any technology tools or skills that you would like to have? What would these tools or skills allow you to do . . . or do better?

* i.e. AP US History and other classes that require lots of notes – “If we could type notes in class it would be easier and more efficient than handwriting notes”
* ½ of group does BYOD; other half not yet
* If we could move to a 1 to 1 environment: majority of group prefers same device; for consistency etc. “We would rather all have the same thing if it could be provided.”

1. What role does technology play in helping you learn the material taught in class?

* Tech is added to what the teacher offers – “Classes should not depend on technology.”
* “Teacher 1st”; technology assists the learning
* PowerPoint is very helpful
* Depends on class; some use more technology and others less
* Recent power outage in school: “Some teachers were fine w/o power; some were not fine”; dependence on technology can sometimes be a problem
* Learn visually and through the Internet; access through technology can help explain things (concepts) in a different way - helpful
* “When you miss school, technology helps you access what you missed”; i.e. Edmodo etc.

1. Please describe the role – if any – that technology plays in your work with other students.

* Group projects if we can meet – Edmodo – Facetime - Skype
* “Hard to crowd around a computer”
* It would help if kids could revisit and work on assignments via online methods; also to gather info for group projects and/or creative projects
* Video project – virtual space

1. What do you think it means to be media literate? How does FPS ensure that students develop media literacy?

* “In’s and out’s of use of tech” have been taught
* “We learned a lot about how to use the computer and programs in 5th and 6th, then it drops off a bit in 7th and 8th.” More on your own after that. Can be even more difference in skill levels of students after grade 6 since they haven’t had the same exposure/instruction
* Continue typing and use of PPT, Word, Excel (optional continuation of direct instruction “for those who think they need it, or want it… or for the rest of us, option to test out”)
* “Good site vs. not good sites.” Re: reliable info; evaluating material, etc.

1. What does digital citizenship mean to you? To what extent have your teachers addressed digital citizenship and ethical use of online resources?

* Talk about it in most classes
* Recent guest speaker (Katie Greer) was great – online sites; social media sites; good information
* Digital citizenship is addressed to their satisfaction – no other suggestions

1. Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience with technology in Foxborough Public Schools?

* Different versions of Word not compatible (i.e. Office 2007 to Office 2010; things they create at home are not compatible at school); student perception that our most recent upgrade caused problems for them in terms of compatibility *[Question: Have students been shown how to convert?]*
* Backpack on Edmodo – helpful sharing; but students can’t edit or co-write/co-construct

Office 365 – student school email – YES!