

- Trisha Dellis (T), Acting Superintendent and Colin Matheson (C) Ed Tech Instructional Coach

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T: Good

C: All righty

T: He's getting a haircut tomorrow, we were just sharing our COVID stories and how we have been locked in our houses as we now mask up as appropriate as we are out talking together. We are outside so we've got the fresh air going but we did want to say hi to you. I'm Trisha Dellis, Acting Superintendent and this is Colin Matheson; what is your official title?

C: So, well I call it the ed tech instructional coach

T: Nice and long, and beefy

C: Yes

T: So with that, Colin is doing this in our public space today to let everyone know about what's going on with all the excitement with Professional Development that's been happening this week in Carmel Unified and so I'm going to hand it over to him to explain some of that.

C: Yeah, we had a really, really great Summer Institute. It's a tradition at Carmel Unified that people will do some extra work and training after school gets out but this year, obviously, was unique and we had the highest turnout we've ever had in like twelve years during the Summer Institute. About 120 teachers and staff members on the first day and had 100 on the second day and the amount of learning and collaboration and the conversations, sharing of tools and practices was really, really exciting.

T: So cool to hear. I heard so much positive feedback. People have been reaching out by email and phone calling just saying that it went really well. People were able to collaborate in groups and kind of team dialog. Can you talk about that?

C: Yeah, I mean there's already really exciting talk from different groups of people about how to coordinate their work and make it more efficient and have better quality instruction all around.

T: Nice. You were mentioning that talk about platforms and those kinds of things. Can you sort of break that down for us people that are not tech savvy?

C: Definitely. So one thing that we have agreed upon is that every teacher that trains in a Google Classroom, which is a communication kind of central hub platform and, that's going to be the jumping off point for everyone, K-12. My mask is falling.

T: Okay.

C. There we go.

C: That's right. So, from that central spot, any parent, any child, no matter what grade level, will start from there and then will be able to find information, agenda, links and assignments all in the same place.

T: Nice

C: Yeah

T: So, a little bit more user friendly for parents as they go forward into next school year.

C: Yes

T: Obviously, we don't know how, well, we will be re-opening yet. We are sort of, you know, reading all the documents right now and hearing if there's going to be a lot, um, sort of structures in place that we have to follow and we're calling this a sort of hybrid model because we are going to be in the building and out of the building and that sort of thing. Can you explain how this training is going to sort of, you know, make that happen in an easier way?

C: Yeah. What we really want to emphasize is that since we don't know the model, we want to make sure that we are training our teachers for, to be as great at distance learning as possible and, those tools will support any classroom activity and distance activity (not audible).

T: Nice

C: Fixing mask

T: I know, the masks are really problematic. Okay, anything else that our families should know and our staff should know since this is going out to the whole district? So, anything else from your world of, you know, curriculum and technology that you can sort of share?

C: Just that it was just the big message from all the teachers was about a sense of a collective effort around next year. There was a really coming together in this district that was really inspiring for me so I think it's going to continue and we are going to see ...we already have such great teachers and now they're even, you know, thinking more about the whole collective experience of the district in a way they haven't before and that's really exciting.

T: Very good. Love to hear it. Super thankful to the team, your whole team. There are a lot of you involved. A lot of commitment on how to have this really high quality of experience. I've heard you're the leader of that and you did a lot of research around it so, we really appreciate your efforts.

C: Well, luckily yeah, as the team is so good, a lot of my work is making sure they can do their job.

T: haha, got it

T: Okay, thank you so much and Carmel Unified, we are doing this weekly so keep a look out for us on Fridays. We'll be keeping you updated as to what is going on behind the scenes as we go through the summer.

T + C: "Waves"

T: See you soon.