Executive Summary
Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting
October 22, 2013

Discussion of the GO! Initiative

Board Goal:
- I. remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus
- II. stay abreast of and incorporate best practices into teaching, learning, technology and leadership
- II. actively pursue, foster, and support an advanced digital learning environment

Purpose of Report
- The purpose of this workshop is to update the Board regarding new tools that the Instructional Technology department and Technology Division have implemented for staff and students. The "GO!" initiative is a simple acronym for our implementation of Google Apps for Education and Microsoft's Office365. Additionally, the pairing of the G and O, which leads to the verb GO, emphasizes the action and engagement we desire to see in our staff and students. With these cloud-based tools, we can "GO!" anywhere, do anything, and collaborate with anyone at any time.

Objectives
- To provide Denton ISD students with a simple and powerful email platform
- To provide Denton ISD students and staff with cloud-based storage (30GB for Google/25GB for Office365) to facilitate cumulative electronic portfolios
- To provide Denton ISD students and staff with cloud-based collaborative tools and spaces for learning
- To facilitate engagement and collaboration between students and teachers across multiple domains

Operational Impact
- These tools are available to students and staff at no cost
- Any funding needed in the provisioning and/or migration process was procured from outside sources
- Instructional Technology personnel is responsible for training staff and students on use of these tools and the management of them (it is important to note that with the ongoing implementation of technology tools such as these, coupled with our growing numbers of students, staff, and campuses, we must continue to evaluate the amount of instructional technology professionals that are needed and commit to adequately staffing ourselves with these experts, especially at the elementary level)

Results
As a result of the implementation of the GO! initiative:
- Denton ISD students will have a powerful and easy to use cloud-based tool for email and productivity tasks (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc…)
- Denton ISD students will have a total of 55GB of online storage; ample space suitable for electronic portfolios and other educationally related artifacts
- Our students will be better prepared for college and the 21st century workplace
- All staff and students will have access to these tools, better enabling them to "engage" with each other and equipping them to "positively impact their local and global community"

In preparation for this presentation, please view the following videos and resources: http://blnds.co/1aNKorH