The Learning Commons

Supporting the Contemporary Learner with a Modern Library

Highlights

- Develop a roadmap to transform your current libraries to a modern Learning Commons landscape

- Increase user buy-in through a comprehensive communication plan

- Leverage IBM K-12 extensive expertise to achieve desired results in a manageable timeframe

The library plays a vital role in the school, an ever-changing role based on the emergence of new technologies. Historically, the library has been the centre for information gathering, but now needs to transition to both a physical and virtual library that can facilitate an open learning space.

With the increase in digital resources and the pervasiveness of the internet and mobile devices, districts understand that the structure and role of the library needs to be updated to capitalize on these changes, to better enable both teaching and learning.

Furniture and devices ideally are mobile and able to be reconfigured to provide a just-in-time learning environment to facilitate the task(s) at hand. The ultimate goal in either the physical or virtual space is to enable collaboration. The culture of the library school staff needs to be transformed for this change to happen.
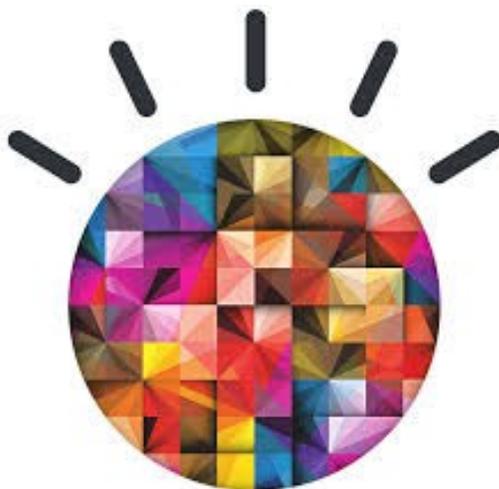
Proven Skills, Experienced Leadership

IBM K12 Education has extensive experience guiding districts to create this change in not only the physical and virtual spaces but also in the cultural shift required.

Solution Offering

The IBM K-12 Senior Consultant will project manage and participate in the following activities:

- Build a Learning Commons planning committee and co-create a vision / plan for the implementation of a Learning Commons in both secondary and elementary schools. This will include a vision for the physical, cultural and collaborative space (i.e. collaboration between teacher to teacher; teacher to student; and student to student)
- Work with the Learning Commons planning committee to create a best practice implementation plan for all schools to reform their libraries to the Learning Commons model

- Work with the Learning Commons planning committee to identify the devices and digital resources required to realize the vision
- Work with your IT department to order, develop the image and test these resources (both hardware and digital resources)
- Project manage the implementation of the Learning Commons plan in the identified schools
- Co-construct the professional learning strategy with the Learning Commons planning committee
- Deliver the in-classroom and on-site coaching and mentoring to the library staff in the identified schools
- Differentiate instruction based on each teacher's comfort with technology and collaborative teaching and learning
- Provide teachers with management procedures for the library's transition to the Learning Commons
- Assess the effectiveness of the new library model through observation, as well as staff, student and administrator surveys
- Provide a written assessment report

Typical Length of Engagement: 6 – 12 months elapsed time

Why IBM?

IBM understands that educational establishments need to work better, not harder, and to do this requires innovative approaches. Designing a vision for your Learning Commons and providing professional learning to get your staff to embrace and implement that vision, will move your libraries into the modern world. IBM consultants apply best practices in moving to a learning commons through positive and proactive insight into teaching and learning with technology.

For more information

To learn more about the IBM K-12 **Learning Commons Engagement**, please contact your IBM Marketing Representative.
For information on all the IBM K-12 Consulting and Professional Services, visit:
www.ibm.com/industries/education/canada-k-12-service-briefs