



# NEWSLETTER

## Digital Literacy in Education: The BIG WIN for Employment

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A Message from the Director General Rwanda Education Board, Nelson Mbraushimana

#### **66** Dear Collegues ,

We are approaching the end of the year which has been one of many improvements and a focus to improve our classrooms. We have distributed laptops to teachers and there will be more to come. But more importantly, we have been investing in you as teachers, who are at the forefront of the success of our education system that we are improving.

I am very happy that over 11.000 teachers have been onboarded on the Digital Skills Foundation platform and are undergoing their courses, myself included. It is encouraging to see that the teachers, who have obtained their certification already, did not stop there; On top of the 2 obligatory courses they also did the 2 optional courses on teacher wellness. Bravo. Well done.

For those who have not completed the courses, I insist that the 2 courses "Digital Competency Passport" as well as "Teachers Getting Started" are completed latest by the end of July. The platform is 0rated to ensure that you do not have extra costs to complete the program and it allows you to learn from anywhere at any time. Moreover, as you are preparing our young people for the next stage, they have the opportunity to complete the Digital Competency Passport. It is important that you support them and give them time to complete the courses, so they leave school with an internationally recognised certification giving them a better chance in their studies and professional life.

Dear colleagues, let's get to work and ensure that everyone makes the best use of this opportunity to change our education system. Thank you for your engagement and enjoy the learning.

### A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOOL MANAGERS

REB and RTB are organising sessions to gather all school managers involved in the enrolment of students to explain how the program works, and the importance of the program "the Big Win for Employment". The first session took place last Friday whereby over 60 school managers from REB came together to understand the importance of digital literacy, the onboarding on the platform and how they are able to motive and track the progress on all the learners. Think BIG, Accountability and Teamwork this is how we make an impact together!!!

**Thank you Headteachers and Head Trainers** for your enthusiasm and engagement to make a difference for your students.



Here are two activities you can do to boost engagement in the classroom. Have students take control of the classroom. Dedicate an hour a week to students teaching the class themselves. The students would rotate so that each gets a chance to participate. You could give them guidlines (e.g. a time in history, a law of physics, a person), or you can let them lead with their immagination.

Split the class into groups. Give them a time limit (10-15 minutes), and have each group come up with 5 unique facts about or interests of each student in the aforementioned group. Encourage them to think beyond the obvious and uncover interesting details about their peers. For example, hobbies, favorite books, unique talents, or personal experiences. Once the time is up, ask each group to share their lists with the rest of the class. Encourage them to take turns and share the facts they discovered about their group members.



**INSIGHTS FROM GEORGE K. WERNER,** Senior Education Advisor at Digital Skills Foundation and former Minister of Education in Liberia

Engagement and support from teachers, education administrators, and students is essential to successful completion of the digital literacy training. Students need guidance and support to navigate the course content successfully. Digital literacy skills can be challenging to grasp, especially for those who are not familiar with technology. In order to be successful, learners need to be encouraged, supported their by administrators. By working together, learners can acquire the necessary skills to navigate the digital landscape confidently and succeed in their academic and professional lives.

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#### CONTINUE TO LEARN FROM ANYWHERE **INVEST IN YOURSELF**

Digital Ambassadors working with the Ministry of ICT through RISA will be focussing together with the Ministry of Education to ensure that students and teachers will be able to complete the courses. The Government of Rwanda is engaged to ensure that everyone will have the possibility to finish the courses. DG REB has requested all the Head Teachers involved to complete their courses for Educational Leaders as well as the Digital Competency Passport to be finished by the end of September. Enjoy the learning journey!

Head Teacher Modeste NZEYIMANA of GS Kibyagira in Nyamagabe District has 85% completion rate on teacher's completion.

> Teachers like the courses and are motivated to finish the courses. The teachers did the work before they started the classes and during the CPD time. They work at their own pace and see the use of the program for their teaching. We had several projectors that were not used and since the course completion, they are in use. More impressive is the teachers using Google Forms to gather information.



Prompting a discussion on constructive feedback: Ask your students: "How does having choices in your learning experience impact your level of engagement and motivation?". Facilitate the conversation by actively listening to students' responses and asking follow-up questions to delve deeper into their perspectives. Let them feel heard and they will naturaly reciprocate.

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