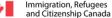
# CONNECTING THE DOTS BETWEEN DIGITAL LITERACY AND LINC LITERACY CLASSES

Diana Agudelo, Academic Director

Pathways to Prosperity Conference November 26th , 2024





Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

### **Treaty 6 Acknowledgment**

I acknowledge that I am on the traditional land of Treaty 6 and home of Métis Nation of Alberta Region 4. I would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestor's footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, such as the Nêhiyaw, Dené, Anishinaabe/ Saulteaux, Nakota Isga/Nakota Sioux, and Niitsitapi peoples.

I also acknowledge the Inuit, for whom Edmonton is the largest community south of the 60th parallel. This place has welcomed many peoples from around the world to make their home here and I am grateful to share this land.



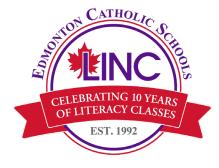
### **Goals For This Session**

Share ECSD LINC's experience with different digital literacy delivery modalities.

- 1. Provide an overview of ECSD LINC programming regarding the use of digital literacy among mainstream and literacy classes.
- 2. Explore the rationale behind offering specific digital literacy modalities with literacy classes, and examine the logistics involved at ECSD LINC.
- 3. Advocate for the selection and customization of literacyfriendly digital literacy modalities in LINC literacy classes.



# **Programming Overview**



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### ECSD LINC

- 94 staff who serve 1600 students per year
- CLB 1 4 & FdL 4L, full time
- CLB 1 5 & FdL 4L (citizenship), part time evening
- Literacy only classes since 2014
- 83% daytime literacy classes & 50% evening literacy classes





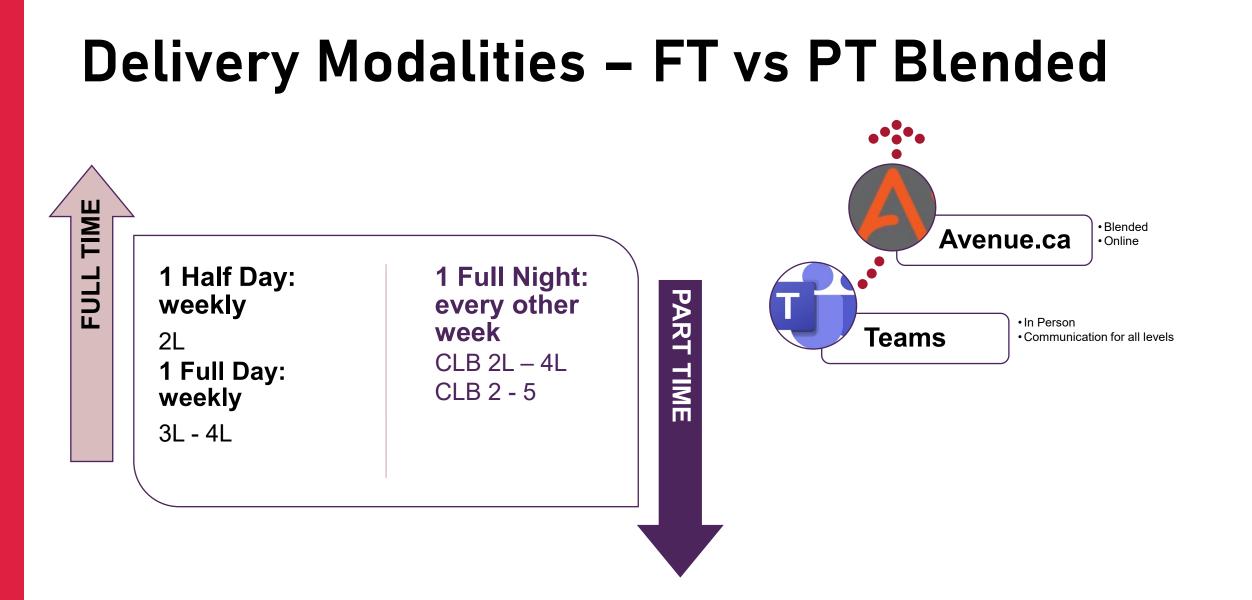
Clareview Rec. Centre



St. Francis Women's Only

St. Basil

#### **Delivery Modalities – All Programs** Mainstream Literacy Classes Classes Blended Avenue.ca • Online In Person In Person • Fd L, 1L • CLB 1 In Person Teams Communication for all levels Blended Blended • 2L: half day • CLB 1/2: half and full • 3L, 4L: one day • CLB 2, 3, 4: one day Online • CLB 4



### **Delivery Modalities – Rationale**

#### **Instructor Survey**

- September 2021 March 2022
- 29 responses (some double shifts)

2. From your observations, please rate the following degree of difficulty students in your class face(d) due to:

More details

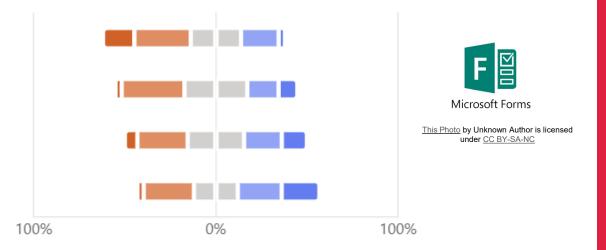
● 1 (none) ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 (great difficulty)

Having adequate internet service to manage remote online learning

The students' technical skills/limited digital literacy to manage remote online learning

The students' limited language development to learn to manage remote online learning

The students attaining a quiet place to learn to manage remote online learning



## **Delivery Modalities – Rationale Cont.**

#### Instructor Survey (noted barriers)

- 1. Adequate internet service  $\rightarrow$  50%
- 2. Technical skills and Digital literacy  $\rightarrow 60\%$
- 3. Language development  $\rightarrow 40\%$ 
  - **1L and 2L/3L classes** reported the highest difficulties with language development.
  - CLB 1/2 and CLB 3 Online also reported significant difficulties.
  - **Fd L** classes had mixed responses, with some reporting moderate to high difficulties.
- 4. Quiet learning environment  $\rightarrow 55\%$ 
  - Access to devices: most students have cellphones



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## **Delivery Modalities – Rationale Cont.**

### **10**

#### Microsoft Forms

### **Student Surveys**

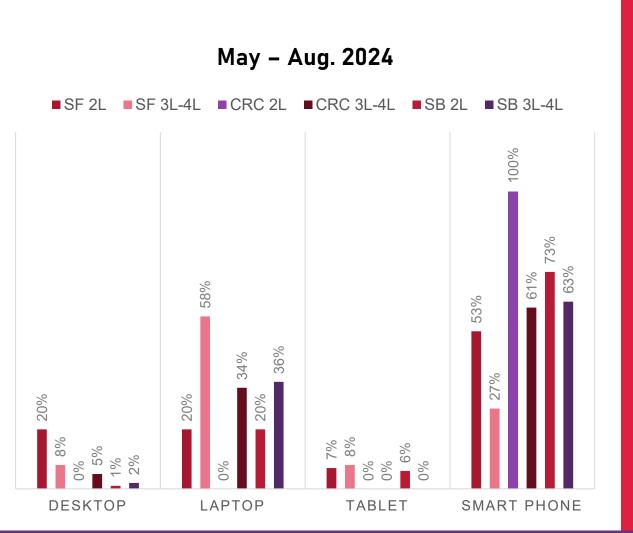
- Since March 2021: every 4 months (full time) and 10 months (part time)
- All levels; 18 questions approx.
  - About In Person Classes / Blended Classes: 2L separate from 3L-4L & CLB 2-5 / Online Classes
- Results from May Aug. 2024 & Sep. 2023 Jun. 2024



## **Delivery Modalities – FT Classes**

#### **Student Surveys**

- Every 4 mths. (FT) and 10 mths. (PT)
- All levels; 18 questions approx.
- Smart Phones 62.8%
- Laptops 28%
- Daytime students use mainly smartphones



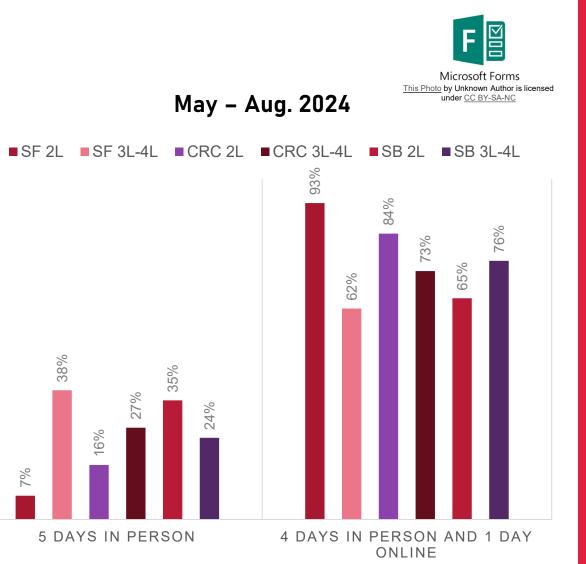


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### **Delivery Modalities – FT Classes Cont.**

#### **Student Surveys**

- 5 days in person 24.5%
- 4 days in person and 1 online 75.5%
- Daytime students favour 1 day of online instruction per week



### **Delivery Modalities – PT Classes**

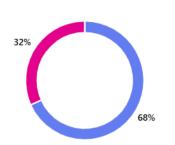
Mainstream Classes

#### 2021–2022 & 2022–2023 → **Every Week**



18. Which class do you like more?

- All evening classes in person 43
- One evening online from home each week 20



20. I like one evening class a week online from home because ...

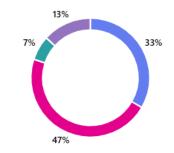
	I don't have to travel to school that evening.	3
	I can be home with my family while learning.	11
	I don't have someone to watch over my children when learning online.	4
0	I really like learning online.	9
•	Other	1



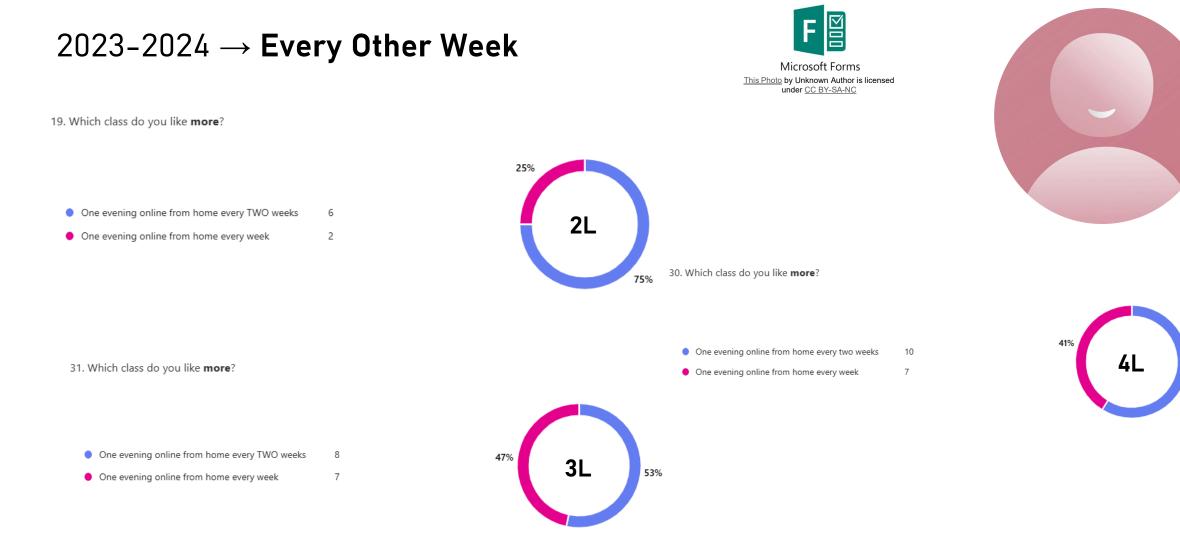
Literacy Classes 16. Which class do you like more? 17 All evening classes in person One evening online from home each week 7 Other

18. I like one evening class a week online from home because ...

I don't have to travel to school that evening. 5 I can be home with my family while learning. 7 I don't have someone to watch over my children 1 when learning online. I really like learning online. 2 0



### **Delivery Modalities – PT Classes Cont.**

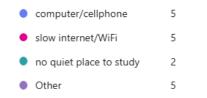


### **Delivery Modalities – PT Classes Cont.**

#### $2023\text{--}2024 \rightarrow \text{Every Other Week}$



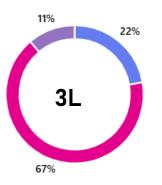
33. I have these problems studying online....





computer/cellphone	2
slow internet/WiFi	6
<ul> <li>no quiet place to study</li> </ul>	0
• Other	1





4L	
Computer/cellphone (3)	30%
Slow Internet/WiFi (5)	50%
No Quiet Place to Study (3)	30%
Other (1)	10%

### **Delivery Modalities – PT Classes Cont.**

#### $2023-2024 \rightarrow \text{Every Other Week}$

1

2



Microsoft Forms <u>This Photo</u> by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC BY-SA-NC</u>

16. Which class do you like more?

All evening classes in person
7

One evening online from home every two weeks



19. Which class do you like more?

One evening online from home every TWO weeks

One evening online from home every week



30. Which class do you like more?

One evening online from home every two weeks
 10

7

One evening online from home every week



# Digital Literacy Progression List



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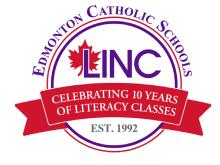
## **Digital Literacy Progression List**

- Created in August 2020
- Based on CLB: ESL for ALL pp.
- For **planning** and **teaching**. Mastery not required for progression.
- Skill progression > the darker the colour shade, the more focus needed.
- Four categories:
  - 1. Developing Familiarity
  - 2. Understanding Info.
  - 3. Creating with
  - 4. Digital Citizenship

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https://ecsdlinc.wixsite.com/lincliteracyatecsd/digital-literacy

# Conclusion



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### Conclusion

The integration of digital literacy in LINC literacy classes is achievable and most effective when delivery modalities are tailored to address the unique circumstances of literacy learners.

- ✓ Mainstream classes can utilize digital tools and platforms with minimal guidance, while literacy classes require simpler, more intuitive tools and additional support to effectively build digital literacy skills.
- ✓ The scheduling of online classes for literacy learners should prioritize a blended approach, offering consistent in-person support while incorporating online elements in a manageable and flexible manner, with some literacy levels requiring face to face instruction only.



### References

- Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks. (2016). CLB: ESL for Adult Literacy Learners (ALL). Ottawa, Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks.
- ECSD LINC. (2018). LINC Literacy @ ECSD. https://ecsdlinc.wixsite.com/lincliteracyatecsd.
- Literacy Instructors, PBLA Leads and Coordinators at ECSD LINC.



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