



Promoting Digital Leadership Through Quality Standards

Welcome!

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Q-Up for K-12 Digital Quality Conference

April 24, 2025

1:30-2:10 pm EST



Our Focus and Goals

1

Building Awareness of the National Standards for Quality Online Learning

2

Accelerated Growth of Digital Tools and Resources in K-12

3

The Case for Digital Leadership

4

Promoting Digital Leadership Standards and Application

Building Awareness of the National Standards for Quality Online Learning (NSQ)

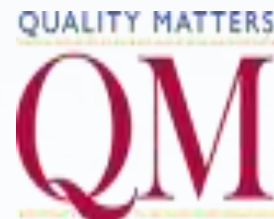
NSQ's Mission

Promoting excellence in online and blended learning through research-based standards

- Quality Online Courses
- Quality Online Teaching
- Quality Online Programs

The [2025 National Standards for Quality Online Learning](https://nsqol.org/the-standards/), provide the online learning community with a strengthened and forward-thinking framework that supports excellence in online education.

<https://nsqol.org/the-standards/>



The 2025 National Standards for Quality Online Learning

NSQ NATIONAL STANDARDS
FOR QUALITY ONLINE COURSES



**National Standards for
Online Courses**

NSQ NATIONAL STANDARDS
FOR QUALITY ONLINE TEACHING



**National Standards for
Online Teaching**

NSQ NATIONAL STANDARDS
FOR QUALITY ONLINE PROGRAMS



**National Standards for
Online Programs**



Discussion Questions

- Are you familiar with the NSQ standards?
- Have you used the standards in your practice?

Accelerating the Adoption of Digital Tools and Platforms

Pre-School Closures

Targeted Role in Schools

School is dependent on a face-to-face model of learning with teacher-delivered instruction

Software tools and applications used largely to supplement text-based instructional resources

Digital curriculum used more frequently in programs serving specific student needs (i.e., credit recovery, alternative learning programs) vs. classroom instruction.

Pre-March 2020

During School Closures

Emergency Remote Learning

Rapid transition to fully-remote teaching and learning with a reliance learning packets and teacher-created assignments posted online or on Google Docs.

Reliance on digital tools for synchronous video (e.g. Zoom, MS Teams, Google Hangouts/Meet)

Some expansion of digital curriculum, primarily with schools who had experience with digital curriculum and relationships with digital curriculum providers.

March-Summer 2020

When Schools Re-Open

Broader Role in Supporting Learning Continuity

Schools are planning for multiple scenarios including the likelihood of rolling closures. Some students and families may choose to continue online learning while enrolled in the local district.

Efficient ways to deliver instruction no matter where learning takes place.

Role of digital curriculum expanding to ensure equitable access to instructional content that ensures student progress..

Fall 2020-Summer 2021

Becoming Future-Ready

Moving toward Digital Transformation

Unknown levels of online learning adoption in new normal, but likely higher than pre-2020

Schools likely to expand online options to meet student learning needs addressing time, pace, path, and place as well as student choice.

Schools likely to require new levels of online tools, content, resources, and teacher comfort with remote instruction.

Adopting digital curriculum requires a change in mindset.

Academic Year 2021/22 & Beyond

Digital Transformation



Transformational Change

Clayton Christensen (2011) asserted that disruptive innovation will change how the world learns. Today, many believe that the global pandemic is driving educational innovations and fundamentally altering practice.

Transformation is evident through:

- The accelerated adoption of technology tools and platforms utilized in the education environment and
 - The evolving instructional practices.
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The growth of the U.S. online K-12 education market:

- Is estimated to grow at an annual rate of 14% from 2023-2030.
 - Is forecast to reach \$74 billion by 2030.
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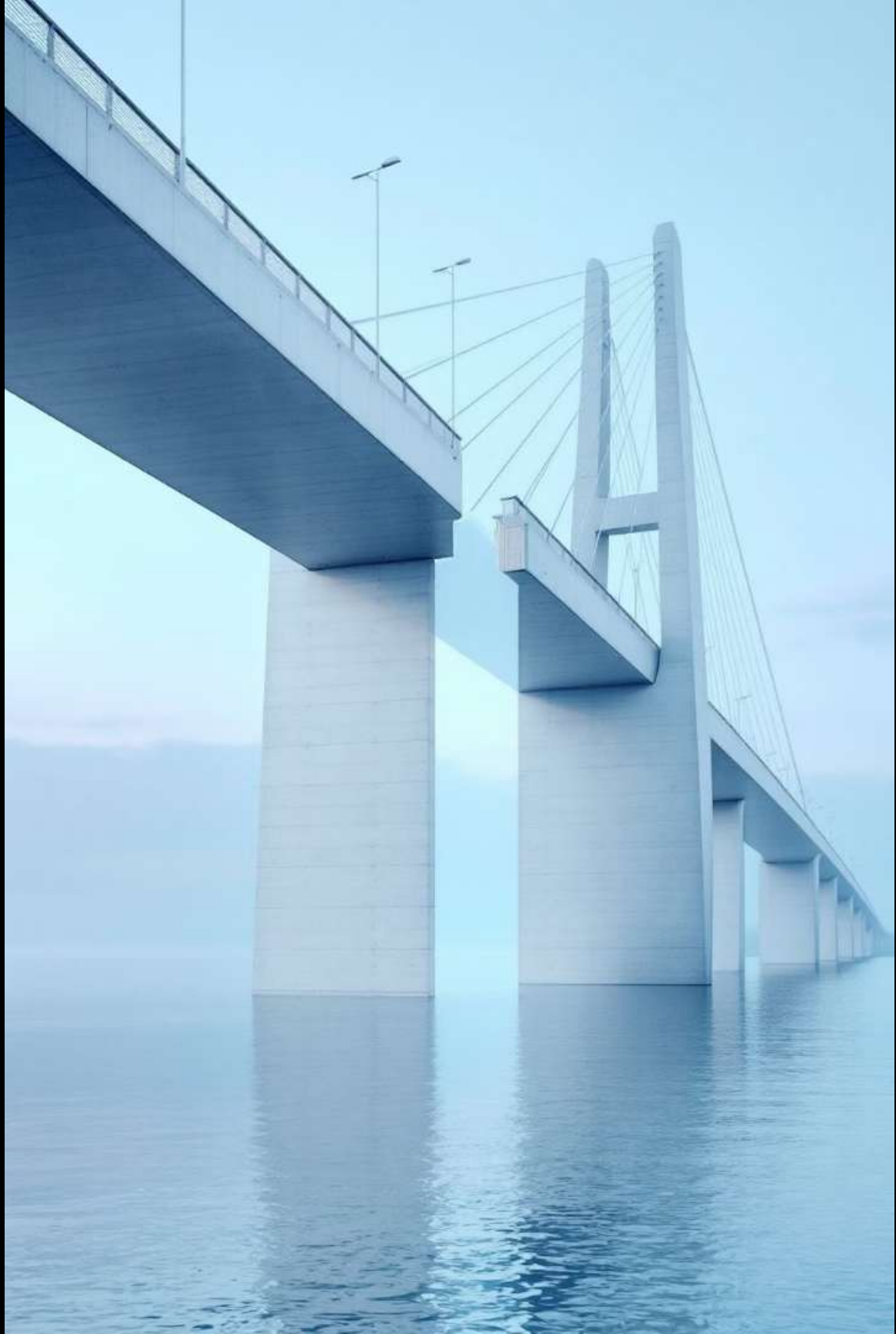
Change and transformation can be attributed to:

- The adoption and advancement of technologies.
 - The changing perception of online learning and its role in supporting teaching and learning; and
 - The need for personalized, flexible education options.
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Discussion Questions

- Would you say there is an accelerated adoption of digital tools and resources in your school or district?
- What is fueling that growth?



Addressing a Critical Gap

Importance of Digital Leadership

Essential for online, blended, and remote learning environments.

Existing Gaps

Lack of comprehensive training in digital leadership.

Underprepared Leaders

Many leaders feel unprepared to manage digital contexts effectively.



Why Digital Leadership Matters



Unique Nuances in DL

Building virtual communities, addressing the digital divide, ensuring equity in digital environments, online pedagogy, etc.



Preparation Needs

Leaders may lack effective preparation to effectively address these challenges.



Long-term Success

These standards address a critical need and set a foundation for success.



Informing Policy and Practice



Informing Policy

Standards guide leadership preparation programs.



Professional Development

Enhanced readiness for online, blended, and remote work.



Positive Outcomes

Improved outcomes for organizations and learners.

Introducing the Four Dimensions

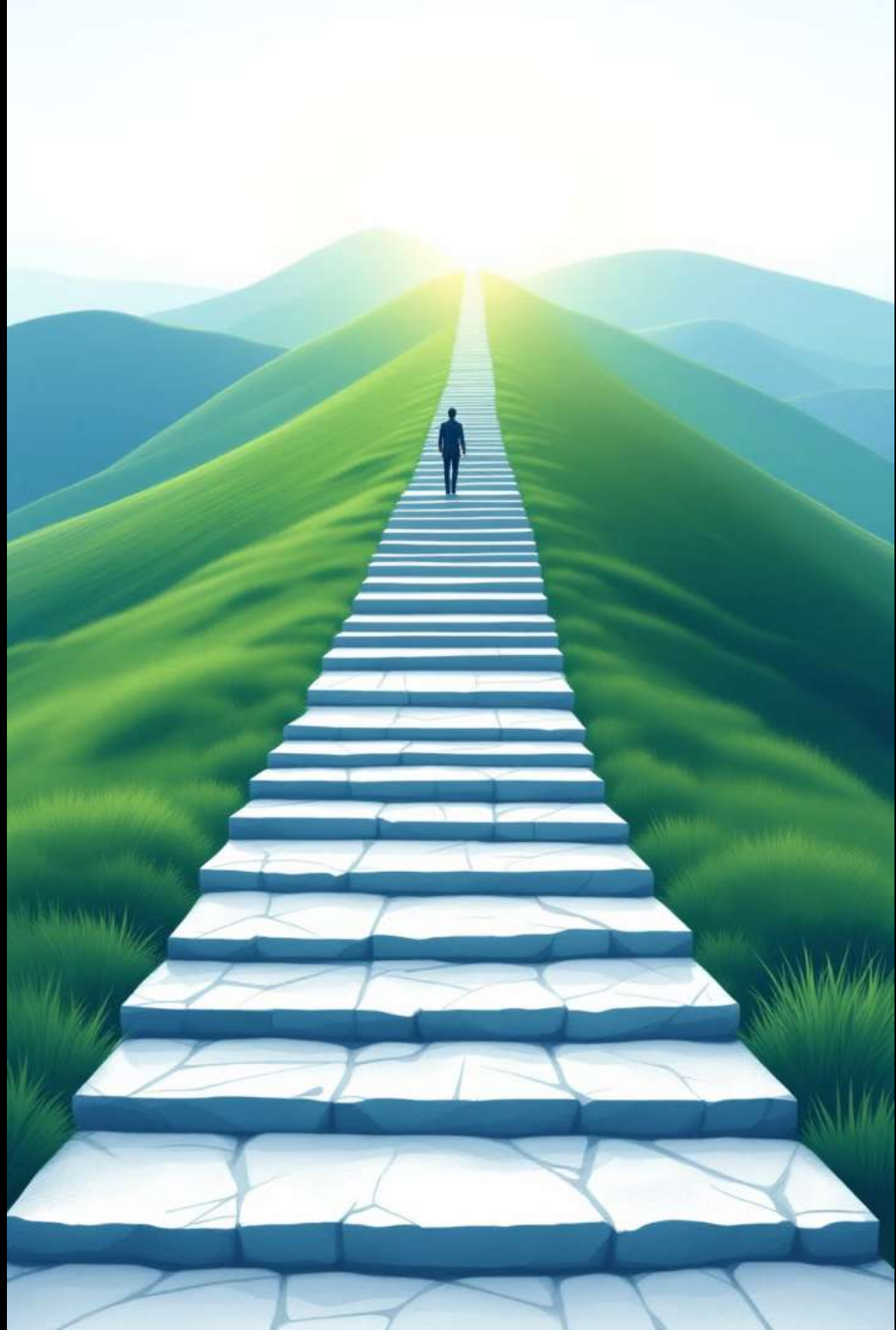
Digital leadership encompasses four essential and interconnected dimensions that form the foundation of effective leadership in digital environments.





Discussion Questions

- Is addressing Digital Leadership a critical need in your school or district?
- How might the standards be relevant and applicable to practice?



Next Steps

- Finalize Current Draft
- Socialize with NSQ
- Complete Revisions
- Initiate Draft of Applications

Thank you for joining us.