Policy Committee

Representing and Sustaining the NSDL Community

- ### Who are we?
  - **Election process:** Policy Committee membership is the result of either direct nomination from a Standing Committee or nomination by special nominating committee with confirmation by the Assembly of Projects.
  - **Community participation:** Anyone can participate in the NSDL through the five Standing Committees chartered by the Policy Committee or through their taskforces.
  - **Evolving structure:** The Sustainability Standing Committee engages community in an NSDL Organizational Taskforce that conducts workshops to create a stronger union across the spectrum of NSDL participants.

- ### Catalyst for Cooperations
  - **Coordinating Committees:** The Policy Committee charters the five Standing Committees and helps align their responsibilities.
  - **Promoting taskforces:** Taskforces are commissioned to carry out activities on behalf of the NSDL community.
  - **Standards and policies:** Work through the Committees and Core Integration to generate a framework for consolidation of efforts across the community of participants that continuously involves, and reflects the needs of, the users.
  - **Sustaining the effort:** Promote a collaborative environment to build the structures to share knowledge and solve problems. Couple the value provided with a sustainable economic model.

- ### Joint Planning Role
  - **Individual projects:** Help participants coordinate and consolidate efforts by sharing resources and workload across projects.
  - **Core Integration:** Provide a community voice to advise the Core Integration efforts and a central location to recruit participation in NSDL-wide integration efforts
  - **Beyond:** Act on behalf of the NSDL community to develop strategies, activities, policies, and priorities in concert with Core Integration, the National Visiting Committee, NSF, and other external bodies.

- ### Emerging Issues
  - **Middle school focus:** Help participants find a place in the emerging NSDL focus and adapt the lessons learned through phased expansion to other areas.
  - **Data warehouse and innovative technology:** Provide a forum through the Technology Standing Committee to enlist emerging technologies wherever they are useful.
  - **Diversity:** Create a healthy mix of approaches that serve the changing needs of the broad range of learners.
  - **Science of Learning:** Enlist specialists within and beyond the NSDL community to take advantage of new discoveries in communication and learning across communities of practice.

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