Practicum in STEM Leadership Live Session# 1 - Missed session write-up
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In the introduction, I learned the goal of this course is to serve as a culminating project that ties together what we learned in the various Endeavor courses we completed by sharing our knowledge with our school/learning communities.

When we plan and implement our PD, we should include NASA assets. We will present our work to the group and reflect on our experiences with Endeavor. We will receive the STEM Leadership Certificate after completing this course.

For the project, we will select an aspect from our Endeavor coursework and consider our audience, who might benefit or be interested in the information. It could be in our school, the district, in a published paper, or at a conference.

For our icebreaker, we looked at a postcard illustrated by Jean-Marc Cote in 1899, which depicted what he imagined the future (year 2000?) would look like). It reminded me of the Tex Avery cartoons I enjoyed watching as a kid, some of the episodes featured cars and houses of tomorrow. I added my sticky note to the jamboard. My word was "downloading," because it reminded me of how people nowadays have easy access to information thanks to the internet and endless devices that we can use to stay connected and fill our brains with data.

During the introduction, Dani mentioned her hope of participating in this program is to help inspire kids to get engaged with science regardless of whether or not this is a field they want to pursue. Conor said he was inspired to think about using phenomena-based learning in his instruction, how he can bring it to his school or share it with his colleagues in Math for America. Diana said the course helped her expand her knowledge as a second-career teacher. The robotic and coding courses she took made her feel more comfortable about these topics, and she hoped to introduce it to her students next year. Brittany enjoyed being able to continue the research component of her past career in her teaching career. She looked forward to learning more about NGSS, 5E instruction so she could share with her colleagues. Tania joined the program to find ways to teach science in a way that makes it accessible and exciting to students, because she understood how it feels to be in the students' shoes. Matt shared how he gained new perspectives and resources in each of the Endeavor courses he had taken, which helped him keep up with the dynamic world that we are living in right now.

Next, we examined more illustrations of what the future (our present time) might look like. The postcard depicted an automated house in the bottom right didn't look too far fetched!

Our first option would be to plan and implement a PD that featured 3D learning utilizing resources we learned from our coursework. The second option would be to share our work (lesson plans, ideas) by submitting it to an education publisher. Our project proposals are due February 6. Our final proposals will be due on February 20. We should aim to implement our PD by March 6. On April 10th, we will present a mini version of our PD to each other live on Zoom, featuring some key takeaways from our experience. After we present, we will share out in a discussion post to conduct a peer review based on each other's presentations.

For our proposal, we need to include a title, the option we are choosing (PD or Article), audience (minimum of 10, who they are, what they teach, how many students the teach…etc), how our project will integrate STEM into our classroom (ex: utilizing NASA/Endeavor assets in our project), and describe the outcomes/expectations we hope to get out of the PD implementation. We should also include how we will follow up with our audience to continue the conversation.

There are practicum project examples on our coursework page to get some ideas, along with the template for the project proposal. We also need to remember to complete the weekly discussion/assignments throughout the course. We have a discussion on teacher leadership due this week (week #2). Try to complete the discussion within 2 weeks instead of waiting until the last minute.

I have the same question as Conor, regarding the minimum number of audience requirements, because I also work in a school where there are only 3 science teachers. Most of the major conferences are not accepting presentation proposals until next year. My only option is to test out my PD within my school community, and implement it on a larger scale possibly at the next NSTA conference or as a MfA workshop.