Content & EdTech Curation Guide

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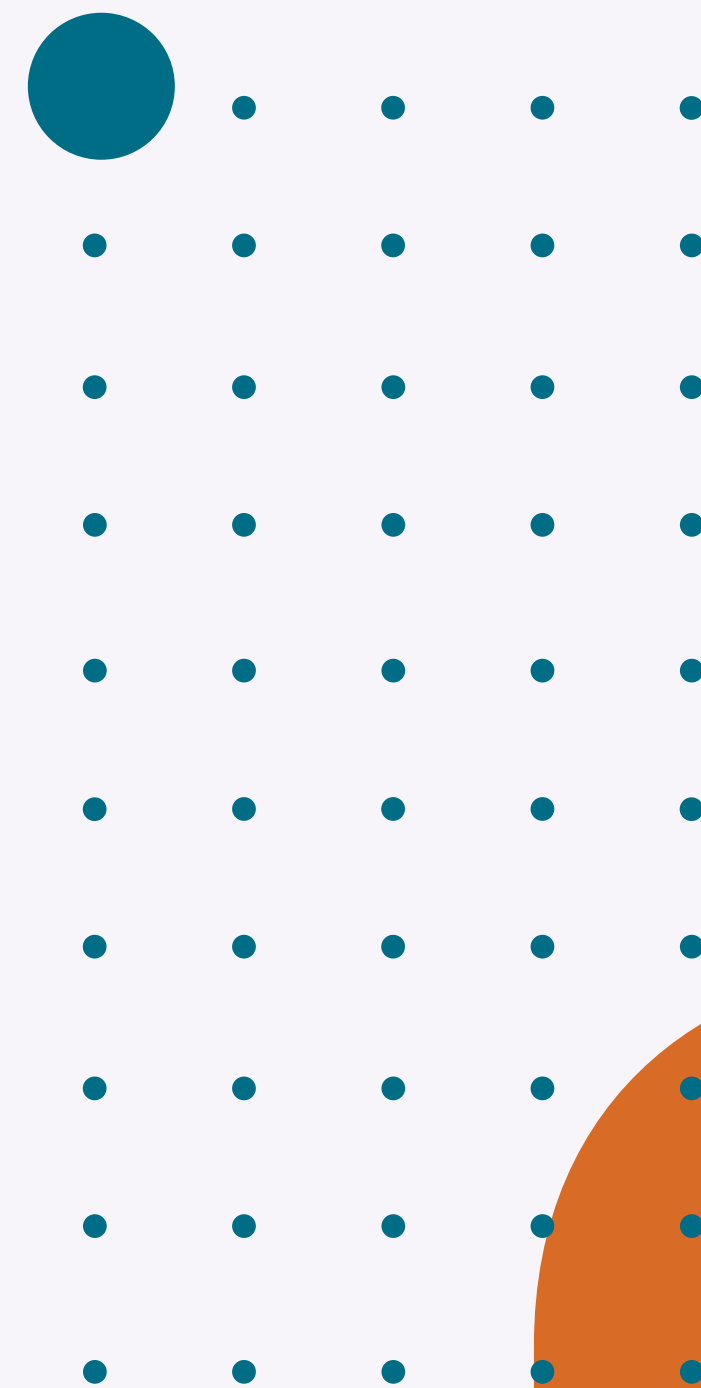
Introduction

Team4Tech exists to accelerate the impact of education focused nonprofit organizations serving under-resourced communities. We do not believe that "dropping in" then leaving is the best way to accelerate impact. We are committed to supporting scale, to do so we focus on training, connecting, and supporting leaders of nonprofit organizations.

Our mission is to improve the quality of education for under-resourced learners by building nonprofit capacity through technology solutions and training.

One component of our work is to curate solutions that are well positioned to impact the nonprofit organizations serving in under-resourced communities. To do so we must keep an eye on our own curation metrics and hold a shared organizational commitment. In doing so we will strengthen our brand, better support our efforts in acceleration, and become better versed internally on what is and is not relevant to our stakeholders.

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Internal Commitments

We believe it takes humility, open collaboration, and community to drive enduring change. As an organization we are committed to upholding five core values and strive to continually be inclusive, empathetic, agile, intentional, and responsible.

We live our commitment to being **inclusive** by designing tools, systems, programs, partnerships, and engagement opportunities where everyone has the opportunity to be a learner and everyone has the opportunity to be a teacher.

We live our commitment to being **empathetic** by being open to collaboration, committed to enduring change, and being humble in our partnerships, relationships, and engagements with stakeholders (including our nonprofit partners).

We live our commitment to being **agile** by using, practicing, implementing, and designing with a human-centered approach. We are nimble and responsive in designing tools, systems, programs, partnerships, and engagement opportunities. It is evident by our design-centered approach that we are continuously learning and making improvements that are data informed.

We live our commitment to being **intentional** by driving every engagement towards impact. With every action we take we should be creating pathways that positively impact our partners.

We live our commitment to being **responsible** by earning trust, developing relationships, leveraging collaborative opportunities, and following through on our promises and gaining traction towards our own organizational goals.

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Community of Practice

Team4Tech is committed to facilitating a digital community where education nonprofits operating in low resourced communities can learn from events, discussions, access to tools and vetted resources, opportunities for knowledge-sharing, focused working groups, and carefully created courses.

The **Community of Practice** serves a diverse yet connected network of individuals striving to impact young people through informal learning opportunities facilitated through non-governmental learning organizations.

Within our **Community of Practice** we build knowledge through a range of experiences that are curated to the specific needs of our community members. Experiences are designed along a continuum working from transactional (i.e., baseline information, that is engaging to larger audiences, may add new thinking, new ideas, new tools, and new collaborators into their personal community of practice experience) to strategic (i.e., deep, direct, collaborative experiences).

We are focused on quality, not quantity. Making the **Community of Practice** experience relevant enough to drive engagement, and diverse enough to allow every stakeholder to engage in some way.

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Our Commitment to Curation

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As we curate content and design experiences with our community members and global stakeholders, we are cognizant of our overall organizational goal: to positively impact our partners so that they can positively impact the young people they serve.

Curation at Team4Tech refers to the selection, organization, management, and presentation of content that is grounded in expertise. That expertise is multifaceted and reflects our commitment to (1) learner engagement, (2) learner growth, (3) teacher effectiveness, and (4) organizational sustainability and scale.

Because we focus on educational technologies as a common driver among our diverse partners and community members, curation is tied not only to our knowledge base on educational technologies, but also how those technologies can drive real and systematic change in support of all learners.

As an organization, our efforts in curation are focused on diversity of thought, relevance to our audience, research-based capacity to impact the trajectory of our nonprofit partners, and upholding our core values.

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Content Curation Metrics

Our content is curated along a continuum of expectations, we review content for each of these focus areas as a part of our commitment to quality.

- Content will be inclusive and includes one or more of the following:
  - Representation of racial/ethnic/gender diversity
  - Multimodal (watch, read, hear)
  - Accessible (scalable text, alternative text on images, minimal animations and visual effects, etc.)
  - Presented to all target audiences (not overly focused on one country or location)

- Content will be research-based and includes one or more of the following:
  - Obvious attention to research and best practice
  - Includes citations or other notations
  - Tied to relevant theories of change, frameworks, etc. specifically for educational technology use
  - Includes some type of data

- Content demonstrates intentional change and includes one or more of the following:
  - Is driving use of technology towards deep/authentic learning
  - Is moving the organization and learning towards deep/authentic learning
  - Actualizes project/problem/place-based learning
  - Is not focused on only low level use of technology by learners (i.e., skill/drill, consumption only, etc.)
  - Contributes to one or more technology genres (consume, create/produce, experience, interactions, collect/analyze, communicate, and organize/manage)
  - Is driving learning engagement or growth
  - Is supporting teacher effectiveness
  - Is contributing to a foundation that supports sustainability and scale

- Content is relevant and includes one or more of the following:
  - Can be easily localized
  - Can be built upon no matter what level of knowledge user is currently at
  - Is connected to an organizational focus area (learner growth, educational technology, informal learning, etc.)
  - Can be used immediately or can be used as a strategic growth opportunity
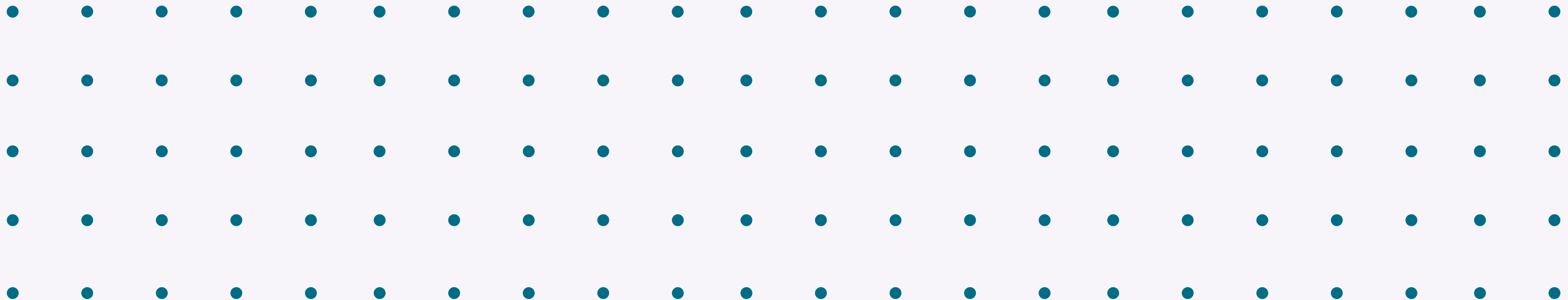
EdTech Curation Metrics

The Digital Resources that we welcome into our community are curated along a continuum of expectations, we review content for each of these focus areas as a part of our commitment to quality.

- Tools demonstrate an ease of use by attending to one or more of the following:
  - Available virtual asynchronous and synchronous training
  - Accessible libraries for support and use by staff and learners
  - Installation processes are inclusive for low bandwidth users
  - Limited peripheral tools necessary for full implementation
  - Easy to manage group accounts and licenses

- Tools demonstrate convenience by attending to one or more of the following:
  - Resources can be used in multiple ways
  - Use can be scaffolded to meet various needs
  - User accounts can be turned on and off easily
  - Responsive platform that allows users to direct their levels of learning
  - The personalized platform allows users to customize their own learning experience

- Localization is evident in one or more of the following ways:
  - Online and offline options
  - Low bandwidth functionality
  - Accessibility on low-memory devices
  - Usability of available operating systems
  - Help desk or technical support available in local time zones

- Attention to affordability is evident by attention to one or more of the following:
  - Corporate attention to funding solutions for under-resourced areas
  - Grants, pricing discounts, or other support for nonprofit organizations
  - Purchase prices are scalable to allow for easy entry of use and scaffolded growth of use over time

- Available analytics and metrics are in place in one or more of the following ways:
    - Basic user analytics
    - Crash reports available and/or monitored by company
    - Learner metrics
    - Data privacy policies that are attentive to local needs and rules
    - Growth metrics
    - Group metrics to show growth over time for learners throughout an organization

- Quality supportive materials are available as evidenced by one or more of the following:
    - Range of crowdsourced quality materials that are freely available
    - Openness by company/owners to empower user-generated training/use content
    - Obvious commitment by company/owners to develop a high quality product (i.e., their footprint is obvious with a wealth of content generated internally and shared openly)

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Get Involved

To engage our Community of Practice with your content, resource, or digital resources please contact our Program Team to learn more.

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