

The Evaluation of the Technology Implementation Plan of Polk County, Florida
Assignment 6: Proposed Methodology

By

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Methods of Inquiry

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The purpose of this research study is to determine the affect of the Polk County Technology Implementation plan on the District's use of technology. In this qualitative study, the researcher will employ a survey of Network Managers and a content analysis of school district technology implementation plans.

Participants

Polk County School District will be contacted for the purpose of explaining the research project and obtaining permission to survey all network managers at the 160 schools in Polk County School District. The target population is over thirty years in age, nearly split equally between males and females, but lacks diversity in ethnicity as the majority of the target population is Caucasian. The sample will be limited to Network Managers who have been in their current position three or more years. The sample will be further limited to Network Managers who are working at general school sites. Network Managers at choice, charter, magnet, and alternative program sites are to be excluded from the sample. The purpose for limiting the sample in these two ways is to eliminate some of the biases that are inherently present in schools with more funding by nature and to provide an experienced view of technology implementation, which a first or second year employee may not feel comfortable giving.

Research Question(s) and Instruments

Three research questions are to be addressed in this study:

1. How has the Polk County Technology Implementation Plan affected the district?
2. What are the primary elements of the technology implementation plan?
3. How does it compare to plans from other Florida districts of similar size?

Restate the research question(s) and include the following information for *each* question:

1. Provide the Conceptual definition for the variables that will be measured.
2. Provide the Operational definition for each variable.
3. Include the instruments you plan on using to measure the Independent and Dependent variables in your research questions, also provide the following: (a) the source or developers of the instrument; (b) validity and reliability information; (c) information on how it was normed, and (d) other salient information (e.g., number of items in each scale, subscales, etc.).

Procedures (the “*how-to*” section of the study)

1. Refer to **Part III Research Designs** in the Creswell text and introduce the type of research design you will employ in order to answer the research question(s).
2. Based on the research design specifically discuss how the data will be collected to answer the research question(s). Discuss this as a step-by-step process.