LifeDox - A Life in Stories

Today's schools are going through significant transformations. It is no longer a world of bells and timetables - where uniformity and conformity are the only things valued. We are now living in the age of technology, where creativity and diversity are celebrated. Creating continued opportunities to build connections between schools and society are more important than ever.

In the age of technology, people have the ability to stay connected wherever they are so that life outside and inside the school is seamless. People's lives, spanning their lifelong interests, life wide-pursuits and life-deep values, can now be nurtured together. School life should organically mesh with who a student is and their life experiences.



But how can schools build on who we are to further strengthen a deeper understanding of human relationships, how we express ourselves, and our interconnectedness with the world around us?



This means nothing less than breaking school walls and structures so that students can work together on topics of shared interest, continue to use external resources they have that are available to them, explore issues on curricula that go deep into problems instead of just touching the surface, and reflect on the ways their different roles and contributions help them jointly construct ideas so students can develop their identities as inguiry-based learners and knowledge builders.

A powerful and meaningful way to connect student identity with inquiry and knowledge building is to apply it to the process of discovering and deepening connections with previous generations.

LifeDox is a simple app that is designed to turn a personal life story into a documentary video. It implements a video-coaching process that asks a sequence of open-ended questions about a person's



life and makes it easy to record answers, tell stories, attach photos and produce a video that takes one through the different phases of life and creates opportunities for reflection and new understanding.

LifeDox can be used as an interviewing tool by students in order to capture deep and meaningful stories of their grandparents' lives. These stories are often deeply rooted in place and time and can provide context for the student's understanding of:



✓ Their own identity

 \checkmark The connection between their identity, their family and what it is to be human

 $\checkmark\,$ The society and culture they live in and the various dimensions that impact it

 $\checkmark~$ How the world works and how it changes through the generations

✓ How to use stories to express ideas

 $\checkmark\,$ The importance of using our family story to improve the world we live in

LifeDox can serve as a great platform for connecting family stories to a life-long process of inquiry based learning. It is offered free of charge to schools as a way to promote the use of LifeDox as an essential tool for generational storytelling.

