Educational technology has the potential to enrich teaching and learning, keep curriculum relevant, and contribute to greater educational equity.

This week’s newsletter highlights the ways states are using technology to transform classrooms and ensure students have tools that can prepare them to succeed now and in the future.

Visit StatesLeading.org and follow #StatesLeading on social media to learn more and join the conversation.

State Spotlights

The Michigan Department of Education hosted 15,000 students and 40,000 spectators from around the world at the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology (FIRST) Robotics Program World Championship in Detroit.

The FIRST Robotics Program empowers students in Michigan and around the world to demonstrate their problem-solving skills that leverage the power of technology by developing and testing solutions in imaginative ways.

Michigan had more than 110 FIRST Robotics teams competing in the World Championship—more than any other state—and two of the winning teams.
To leverage digital technologies to improve student achievement outcomes, the Utah State Office of Education created the Digital Teaching and Learning Qualifying Grant program.

This program allows districts to submit a three-year proposal for their digital learning plan, including instructional goals and professional development opportunities that will help educators use digital tools to transform teaching and learning.

The New York State Education Department publishes a bimonthly newsletter, Ed Tech Innovators, to share innovative educational technology programs, policies, and thinking from around the state.

Educators, administrators, and leaders across New York contribute articles to share successes, challenges, and best practices related to the implementation of a variety of innovations.
The Louisiana Department of Education published the annual Technology Footprint Snapshots, which outline how school systems across the state are integrating technology into classrooms. The snapshots include info on student-to-device ratios, internet bandwidth, and network readiness.

To advance this work, Louisiana created a Technology Strategy Taskforce to conduct a thorough review and analysis of the technological abilities and projected needs of the state’s public schools.

New data shows that Nevada students’ participation in the AP Computer Science Principles (CSP) course grew by 127 percent from 2017 to 2018, more than doubling the national expansion rate of 50 percent. During this same time period, female participation in the state grew by 175 percent and Hispanic/Latino participation grew by 179 percent.

In addition to growing participation rates, 59 percent of all AP CSP examinees in Nevada scored a 3, 4, or 5 on the exams in 2018, which gives those students the ability to earn college credit and save time and money.
The Arkansas Department of Education’s My School Info website has received more than 1 million page views since launching in November 2016.

With My School Info, Arkansas combines multiple sources in one location to provide free, online access to school and district data.

The site is interactive and allows users to review testing and financial information and view the School Performance Reports and ESSA School Index Report.

Must Read

CCSSO’s The Future of Learning Technologies and Open Educational Resources highlights how open educational resources can make education more equitable, improve teaching, and allow teachers to adapt resources to best meet the needs of their students.
The States Leading campaign celebrates the progress states are making toward providing equitable education for all students through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and innovative polices in other key areas of education, such as early childhood education, teacher preparation, and career readiness, among others.

Thank you to our proud partners:
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