Digital and Distance Learning
Expanding Opportunities for Students
Merging Digital and Distance Learning

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**Digital and Distance Learning**

**Expanding Opportunities for Students**

**Definitions:** *SED requires a certified teacher to be involved with/supervise all of the following:*

- **Online courses:** occur solely through digital and/or Internet connected media.
- **Blended courses:** occur through a combination of classroom-based and digital and/or Internet connected media.
- **Distance-learning:** teacher interacts with students in different locations; there is real-time interaction between students and teachers in different locations.
- **Digital learning:** teachers and students use digital educational materials, tools, and resources, many of which can be accessed via the Internet. Resources can be proprietary or open-source.
Digital and Distance Learning
Expanding Opportunities for Students

I. Premise: Use digital and distance-learning simultaneously:
We must continue to respond to educational needs despite:
- Shrinking financial resources
- Shrinking student populations
- Overcoming geographic barriers to consolidations and sharing of educational resources

Anyplace at anytime teaching and learning
II. **Benefits of a Structured Digital Ecosystem:**

- Student experiences mirror the world work and personal life
- Curriculum, educational resources, and technological resources become linked
- Student data is collected through teacher/student activity and interaction
- Access to external resources and content supplements and complements instruction
- Student engagement increases
- Control and responsibility for learning shifts from the teacher to the student
- The structure provides planned, coherent and cost effective purchasing of technology
- Educational opportunities expand – not limited by insufficient faculty resources
- Access to global resources occurs
- Student data drives differentiated and content specific instruction for students – targets different learning styles and different content/skills needs
**What is the Digital Ecosystem?**

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<th>CornerStone 1: Data Management &amp; Analytics</th>
<th>CornerStone 2: Cloud Computing Services</th>
<th>CornerStone 3: Digital Resources</th>
<th>CornerStone 4: Applications</th>
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<td>Student Information System (SIS)</td>
<td>Software as a Service (SaaS)</td>
<td>Digital Textbooks</td>
<td>Subject Area</td>
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<td>Learning Management System (LMS)</td>
<td>Platform as a Service (PaaS)</td>
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<td>Curriculum Map</td>
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<td>Interactivity</td>
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The Cornerstone/Bandwidth Relationship

- **Basic Tier**: 10 mbps, 1
- **Emerging Tier**: 50 mbps, 1 gb
- **Transformative Tier**: 100 mbps, 5 gb, 10 gb

- **Cornerstone(s)**: 1, 1,2, 1,2,3, 1,2,3,4

- **Timeline**: 2014 - Federal Recommended Timeline - 2017
Why is a Public/Private Partnership Essential?

- Experienced based assessment of a school’s technological environment using a comprehensive and coherent framework
- Maintaining currency with the fast changing technological environment
What happened at the Schodack Central School District

The SLC Pilot Project
What happened at the Schodack Central School District

- The impact on teachers
- The impact on students
  - taking control
  - enhancing organizational skills
  - building confidence
  - improving performance and outcomes
- The impact on the entire faculty
- Expectations for the future
What your BOCES / RIC / Questar III can do for you?

- The first step: What is the relationship between your BOCES and your RIC
- The general role of any BOCES – financial services and facilitating access to outside resources
- RIC – network connectivity and distance learning support – may be through BOCES
What your BOCES / RIC / Questar III can do for you?

- The Questar III role:
  - Comprehensive assessment from the business partner
  - Professional development for your faculty and staff
  - Advice/consulting/professional development for your BOCES
  - Access to “seminars/conferences” for high-tech training at low per-person costs
  - Access to online courses
  - Access to distance-learning courses
  - Access to higher education – especially Excelsior College
Cost Saving Opportunities

- BOCES State Aid
- Collaborative training at a lower cost for high-tech/innovative changes
- Coherent and logical purchasing of hardware, network capacity, digital resources, and applications
- Expanded educational opportunities for students using shared resources
- College credits at a very low cost for families