



The Importance of Keeping Digital Instruction Consistent with School Goals


The COVID-19 pandemic has given the entire country a crash course in virtual education and digital education platforms. As school buildings closed in the spring of 2020, school leaders scrambled to implement virtual education programs. This was both a necessary response to the current crisis and, for virtual education advocates, an opportunity to permanently transform public education with digital technology.

Unfortunately, school leaders have had little more than marketing messages to inform their considerations of digital offerings. To provide some additional information, insights and recommendations, NEPC released a three-brief collection today. *Issues to Consider Before Adopting a Digital Platform or Learning Program* was authored by Faith Boninger and Alex Molnar of the University of Colorado Boulder, with contributions by Michael Barbour of Touro University California. The briefs detail how digital platforms and learning programs can distort curriculum, teaching, and assessments, threaten student privacy, and undermine data security. They identify key issues for school leaders to consider before adopting digital programs.

Each brief includes recommendations unique to its specific focus as well as recommendations common across the collection. The framing principle underlying all three briefs is that school leaders should ensure that any digital technology they adopt reflects, rather than undermines or distorts, their school's stated values and goals. In the context of the pandemic, the best many school leaders can do is minimize any potential harm that may result from the need to hastily adopt digital technologies. With this in mind, the authors offer the following principles to guide decision-making.

- Digital learning programs and platforms are less likely to harm students to the extent that they:
- Retain curriculum and teaching practices consistent with school goals and values;



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- Have been reviewed for bias by independent experts;
 - Maintain teachers' control of educational decisions rather than transfer those decisions to algorithms programmed into applications;
 - Collect a minimal amount of student data; and
 - Prevent the transfer of student data to vendors and other unknown parties.

These principles, in conjunction with the considerations detailed in each brief, can be used to help determine which digital products to choose, how to best use them in the current crisis, and how to decide which should be abandoned when the crisis has passed.

Find Issues to Consider Before Adopting a Digital Platform or Learning Program, by Faith Boninger and Alex Molnar, at: <http://nepc.colorado.edu/publication/virtual-learning>

The National Education Policy Center (NEPC), a university research center housed at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Education, produces and disseminates high-quality, peer-reviewed research to inform education policy discussions. Visit us at: <http://nepc.colorado.edu>









































Tip of the Month

Multitasking is actually a bit of a myth, particularly when it relates to complex tasks. Trying to focus on too many things at once can eat away at your inner resilience. According to the American Psychological Association, multitask switching accounts for up to 40% loss in productivity for the average office worker. It's better for both your mental well-being and productivity to focus on solving complex tasks one at a time. When you need to switch tasks, a small break can help you hang gears and refocus without too much stress.

Calendar of Events



- 11/1 All Saints' Day 
- 11/1 Daylight Savings Time end 
- 11/2 All Souls' Day 
- 11/3 Election Day 
- 11/4-7 La Cosecha Conference 
- 11/9 Autism Toolbox Series: Supporting Social Skills 
- 11/9-13 NM Government Finance Officer's Assoc. 
- 11/10 US Marine Corps birthday 
- 11/10 Social Emotional Learning: Self Awareness Part 2 
- 11/11 Veterans Day 
- 11/12 Effective Social & Emotional Learning Strategies to Manage Anxiety Behaviors in Prek-5th grade 
- 11/16 Comprehension: The End Goal of Reading 
- 11/18 Effective Strategies for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) 
- 11/19 Section 504 
- 11/18-20 MOLI - Virtual Leadership Program 
- 11/26 Thanksgiving Day 
- 11/27 Presidents' Day (NM) 

2020 NOVEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
 						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		 				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
						
29	30					

Legend

 -TAP Workshops

 --Conferences

Contract Expirations

16-030 General Office, Classroom and Vocational Equipment, Supplies and Materials:

Follett School Solutions Inc.	School Specialty Inc.	FCC Inc. dba Teach the Children
Horizon Blinds dba School Furnishing	Fastenation Inc.	Staples Business Advantage
El Paso Office Products LLC	Lakeshore Equipment Co.	Officewise
Spectrum Paper Co. Inc.		

16-031 General Office, Classroom and Vocational Furniture:

Workspace Dynamics Inc.	GI Solutions 3	LLC/Beck Office Int.
Business Environments	School Equipment Inc.	Team Pikes Peak
AK Sales	Staples Business Advantage	Schoolhouse Outfitters
Troxell Communications Inc.	Contract Associates Inc.	Contrax Group LLC
School Specialty Inc.	Indeco Sales	Lakeshore Equipment



New Contract Awards

2021-05A Supplemental Employee Benefits <i>- Section 125 Plans</i>	First Financial Group of America Competitive Benefits Administrators
2021-05B Supplemental Employee Benefits <i>- Retirement and Alternative Deferred Income Plans</i>	First Financial Group of America Competitive Benefits Administrators TCG Group Holding, LLP
2021-05C Supplemental Employee Benefits <i>- Other Voluntary Benefits Plans</i>	Health First Financial Group of America Competitive Benefits Administrators Aflac Group Legal Pre-Paid Legal Services Legal Access Plan
RFP # 2021-13 General Office, Classroom & Vocational - Supplies, Equipment, Furniture	A K Sales & Consulting Inc AmTab Manufacturing Corp. Contract Associates, Inc. Creative Interiors Inc. El Paso office Products, LLC Follett School Solutions, Inc. GL Solutions 3, LLC Innovative Library Interiors Kay-Twelve LLC Lakeshore Equipment Company MeTEOR Education, LLC. New Mexico Office Furniture, Inc. OfficeWise Furniture and Supply Sandia Paper School Equipment, Inc. School Specialty Inc - PREMIER Schoolhouse Outfitters Sparks Office Supply, Inc. Spectrum Paper Co. Staples Business Advantage Starr Janitorial Team Pikes Peak Varsity Brands Holding Co, Inc. Workspace Dynamics

Status of Ongoing Solicitations

- **Interagency Collaborations Update**



PSFA – CES partnering for **E-Rate**; CES managing solicitation (RFP) 2021-02 & Form 470s + contracts for schools & libraries` use

Services → Release: 8/31; Due: 10/23; evaluations and awards in November.

- **2021 Job Order Contracting Update**

8/10 Began JOC solicitation process (replacing “2018’s”) –

RFPs Release: 8/28; Close: 9/28; Evaluations: 10/5-19; Final Awards and Contracts in November.

Updates on the New CES Headquarters!





[WEBINAR]
**PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES
WITH THE HYBRID WORKFORCE**

**PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES
WITH THE HYBRID WORKFORCE**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020 | 1:00 PM ET

E911 is a service that provides for the safety of your employees and customers. New legal changes are coming, though, and with them the need to plan how to be compliant for your offices and your remote workers. Some of your employees are returning to your workspaces, but others are continuing to work from home. They will need to be able to identify their locations, no matter where they are, or where they move.

Per the upcoming requirements, all devices on your communications system, whether a physical office phone, a soft client on a laptop, or an app on a mobile device must be able to provide dispatchable location. This includes devices that move back and forth from your buildings to your users' home offices as your employees become a new hybrid workforce in today's changing world. This service should be accessible for both your on-premise solution, as well as cloud communications solutions, such as ConvergeOne's C1CX Cloud.

Join ConvergeOne and Ken Rosko, VP of Business Development for RedSky, to hear about the upcoming legal requirements for your business. We will review the upcoming changes, how they affect your workforce, and what you need to be doing to prepare your systems and people.

REGISTER NOW

Webinar details to follow upon registration.

PRESENTED BY:





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