MLTI Advisory Board Meeting
Via Zoom
April 21, 2020 (Rescheduled Date)
Meeting Summary

Review of Draft Survey Questions
Draft survey questions were presented to the advisory board for their review and approval. Before the board could finalize survey questions, the March advisory board meeting ended abruptly due to COVID-19. Continuing the survey work the board started, DOE staff members drafted survey questions by reviewing the board's data work. The staff's review included:
- An analysis of the board's research questions;
- a review of the data elements needed and the meaning the data would provide;
- determining the data element status;
- considering the best person/organization to ask/request the question/provide the data; and
- a review of the data category.

Distribution of the survey is pending, events surrounding COVID-19 and the necessary move to remote learning as more pressing issues for schools has resulted in a delay for the distribution of the MLTI v2.0 survey. The document, Draft Survey Questions, includes the board approved survey questions.

Understanding MLTI's Current Elements
To aid board members in understanding the current MLTI program, an overview of MLTI's current budget, device management processes, and professional development program was presented

The current MLTI budget is approved for up to $14,000,000. The 2019-2020 projected budget includes the following:
- $10,000,000.00 for device payments
- $200,000.00 for professional learning expenses
- $600,000.00 for WiFi support
- $445,000.00 for MSLN
- $100,000.00 for administration
- $30,000 for MLTI student conference

A significant percentage of the program budget is expended to device purchases, therefore understanding the device management processes informed board members regarding the level of expense, and staffing necessary to purchase, deploy, replace, and manage devices. The April meeting slide deck provides the detailed elements of MLTI's device management.

An overview of MLTI's professional learning program was presented. MLTI professional learning programming has included MLTI team trainings, summer institutes, PD by request, Maine 121 blogs, MLTI minute, itunes U, fall and spring regional trainings, MARTL program, partnering with Common Sense, Emints, MICDL, and APL studio PD.

Thinking Innovatively - MLTI v2.0

To capture board members' thoughts on how the MLTI program could have helped address the challenges posed by COVID-19 and the move to remote learning, board members were asked to consider and respond to the following prompts:

- What are the challenges you are facing right now regarding the COVID 19 crisis?
- What, if any, of those challenges have been mitigated by the existing MLTI infrastructure? How so?
- Select two elements of MLTI that you would add, change, enhance to mitigate the COVID-19 challenges.
    - Responses:
        - Expanding MLTI to PreK - 6, the most challenges have presented themselves at the elementary level.
        - Increase professional learning programming to build skills to deliver remote learning. Professional credentialing should be considered.
        - Balancing the need for remote learning, FERPA, and student privacy?
        - Addressing the availability of broadband as a state-wide issue. Access to practical levels of WiFi.
        - Device access for larger percentage of student body
        - Access to quality learning materials for remote learning.
        - Mitigate the lack of equity
        - Programming that addresses analog, asynchronous, and synchronous learning environments?

Special Guest Appearance

U.S. Senator Angus King joined the MTI Advisory board meeting. The Senator related the innovative programming that began under his administration some 18 years ago. He discussed how much opposition he faced in passing the law and how divisive the issues were. However, now in retrospect, as we view the program that was developed as a result of the Learning Through Technology law that was passed in Governor King's administration, it is now a national benchmark for innovation in education. He challenged the board to think as innovatively in the second iteration of the MLTI program, to push limits and think outside the box.