2023 MLTI Student Conference Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL (apply to virtual and in-person conferences)

Q: My school didn't order MLTI devices, are we eligible to attend the MLTI Student Conference?

A: All MLTI schools who are opted into the program with or without devices are eligible to attend the MLTI Student Conference.

Q: Which grades are eligible to attend the MLTI Student Conference?

A: Any students in designated MLTI grades are eligible to attend. If your school has MLTI grades 6-8 or 7-9 then those students are eligible to attend.

Q: Can my school attend both in-person conferences?

A: Space is limited at the in-person conferences, so MLTI schools will be given a choice of one in person campus location on the registration form. We will ask your location preference in the registration form and if space becomes available at both we will inform schools.

Q: Will students and chaperones receive t-shirts this year?

A: Yes! We will be using a student design and printing t-shirts for both in-person and virtual events. The color, design, etc. will be the same for both.

VIRTUAL Conference Questions

Q: Can my school participate in the in-person conference if we are bringing a group of students to the virtual conference?

A: Yes, MLTI would like to encourage all MLTI grades students and teachers to participate in the virtual conference.

Q: Will the virtual conference be in the same format as last school year?

A: The MLTI Conference will be the same classroom-based model as last year. Students can be grouped by classroom so that each classroom is participating in a session. Teachers will log into the chosen session and display the session in their classroom with students following along and creating.

IN-PERSON Conference Questions

Q: How many students and chaperones can attend the in-person conference?

A: Registration for the campus locations will be capped at 20 students, and 4 chaperones. Schools will need 1 chaperone for every 5 students. Should space be available for more student's registration will be opened more once all MLTI schools have had the opportunity to register.

Q: Is support for transportation costs available?

A: Yes, please reach out to the MLTI program for support with transportation costs.

Q: Will students be going to sessions that are all over the UMaine campus?
    A: We try to keep the sessions fairly close to the Collins Center (where they begin and end their day). For safety and logistical purposes, sessions are often in the buildings along "the mall." The UMaine map is [here](#).

Q: My school district cannot allow us to use a bus and driver that day, what options are there for us?
    A: Many schools will opt to use vans because they are sending a small group. Please reach out to the MLTI team and we can try to help coordinate with a nearby district. In the past, multiple schools have shared busing.

Q: Can we leave early?
    A: If you need to leave early due to student needs or after-school activities, you are free to do so. Please notify the MLTI team or include this info in your registration, so we can plan accordingly.

Q: What if students are unable to come on the day of the conference?
    A: If a student is unable to come due to unforeseen reasons, please notify us and perhaps we can get a new name in the system (for name tags, etc.). If they are unable to come on that morning, a substitution could be made, but things such as t-shirts, schedules, etc. will not have much flexibility.

Q: Do all students from a school need to be in the same session(s)?
    A: No, students often go to the same session to be with peers, but they will be allowed to register for different sessions. We do ask that students go to the sessions they signed up for to avoid issues around participant numbers.

Q: Should students bring cellphones?
    A: While this is ultimately the decision of the school, cellphones have been useful in keeping school groups connected throughout the day. We would ask that the lead teacher have their cellphone available and charged, so the MLTI team can communicate with them if the need arises. While no sessions specifically ask for participants to use cellphones, many of the tools used will function on cellphones.

Q: What will dining options be for students and chaperones?
    A: In the past, we have had multiple dining halls open and students have fixed menu options for lunch. There are often a large number of options for students and it can be a long process getting everyone through and fed. Students typically enjoy this part of the day, although for many it is confusing and stressful. We will ensure that everyone has the opportunity to eat.

Q: What should I do if I have students with dietary restrictions and allergies?
    A: This information will be shared when you register students by name and we can share this information with the University.

Q: Will the format be like previous Student Conferences at UMaine?
    A: We will likely follow a similar format to previous years:
        • All gather in the Collins Center in the morning
        • Keynote speeches and important information shared
        • Breakout sessions (two back-to-back)

- Lunch
- Back to the Collins Center to end the day and participate in the "Uber session"