

# INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR ENDING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

June 7, 2022  
Virtual Meeting  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



# OPENING REMARKS & ROLL CALL

The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz, Lieutenant Governor  
State of Connecticut

# Member Agencies

Roll Call – Kari Sullivan, State Department of Education

- Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
- Department of Administrative Services
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Department of Housing
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Social Services
- Judicial Branch
- Office of Early Childhood
- Office of Policy and Management
- State Department of Education

# Agenda

- I. **Opening Remarks & Roll Call**  
The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Connecticut
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes and Follow-up from Last Meeting Discussion**
- III. **Educational Technology to Address the Achievement Gap**  
Doug Casey, Commission for Educational Technology  
Stephen J. Hegedus, Ph.D., Southern Connecticut State University  
Holly Williams, Office of Policy and Management
- I. **Next Steps**
- II. **Closing/Meeting Adjourned**

# Acceptance of Minutes and Follow Up from Last Meeting

Topic	Notes
Minutes from the March 11, 2022, Meeting	

# Educational Technology to Address the Achievement Gap

Interagency Council for Ending the Achievement Gap

June 7, 2022



# Presenters

- Beth Bye, Office of Early Childhood
- Doug Casey, Commission for Educational Technology
- John Frassinelli, State Department of Education
- Ajit Gopalakrishnan, State Department of Education
- Stephen Hegedus, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
- Holly Williams, Office of Policy and Management

# Framing the Discussion

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Teaching and Learning through the Lens of Technology

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How Technology-Enhanced Learning Environments Can Address the Achievement Gap

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How to Translate One-Time Funding Opportunities into Creative, Sustainable Approaches to Support Innovation

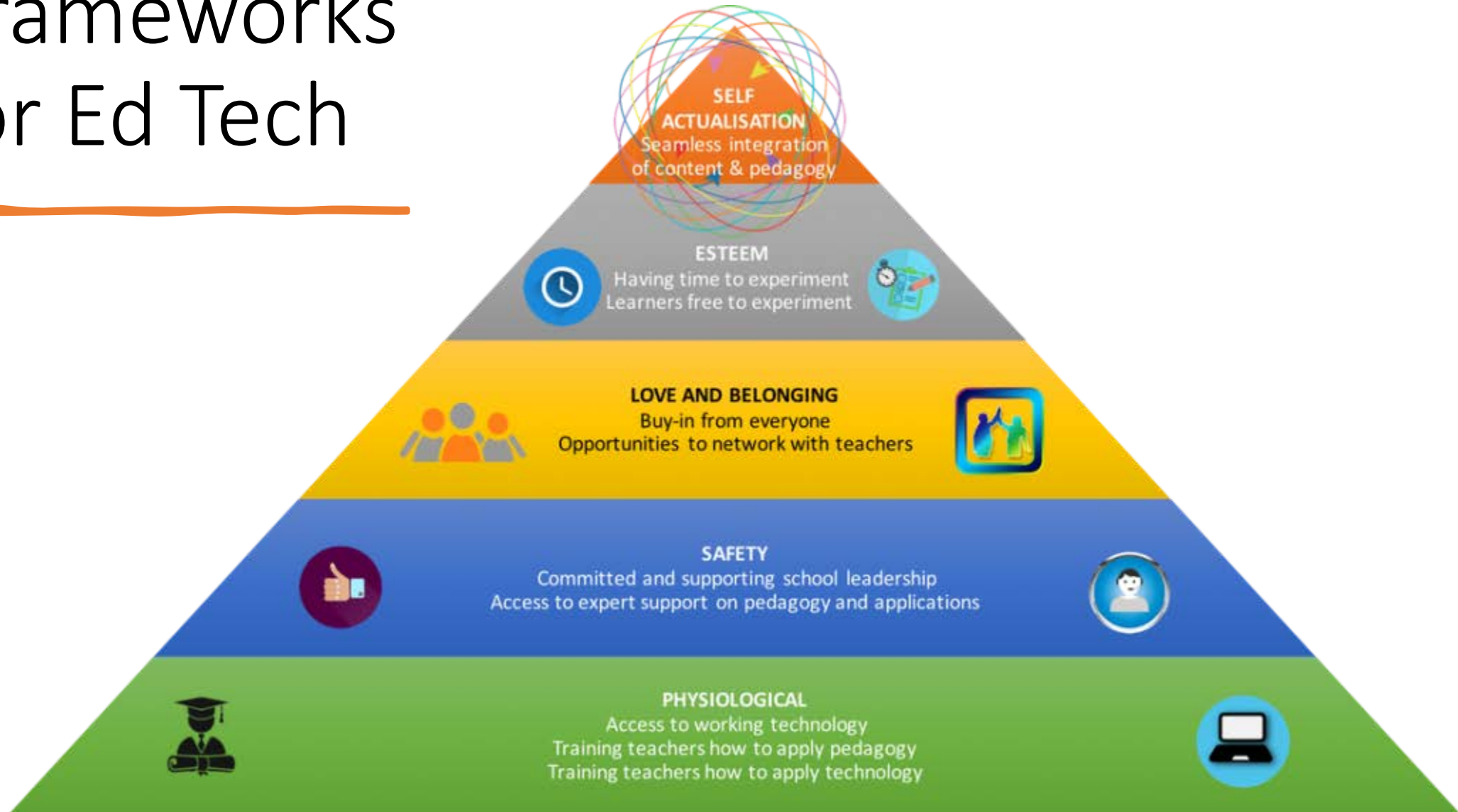
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How the Affordance of Technology and Digital Pedagogies Can Widen Opportunities for All Students (Equity)



# Frameworks for Ed Tech

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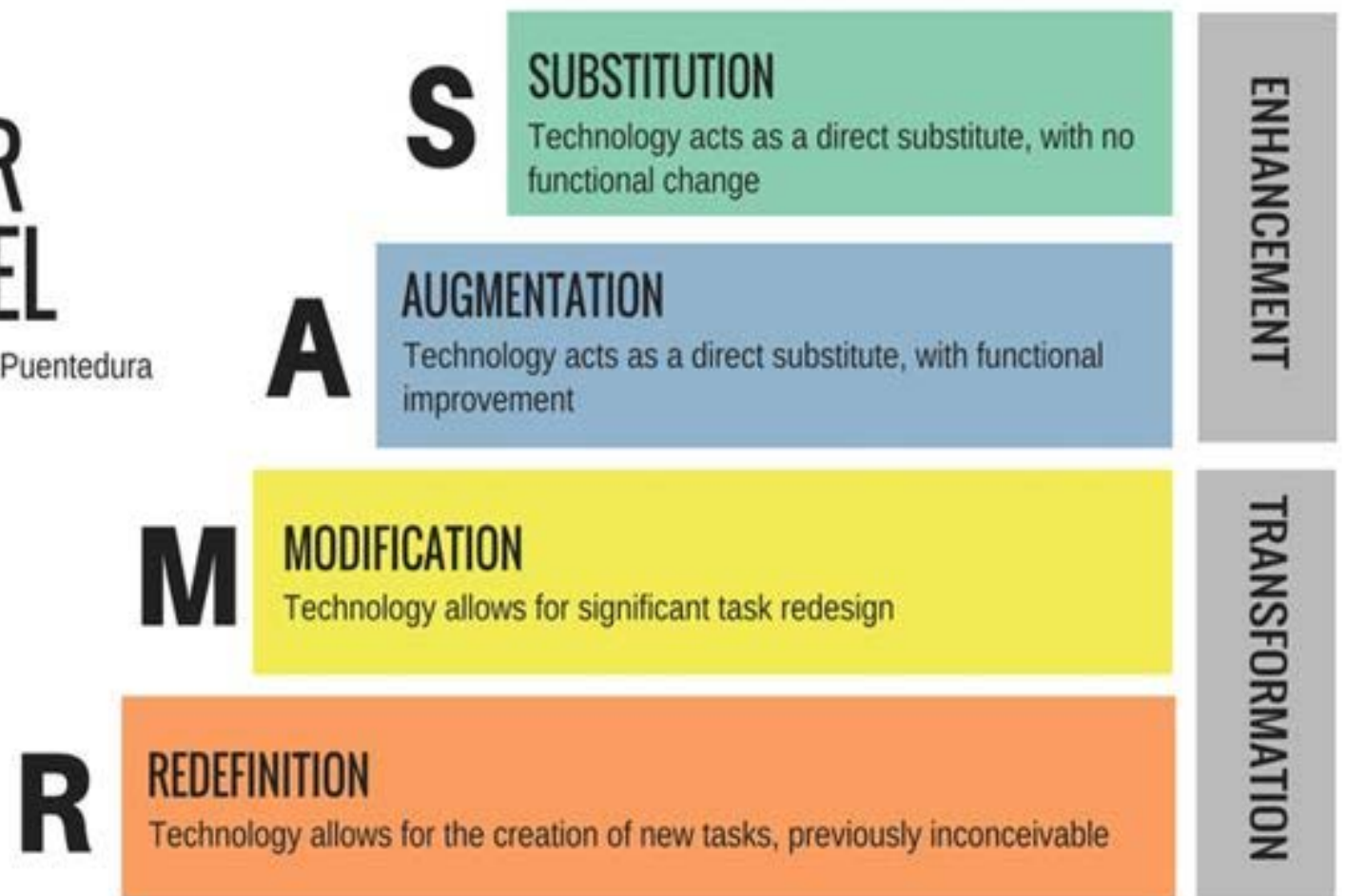


# Frameworks for Ed Tech

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## THE SAMR MODEL

Dr. Ruben R. Puentedura



# Education Technology Design Principles

- Essential Conditions as Tools for Learning
- Enhanced Communication and Engagement Across Time and Spaces (inside and outside the classroom)
- Goal of Mastery through Personalized Learning
- Affordances of Technology as Design Principles for Activity Design (e.g., iPad as an input device)
- Legitimate Peripheral Participation – engagement for all learners

# “Day in the Life”



6:15 AM  
Home



Check Overnight Texts and Social  
Review Block Schedule  
Check Homework



11:45 AM  
School



Google Docs



Review Messages from School  
Principal  
Check Schedule  
Finish Draft of Team Paper  
Check Texts and Social Feeds



POWERSCHOOL



4:30 PM  
Library

Check Homework  
Read Chapters 3 – 4 of *Invisible Man*  
Complete and Submit Algebra  
Problem Set



Check Yesterday's Math Quiz Grade  
Complete Module 3 of DreamBox  
Watch Khan Academy Video on  
Linear Equations



7:45 AM  
School



2:15 PM  
School

Take Chemistry Mid-Term  
Map Midterm Paper  
Review Student Success Plan

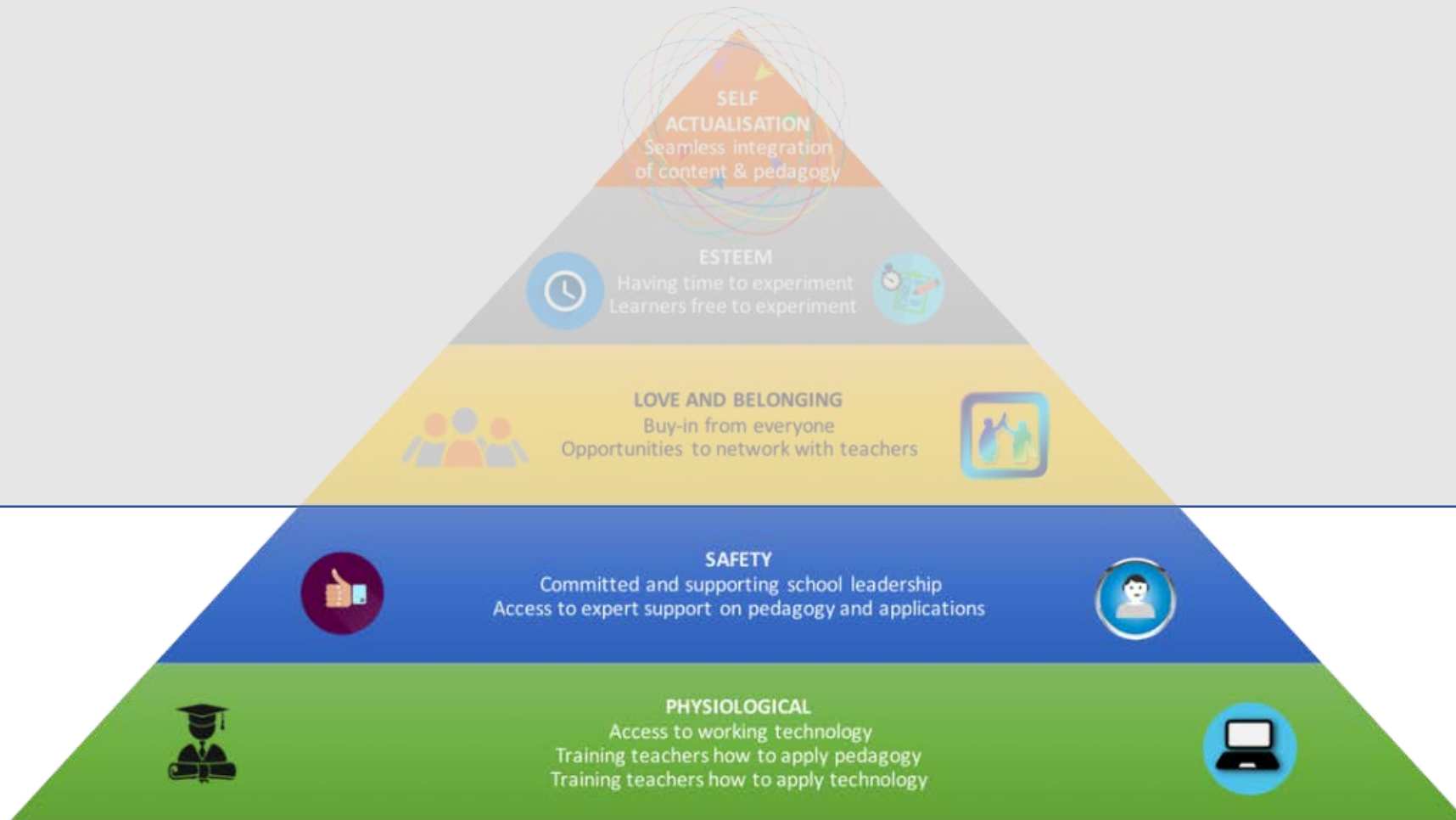


9:30 PM  
Home

Robotics Team Meeting  
Spanish Tutoring  
Check Texts and Social Feeds



# Essential Conditions



# Internet and Devices

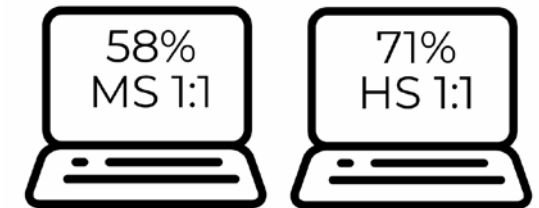
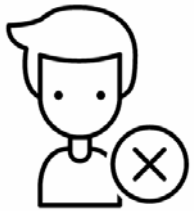
## Schools

- CEN Connects and Protects All Districts
- Built-In Cyber Protections and Filtering
- 71% High Schools, 58% Middle Schools 1:1 Pre-Pandemic
- Met 1:1 Demand During Remote Learning
- Districts Not Hiring to Meet Spike in Tech Support
- Average Staff-to-Device Support Ratio of 1:1,000






## Homes

- 30% CT Residents Without Broadband (2020 ACS)
- Estimated 8% (40,000 Students) Without Home Internet
- District Pandemic Requests for 62,000+ Home Internet Connections

8% =  
42K+



# Everybody Learns

-  142,102 Computers
  - 80,474 Windows Laptops
  - 61,628 Chromebooks
-  12,774 Mobile Hotspots (Kajeet)
-  ~40,000 Cable Broadband Connections
-  164 Community Access Points
-  Public Awareness Campaign

# Adoption Challenges and Lessons

## Among Families

- Already Connected
- Not Aware
- Distrust of Cable Carriers
- Concern Over Onboarding
  - Exposure and Liability with Forms
  - Too Confusing
  - Undocumented
- Simply Do Not Want Service

## Among Districts

- Need Overestimated or Already Met
- Have Not Communicated with Families
- Have Not Distributed Vouchers
- Needs Fulfilled by Other Means



# Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP)

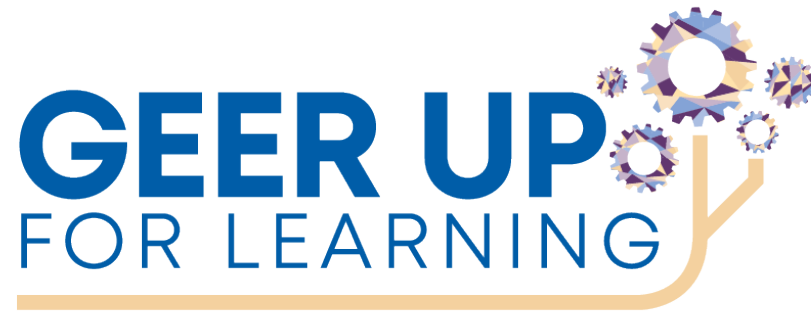
LEAP provides funding to the six Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs), which in turn coordinate directly with their respective districts (15) and local organizations (e.g., Youth Service Bureaus, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.) to expand people power and strengthen relationships through home visits to address specific student needs, including:

- engaging families in a relationship-building manner (not punitive) to address critical needs of students, such as behavioral and mental health services, housing stability, access to childcare, transportation, and meals;
- connecting families to summer enrichment programs;
- ensuring students are prepared for the new school year and attending school on a regular basis;
- using devices to log in for remote learning;
- relaying information about free and reduced-cost connectivity programs;
- troubleshooting problems with technology and new broadband services; and
- linking families with additional educational support services, like tutoring, adult education, and FAFSA support.

## **Home Visitor Log (as of December 31, 2021)**

- 12,000+ family contacts
- 7,000 families

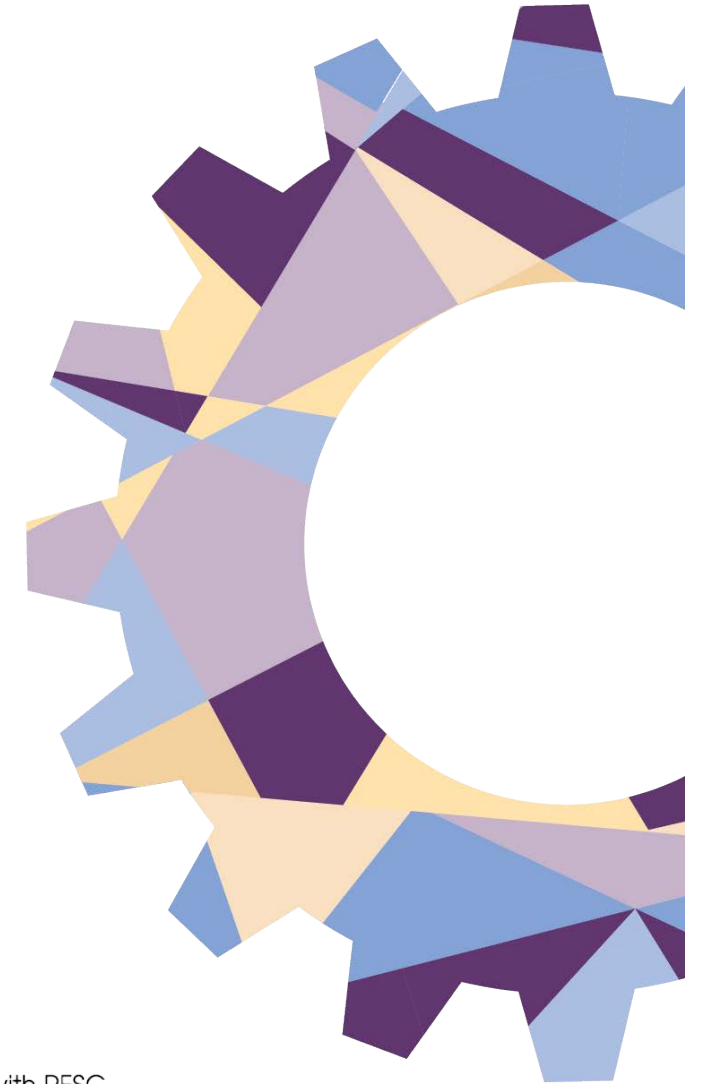




# Early Childhood Impact

During the pandemic, technology was distributed to families with young children to:

- Keep families in contact with Community based programs for story time, activities, parent communication
- To deliver early intervention services for children with special education needs through technology
- To deliver home visiting services to at risk families through technology.
- To provide professional development to early education professionals about best uses of technology with families and young children.



Funded by OEC through the Governor's Education Emergency Relief Fund in partnership with RESC.



Governor's Education  
Emergency Relief



Connecticut Office  
of Early Childhood

RESC Alliance  
CONNECTICUT ALLIANCE OF REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS



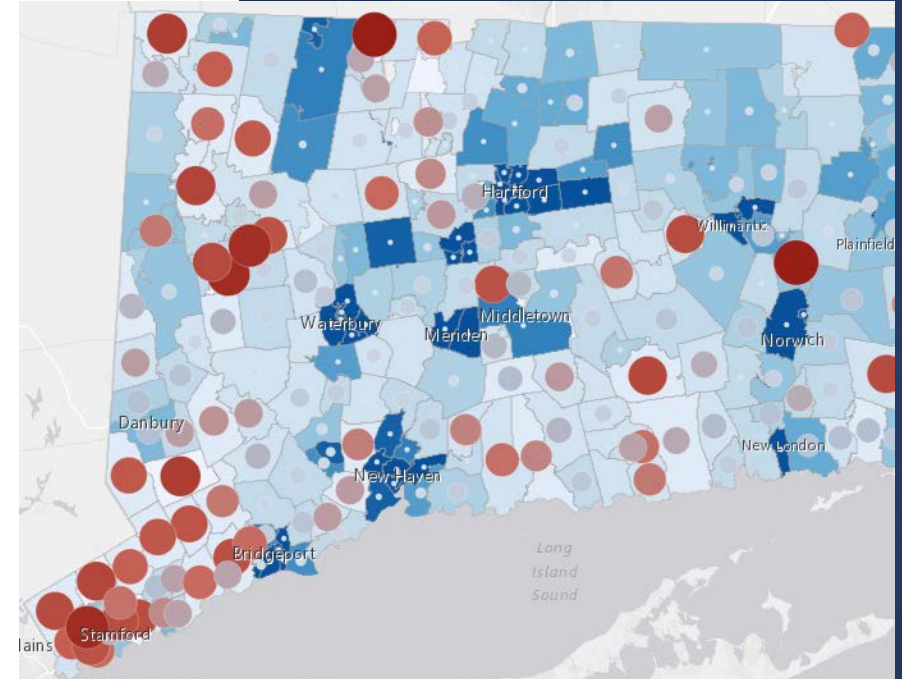
# Federal and State Broadband

## Federal

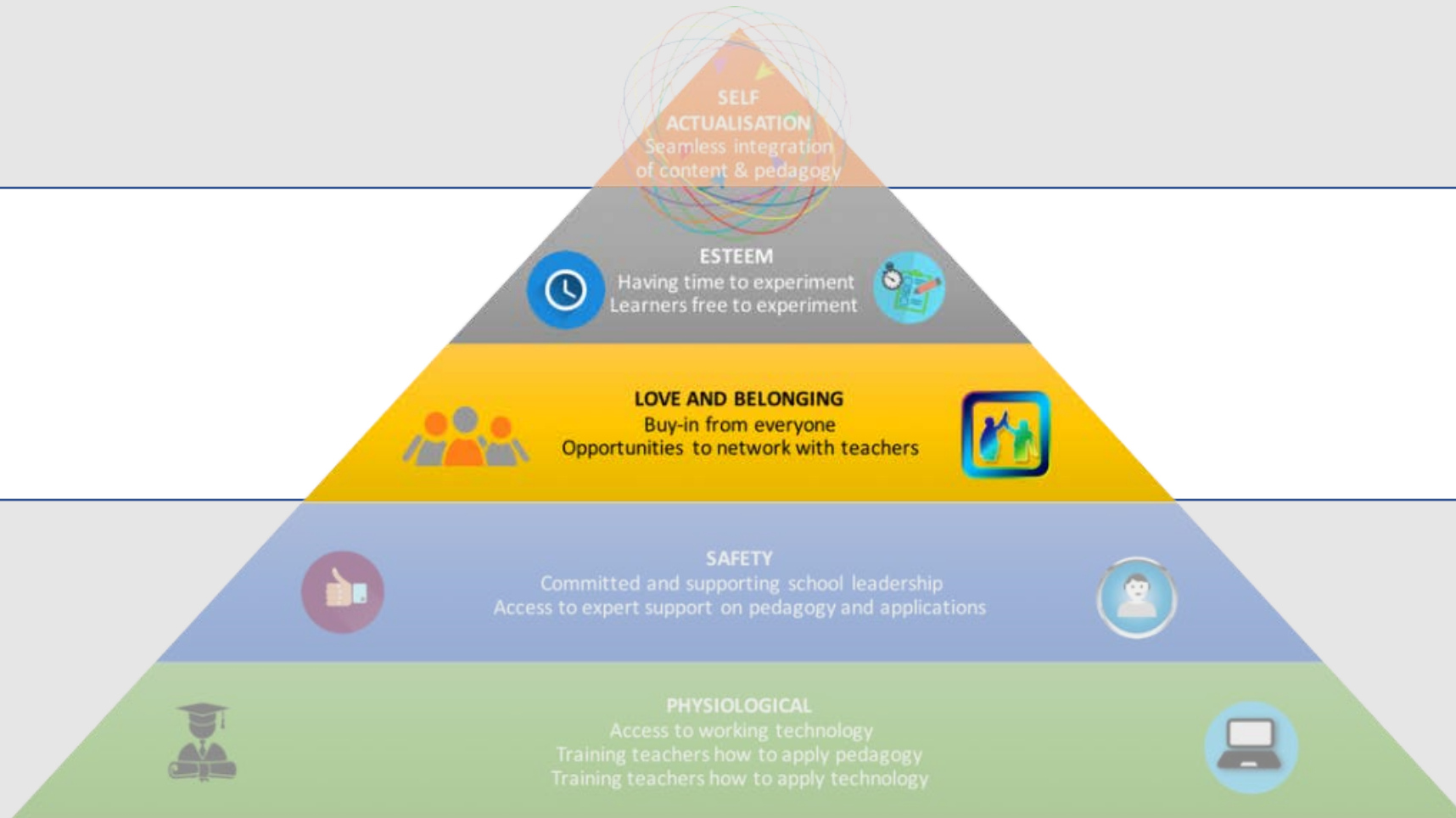
- Emergency Connectivity Fund: Home Internet for Schools and Libraries
- Affordable Connectivity Program: Internet for Qualifying Households
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
  - Broadband Buildout
  - Digital Equity

## State

- Governor's Broadband Bill ([PA 21-159](#))
  - Expansion of Broadband
  - Availability Mapping
  - Community Wireless

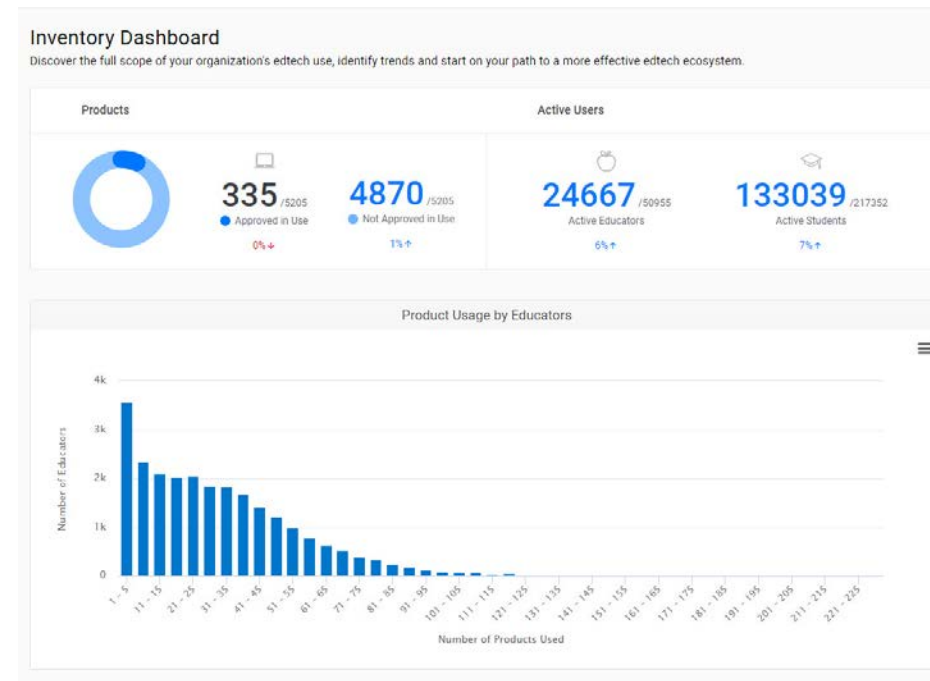


# Applications and Resources



# Educational Software

- CT Districts Using Nearly 5,000 Apps (96% Increase Since Q4 '19)
- Average District Uses 1,400+ Software Title
- LearnPlatform Allows for Free Ed Tech Tracking, Oversight, and Privacy Compliance



# GoOpen CT

- State Site for Creating, Curating, Sharing, and Finding Learning Materials
- 9,000 Courses, Texts, and Learning Materials
- Higher Education, K – 12, Adult Education
- Supports School-to-College Pathways
- Standards Alignment and Quality Rubrics
- Home for CSDE Model Curriculum



## Comprehensive Searchable Library, Powerful Connections



K-12 blended learning resources

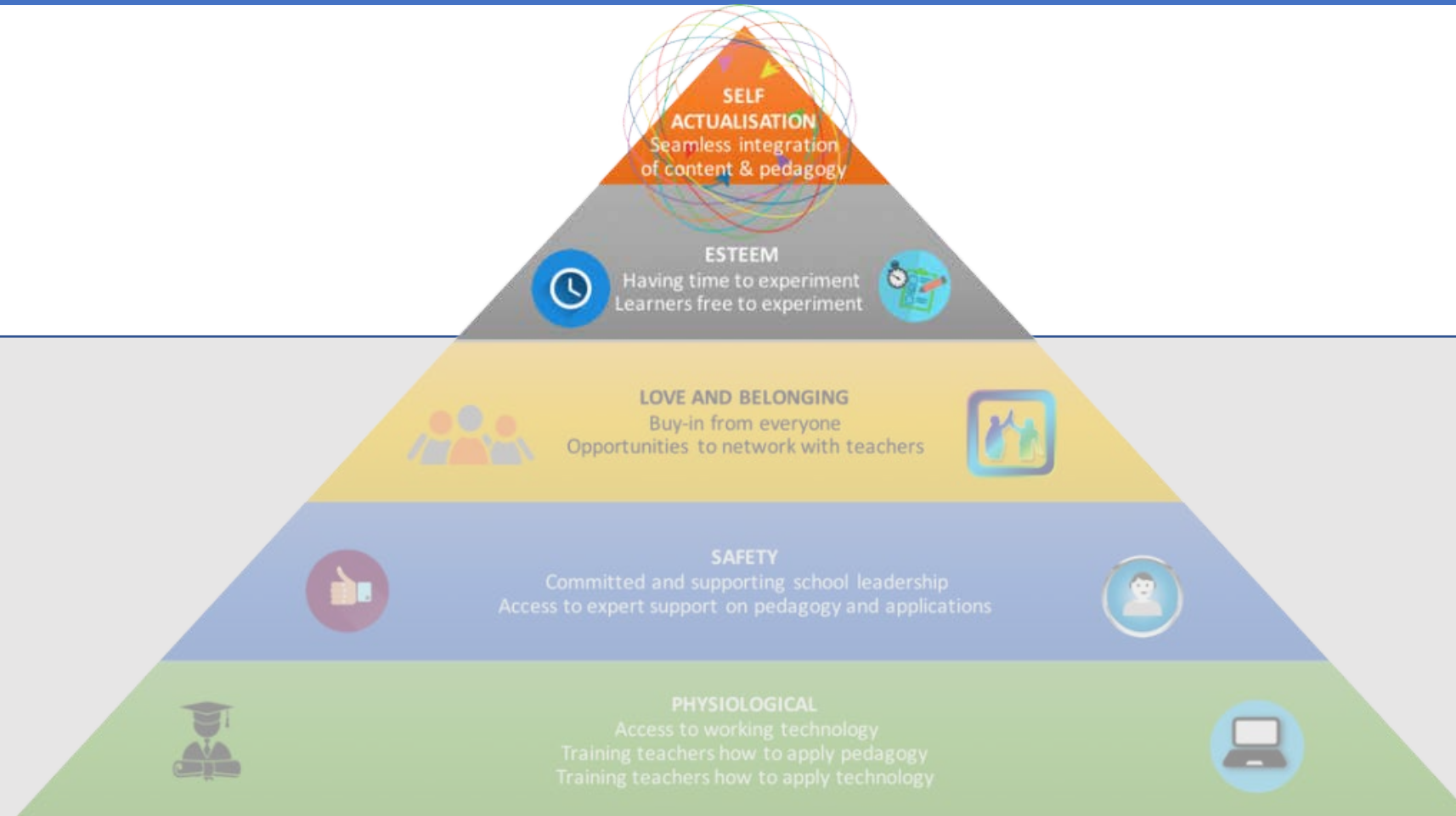
Blended Learning



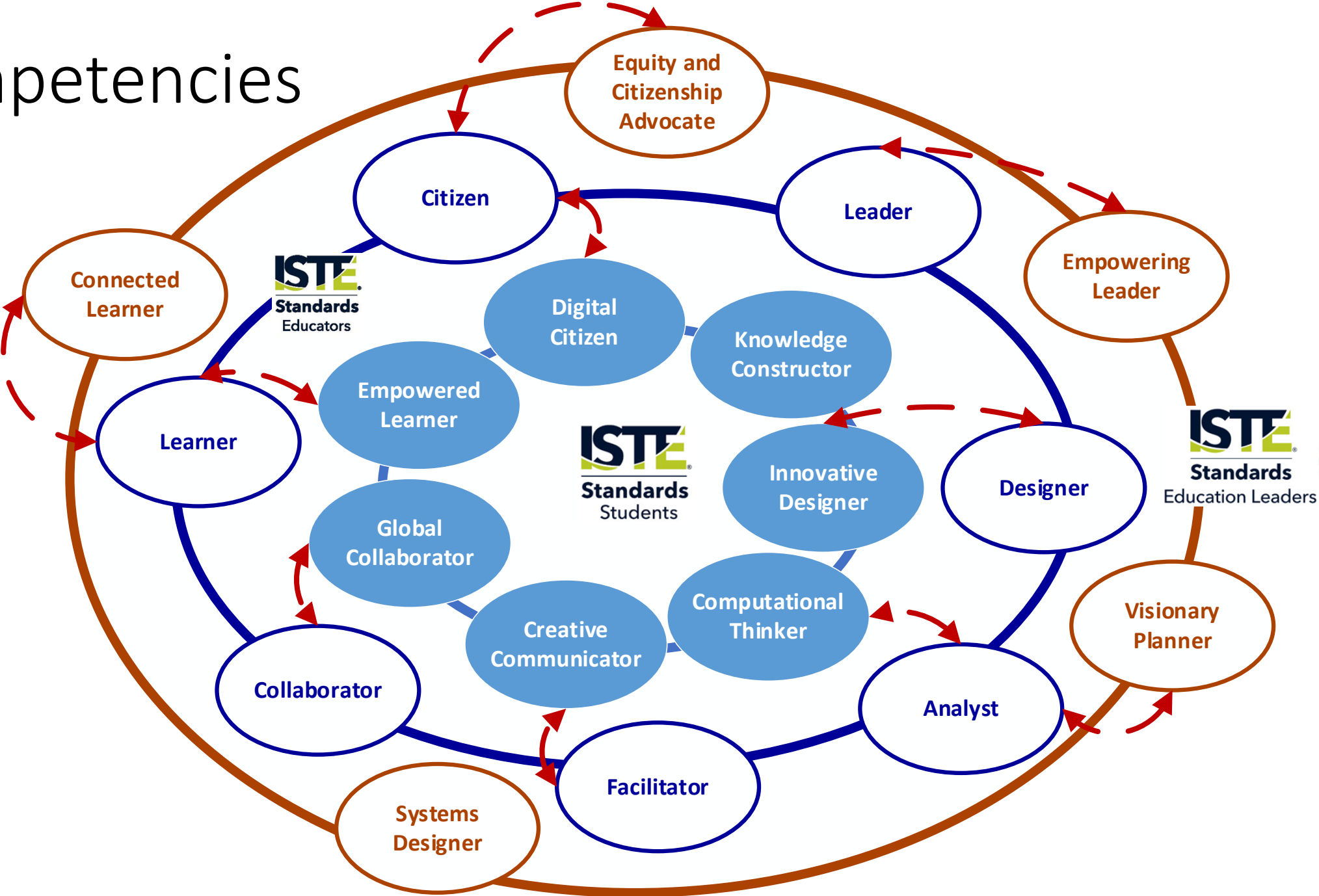
Collections by and for Colleges and universities

Higher Education Resources

# Competencies and Achievement



# Competencies





# Educator Needs and Support



Pre-Service



In-Service



Ongoing Practice, Growth  
Mindset, and Use of Resources

# Design for Learning

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Mastery (Competency) Based Learning

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Multiple Pathways to Achievement

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Online Learning (Remote, Hybrid, etc.)

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Use of Time, Space, and People

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Engagement of Community and Other Partners

# Recommendations



Adopt Policies That Encourage Creativity and Innovative Practices to Benefit Students



Infuse Trust Among Stakeholders (Board, Administrators, Educators, Agencies) to Support Innovation and Student Achievement



Focus on Outcomes Versus Inputs



Design Solutions for Sustainability



Coordinate Efforts Across Agencies and Programs



Encourage viewing these through the lens of our digital footprint and current teaching and learning needs



Adopt an Opportunity Mindset — Reconsider “Achievement Gap”

# Next Steps

- 2022 Meeting Schedule (all meetings will be held from 1 to 3 p.m.)
  - *Friday, September 16, 2022*
  - *Tuesday, December 13, 2022*
- Preparation for next meeting

Closure/Meeting Adjourned

