SMART NETWORK DESIGN FOR TRANSFORMATION & INNOVATION

SMART EDUCATION NETWORKS BY DESIGN (SEND)

Education networks have evolved from addressing district operational and administrative needs to serving students and teachers in and beyond the classroom, anywhere and anytime. Innovative technologies, more access to the Internet, and powerful communication, creation, and collaboration tools are driving instructional transformation. Rapid change is increasing demand for greater network capacity and reliability. In the not-too-distant future, innovations in data visualization, embedded digital formative assessment, immersive, adaptive digital content, and interoperability will place additional demands on district networks. And all this comes in an uncertain funding environment.

How can district leaders make high-stakes infrastructure investment decisions when technology, teaching and learning priorities, and funding are changing so rapidly and so constantly? Here are six core characteristics of the "new" network to include in your network design and architecture planning.

THE NEW NETWORK DESIGN AT A GLANCE

1

Multiple Paths to the Internet
The Internet is a destination for every education stakeholder. The new network will offer higher capacity and reliability through multiple connection points, either through multiple providers or multiple paths from a single provider.

2

Two or More Data Centers and/or Cloud Services
The goal is to increase reliability, ensure disaster recovery, reduce costs, and add agility to ensure future-ready design.

3

Reduction in Single Points of Failure
District WAN is designed to deliver increased reliability and to reduce the impact of any outages on students.

4

Software and Services Hosted in the Cloud
This provides greater Internet bandwidth, gives students reliable anywhere/anytime access, and streamlines access control requirements.

5

Near-term Requirements are Met with a Clear Vision for the Future
Your LAN is designed to meet near and mid-term performance demand and a roadmap is established to address long term demand.

6

Support for Students' Use of Devices
Your network supports not only 1:1 but 1:3-5 student devices and the accompanying high density WiFi demand and delivery, streamlined support, and security for BYOD devices.

As districts experience growing demand for capacity, reliability, and mobility, the need for the new network is critical. That's where **CoSN's Smart Education Networks by Design (SEND)** resources are on point and valuable for both your leadership and technology teams. Download the guide at **https://sites.google.com/site/cosnsend/home**

**Smart Education Networks
by Design** a CoSN leadership initiative