Mississippi OnLine Technology Evaluation

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Purpose of MOTE Survey

Measure the past

- To determine progress in meeting goals of 1995 state technology plan
- To determine progress school/districts have made in the integration of technology

Purpose of the MOTE

Inform the future

- To serve as baseline for the state technology plan revision
- To assist in establishing goals,benchmarks (performance indicators) for state technology plan

Why Develop New Measurement Tool/Method?

- No comprehensive data collection about technology/use in the state
- Previous data collections
  - 1995 survey for first plan (7 page scantron survey)
  - Interim connectivity/equipment surveys (one hand done, one on web)
  - Annual accountability report
  - Little consistency, narrowly focused
- Relied on national collections for other data

Criteria for Instrument

- Easy to use collection and reporting vehicle (online)
- Database for extensive analysis possibilities
- Results available for publics (legislature, parents,educators, etc)
- Comprehensive in scope (not just equipment counts)
- Already proven model (AWS, Inc., used in Maryland)
- Speedy, adaptable, flexible, realtime
- Adjustable to MS (tech standards, policies, law)

What to Measure

- Benchmarks in 95 tech plan (few though they were) based on 7 goals in law
- Snapshot of all parts of technology system
  - **Hardware/Software**
  - **Support/maintenance**
  - **Professional development**
  - **Use of technology for students, teachers and administrators**
  - **Access**
  - **Home/afterschool use**
  - **Emerging technologies/Assistive technology**

Process Used

- Contracted with AWS OnTarget
- Developed online survey with AWS help
- Required all districts/schools to fill it out
- Sent letter to Superintendents
- Sent school/district login information to TCs to distribute and manage
- Show and tell at Tech Coordinators' meeting
- Survey filled out by building level leader
- Gave them 2 months to fill out

Results and Next Steps

- 97 % (993 schools and 137 districts) have completed (75 schools, 9 districts have not)
- Design what the results site looks like **
- Begin data analysis with other data sets **
- Manage the politics ***
- Adjust survey, etc. for NCLB
- Use results for building state tech plan revision
- Make improvements to instrument

OnTarget

Online Technology Evaluation System
Mississippi State Department of Education

DRAFT

2000-2001 MDE Technology Inventory

A Progress Report on Technology Resources in Mississippi Schools

Contents

Prepared by a Mississippi Department of Education / Committee on Technology in Education

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The Committee on Technology in Education would like to thank the local school systems that provided the data in a timely manner and Barbara Reeves and Marlene Johnson of the Maryland State Department of Education who helped review and compile the data.

The Committee on Technology in Education

Technology Summary for ALCORN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

The following pages contain summaries of the Technology Evaluation results .

1. School Profile

1.1 General Information

	Total Students	Total Classrooms	Total Teachers
ALCORN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	560	32	34
All ALCORN SCHOOL DIST Schools	4125	260	291
Mississippi	499751	28800	30820

2. Equipment Count

Student to Computer Ratios

	High Capability Computers	Mid Capability Computers	Low Capability Computers
ALCORN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	186.7:1	10.0:1	62.2:1
All ALCORN SCHOOL DIST Schools	23.4:1	11.9:1	21.6:1
Mississippi	13.5:1	10.2:1	35.0:1

Classroom Computer Data

Percent of Classrooms with...	At least one computer available for student use	At least one computer available for teacher use	At least five (5) computers
ALCORN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	81%	81%	0%
All ALCORN SCHOOL DIST Schools	53%	66%	2%
Mississippi Average	81%	84%	9%
Mississippi Target			

Success Points

- VERY PAINLESS-not one complaint
  - Even though in middle of MSIS, E-rate deadlines
- Good decision to choose a proven model
  - Avoided mistakes
  - AWS previous state experience valuable
- FEW Technical problems-most user errors
  - AWS provides hosting and very good technical support to users/MDE

Key Lessons Learned

- Communication is key
- Leadership is key
- Ease of use is key
- Relevance to school/district
  - Make connection to advantage of having data
  - For other grants
  - For technology/consolidated planning

Lessons Learned

- No submit button at end-so they weren't sure we had gotten it
- Wording of questions always needs work
- Increase district and other stakeholder input
- Pre-fill data we already have (from MS Student Information System)-this will be possible next year
  - **Student counts**
  - **School closings**
  - **School name changes**
- **Ensure definitions are clear**

Requests

- Need to include data from other sources or data needed for other grants (more info gathered on assistive technology)
- Vertical articulation with community/junior colleges, ETV, universities so data elements/definitions/collection efforts are seamless K-16+

Conclusions

- Does not currently address classroom student achievement questions
- Coupled with other data begins to build a picture of the role technology plays in school/district
- Self reported survey has inherent weaknesses and strengths to be considered
- The MOTE survey is one important piece of the accountability puzzle