THE CONNECTED
actem EDUCATOR
CONNECTING TECHNOLOGY USING EDUCATORS IN MAINE

ACTEM 2022 Spring Leadership Conference

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Marc Milstein presents *Insights into Avoiding Burnout and Boosting Happiness*

May 3, 2022
Holiday Inn by the Bay
Portland, Maine

Supporting Learning Through Technology

The 2022 Spring Leadership Conference theme will provide topics for technology leadership and school technology staff as they continue to Support Learning Through Technology. Come join us as we get back together for our first in-person conference in over two years!

The lasts couple of years have been extremely busy and stressful for technology staff in Maine schools. Servicing the needs of staff, students and parents with technology and remote learning for all grades has added much to your workload. Our keynote speaker addresses the stress and burnout that can come with it that you all have experienced and will offer suggestions to help you deal with this as you work through these current times.

Keynoting will be Dr. Marc Milstein. Dr. Milstein will present Insights into Avoiding Burnout and Boosting Happiness. Dr. Milstein specializes in taking the leading scientific research on health and happiness and presents it in a way that entertains, educates, and empowers his audience to live better. His keynote topic - *"New Insights into Avoiding Burnout and Boosting Happiness"* should be interesting and timely as technology staff strive to provide services to their educational community in these Covid times.

His presentations provide science-based

(Continued on page 2)

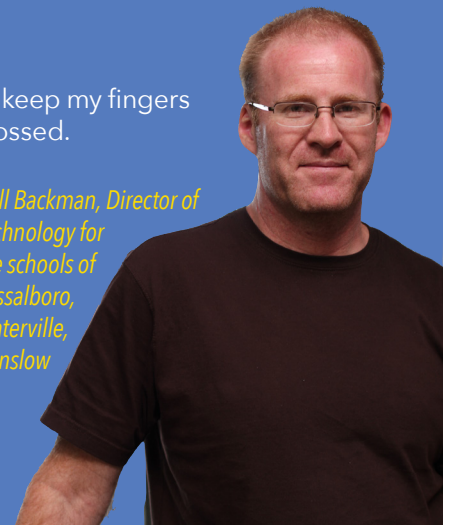**We're back!** *Live!! In Portland* '22 **actem**

Knock on Wood

I'll be brave and say it out loud: I'm looking forward to seeing members of our ACTEM community at the Spring Leadership conference in May. Many professions have their superstitions to ward off bad luck, from starting with odd-numbered clubs in golf to shaving before a rodeo. I'm not quite sure what works best in the field of education, but maybe we can all find whatever magic is needed to undo the jinx I just created. Perhaps it can be just an accumulation of good karma that comes from all the little things all of you do every day, from helping a student to feel successful or offering some warm mittens to someone in need. What goes around comes around, and I'd say it is about time. It has been a long couple of years, and I'm eager to say hello in person again. Until then, I'll keep my fingers crossed.

Will Backman, Director of Technology for the schools of Vassalboro, Waterville, Winslow

actem **20-21 BUSINESS MEETINGS**

March 10, 2022 - Cross Office Building
Room 103A-B: Augusta, ME

May 19, 2022 - Cross Office Building
Room 103A-B: Augusta, ME
ACTEM Business Meetings are held from
9:30 AM-Noon followed by
METDA Meetings from 1:00 PM-3:30 PM

FOLLOW ACTEM

Spring Leadership Conference *(Continued from Cover)*

solutions to keep the brain healthy, lower the risk of dementia, boost productivity and maximize longevity. He earned both his Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry and his Bachelor of Science in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology from UCLA.

The Spring Leadership Conference workshop sessions will provide information and timely topics for the technology directors and their staff in Maine schools. At press time we have workshops confirmed by the DOE, Apple, ENA, CDWG, ClassLink, Aruba, Renaissance Learning and Sophos. For detailed information on the schedule and workshop offering please go to the following link: http://www.actem.org/SpringLeadershipConference

Registration for the Spring Leadership Conference is only $60 for ACTEM Members and $80 for non-members (which will include an ACTEM individual membership). Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch and parking! You can register at the following online link: http://www.actem.org/event-4668504

ACTEM's concern for your health and safety is our top priority, and we want to make your experience at the Spring Leadership Conference both positive and safe in these COVID times. We are implementing the following Duty of Care Guidelines that we hope will make you and your colleagues comfortable and safe.

The guidelines are subject to change depending on current Covid recommendations from the city of Portland and the Maine CDC at the time of our conference.
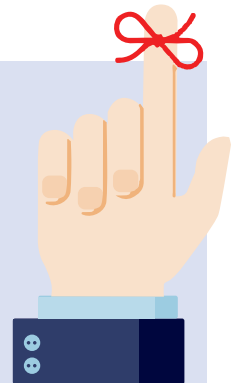
MAINE VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR COMING IN MARCH 2022

by Maine Department of Education

The Maine Community Coordinators Collaborative (C3) in partnership with the Maine Department of Education and the Association of Computer and Technology Educators (ACTEM) will host its second annual statewide Virtual Career Fair the week of March 21 - 25 with the live sessions happening March 22 - 23, 2022. Last spring, C3 connected thousands of high school students with more than 100 Maine companies, entrepreneurs, and nonprofits. Regardless of their geographic location, the students were able to explore the numerous career offerings throughout the state. ***This year, the ME Virtual Career Fair will be open to ALL middle schools, high***

It is never too early to help students explore the exciting career possibilities that await them, and the new innovative use of virtual experiences for a career fair means connecting more students with more opportunities," said Commissioner of Education Pender Makin. "I encourage all middle and high school students, with support from their schools and families, and all businesses who are looking to expand their workforce and tap into the talents that exist in our classrooms, to get involved with this exciting event.

schools and CTE schools throughout the state.
Made possible with a generous grant from UNUM, the ME Virtual Career Fair will be available free of charge to students or schools requiring financial assistance.

The students participating in the ME Virtual Career Fair will soon be an active part of the workforce. Providing an early look into careers and professional connections can help them choose a field they are passionate about," said Cary Olson Cartwright, Unum's assistant vice president of corporate social responsibility. "Unum is glad to relieve some of the financial barriers and provide equitable pathways to success for students across our state.

Registration for the ME Virtual Career Fair is now open at this link. Please email Sheree Inman and Justine Carlisle, Event Co-Chairs at mevirtualcareerfair@gmail.com with any questions.

ACTEM 2021 CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS & KEYNOTES
Available Online for Members

Did you miss last fall's ACTEM 2021 Conference? Did you attend the conference but missed some sessions because they occurred in the same time block as others? ACTEM 2021 Virtual Conference workshop videos are now available and posted on our website as a benefit for our members.

ACTEM has downloaded a total of 55 videos of workshop sessions plus the two keynotes from Hopin (our virtual conference system). These videos are now posted on a MEMBERS ONLY section of the ACTEM website. A few workshops that specifically requested not to be recorded are unfortunately not available.

To get to these videos, go to ACTEM's website and login using your membership email. Once logged in - an extra menu option appears in the **MEMBERSHIP** pull down menu called **ACTEM 2021 Recorded Sessions - Members Only.** This menu selection is only available when you log in as an ACTEM member.

ACTEM hopes these recordings will be a valuable resource for professional development, to learn about new ideas, and to see what you may have missed at this year's ACTEM 2021 Virtual Conference.

MEMBERSHIP • PURCHASING • CONF

Membership Overview

Individual Memberships

Institutional Memberships

Corporate/Vendor Memberships

Corporate Partner Directory

Meeting Reports

ACTEM 2021 Recorded Sessions - Members Only

About **actem**

ACTEM is a non-profit 501(c)3 educational association with the mission to enhance and influence education in Maine through the use of technology. ACTEM is the Maine affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and connects with more than 70 other affiliates to share best practices, increase service to members, and strengthen impact in local education communities.

Funds Available for Professional Development
THROUGH THE PD REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

One of the benefits of being an ACTEM individual member, is the ability to access funds through our Professional Development Reimbursement program. In accordance with ACTEM's mission to enhance and influence education in Maine though the use of technology, individual ACTEM members, who have held membership for at least 180 days, are invited to apply for assistance in the form of reimbursement on qualifying technology professional development opportunities.

WHAT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES QUALIFY?
The training may be in the form of a conference, workshop, a one or more days seminar, university course, online course or combination thereof. ACTEM will reimburse individuals for course and registration fees associated with the professional development activity. Course materials, lab fees, travel, hotel, meals and other similar costs will not be reimbursed. Reimbursement is limited to one approved activity per ACTEM membership year. The intent of the PD reimbursement program is to pay for activities that your district is not able to support. PLEASE NOTE: Any ACTEM sponsored professional development is not eligible for PD reimbursement (ACTEM conferences or ACTEM sponsored workshops).

HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE TO ME?
- Maine Educators with current INDIVIDUAL ACTEM memberships are invited to apply for up to $400 per year for professional development reimbursement.
- Your membership must be CURRENT when submitting your application.
- New ACTEM members must hold an individual membership for at least 180-days prior to the start of the professional development activity to be eligible for the reimbursement benefit.

HOW DO I APPLY?
1. Complete an online application at this link BEFORE your PD activity begins: http://www.actem.org/Online-PD-Application-Form
2. Your application must be received and approved prior to the start date of the professional-development activity.
3. You will need to pay for you PD activity upfront with personal funds. ACTEM does not reimburse districts through this program.
4. Complete you PD activity.
5. Submit proof of completion and personal payment to Dennis Kunces, ACTEM PD Administrator at dennis.kunces@gmail.com
6. Reimbursement payments are generally processed within a few days after submitting your completion and payment documents.

RHIANON E. GUTIERREZ

5 TIPS FOR MAKING DIGITAL LEARNING ACCESSIBLE TO ALL STUDENTS

By Nicole Krueger
Published by EdSurge - July 2, 2021

In many ways, Rhianon Gutierrez did not have a typical education growing up. Born hard of hearing, she learned early on the difference that the accessibility of educational content can make.

"My grandmother and my mother were very strong advocates for me," Gutierrez said. "They worked to ensure I had access in education. As a result, I'm a strong advocate today."

Today, Gutierrez is a digital learning specialist with Boston Public Schools and the creator of the ISTE micro-course Designing for Inclusion. She's also an award-winning multimedia producer whose experiences with accessible education eventually led her to Universal Design for Learning (UDL), a framework recognizes that all students learn differently and aims to reduce the physical, cognitive, intellectual and organizational barriers to learning that vary with each child. When she became an educator, she realized that she had the ability – and the responsibility – to be an advocate for inclusive learning for all her students, the way her mother and grandmother were for her.

"As educators … we have the power to curate how, when, where and what other people learn," she explained. "We have the power to choose wisely and make sure we choose accessible media for all."

Gutierrez specializes in producing multimedia content that's accessible to students of all abilities. Every time she evaluates or creates educational content, she focuses on five simple ways to make it more inclusive. Here is how you can make your learning materials accessible.

RHIANON'S IGNITE TALK

In this 5-minute Ignite talk from ISTE 2016, Rhianon Gutierrez shares her passion for inclusive learning and her tips for how to make digital learning accessible for everyone. Born hard of hearing, Gutierrez doesn't see her disability as a limitation, but rather as something that has led her to become an advocate for all different types of learning. With the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) at the forefront, Gutierrez shares her tips for how to make your content -- both for students and for adults – accessible. Watch Rhianon's video on YouTube to learn how you can use UDL principles to make your content accessible to all:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHldnSMGzt4&t=7s

1. **Write alt text for your images.** Students who have visual limitations can use screen reader programs to read the content of a website out loud. But this only works for images if you add alt text describing them.

2. **Caption your videos.** Students who are hard of hearing won't understand the audio from videos without captions. Transcriptions also help visual learners retain content better. Several online tools, such as Amara.org, DotSub.com and Subtitle Horse, will help you caption videos for free.

3. **Transcribe your podcasts.** Podcasts are audio only, so, by definition, they won't work for those who can't hear – unless you transcribe them into text. There are online tools, such as Scribie, that transcribe podcasts for free.

4. **Structure your website for ADA compliance.** Public school websites are required by law to follow Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines that affect the design and coding of navigation menus, links, images, color, tables, multimedia embeds and more. Talk to your IT department or look up the guidelines to make sure your content is accessible to everyone.

5. **Use the right tools.** Gutierrez uses a number of digital tools to create accessible content, ranging from free online tools, such as Skype and Google Classroom, to paid software, such as the literacy support solution Read&Write.

Maine Teachers and School Staff Highlighted on News Center Maine as part of 2022 #LoveTeaching and #LoveSchoolStaff Campaign

The Maine Department of Education (DOE) and News Center Maine have partnered on a two-week campaign to highlight the amazing work of Maine teachers and school staff. This marks the second year in a row for the partnership, with News Center Maine airing video clips of people working in Maine schools, talking about where they work and why they love what they do.

Starting on Valentine's Day, the first day of the national #LoveTeaching campaign, and running through February 27th, the videos feature Maine's education workforce in all regions of Maine working in the many different roles in Maine's schools. Video messages from teachers will air on News Center Maine's morning and evening news shows from February 14th – 20th and video messages from school staff videos will air the week of February 21st – 27th.

"Teachers and school staff do heroic work each and every day to teach, nurture, feed, transport, coach, and support our young people," said Education Commissioner Pender Makin. "And they've overcome enormous challenges throughout the pandemic to provide the education and support students need. Teachers and school staff are our heroes and we're thrilled to partner with News Center Maine so that teachers and school staff can talk about their schools, students, communities, and what drives their passion to work in our schools. And they can get some love from their communities in return."

During the campaign, News Center Maine will also be soliciting videos from community members across Maine, inviting them to celebrate their local teachers and school staff members, thanking them for all their hard work. Students and their families, as well as fellow educators, are encouraged to give a video shout out to say, "Thank you!" and send along to News Center Maine. One can share a video by:
• Using the Near ME tool of their mobile app
• Texting them to 207-828-6622
• Posting them on social media and using the hashtag # LoveTeaching or #LoveSchoolStaff

Be sure to watch News Center Maine, WCSH 6/WLBZ 2 now through February 27th to see the faces of the amazing people working to educate young people in our state and hear from students and families who are sending in their messages of appreciation and love.

Videos will continue to be added to this YouTube Link once they are highlighted on the air.

NEWS CENTER MAINE

K-12 School Security Guide Suite
Now Available to Schools

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) School Safety Task Force has released the K-12 School Security Guide Suite, a set of products designed to inform safety and physical security planning for kindergarten through grade 12 schools across the United States.

Developed in partnership with the RAND Corporation, the K-12 School Security Guide Suite is comprised of the CISA K-12 School Security Guide (3rd Edition) and accompanying School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT). The Guide and SSAT provide a comprehensive doctrine and methodology to assist schools in conducting more robust vulnerability assessments and implementing layered physical security elements across K–12 districts and campuses. Both products are available on CISA.gov and are designed to support school communities in strengthening their protection and mitigation capabilities against the range of targeted violence and crime-related threats they might face. Specifically, the K-12 School Security Guide Suite includes:

- **CISA K-12 School Security Guide, 3rd Ed.** – The 3rd Edition of the K-12 School Security Guide is designed to help education agencies across the United States adopt a systems-based approach to the planning and implementation of layered physical security in schools. Additionally, the Guide demonstrates how taking a systems-based approach to layered physical security can help schools create safe and secure learning environments without asking staff members to become security experts.

- **CISA School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT)** – The K-12 School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT) was developed to help schools create safe and secure learning environments. The SSAT incorporates school context and applies the systems-based approach described in the 3rd edition of CISA's K-12 School Security Guide, to improve a school's physical security. The SSAT and 3rd Edition of the Guide build on the prior second editions of both documents.

- **CISA School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT) User Guide** – The User Guide is intended to help users of the K-12 School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT) understand the purpose of the tool, how to use the tool, and how to interpret assessment results. It serves as a 101-introduction to the SSAT.

- **CISA School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT) Technical Appendix** – The Technical Appendix is intended to provide users of the K-12 School Security Assessment Tool (SSAT) with a detailed understanding of the creation, operation, and functionality of the SSAT.

The release of the K-12 School Security Guide Suite marks an important milestone in CISA's continued efforts to advance safe, secure, and resilient schools, and to keep our Nation's students safe. We hope you find these products to be useful, actionable, and valuable in supporting your school safety efforts, while at the same time preserving the broader educational mission of your institutions.

To access the Guide and SSAT, please visit https://www.cisa.gov/k-12-school-security-guide.

Ordering & Reimbursement Timeline

FEBRUARY 8 - 17 MLTI districts fill out grade choice selection survey

FEBRUARY 17 - MARCH 1 MLTI districts receive and sign Year 2&3 Opt-in Agreement (Opt-In must be signed and returned to receive device allocation for year 2).

MARCH 1 - 8 Allocations (student & educator) are posted for MLTI districts

MARCH 8 - 21 DOE hosts device informational sessions (1 with each device vendor)

APRIL 1 Device ordering opens for MLTI districts

MAY 1 Device ordering closes for MLTI districts

JULY 1 DOE begins sending reimbursements for provided device allocations

Year 2 Device Update

We are excited to share some updates about the device ordering and reimbursement timeline for year two of MLTI 2.0. Understanding the challenges our schools have faced over the last two years we have listened to the concerns of our schools and worked to make year two device ordering and reimbursement more efficient for everyone. Our goal is to ensure all MLTI students and educators start the 2022-2023 school year with their MLTI device.

See the timeline in the left column for details about ordering and reimbursements.

If you have questions about this process, please reach out to Brandi.M.Cota@Maine.Gov.

DOE / MLTI Staff Updates

The Maine Department of Education and MLTI Team are excited to announce Jordan Dean as our new Data Analyst as of December 20th 2021. Jordan has been with MLTI for the past two years where she has been a tremendous asset our team and the Maine DOE through her work on ConnectKidsNow!, MOOSE, and MLTI.

Taking over for Jordan's former position of Office Specialist is Brooke Upson, who joined our team on February 7, 2022. Prior to working at the DOE, Brooke worked as a Vocational teacher in a regional high school in Easton, Massachusetts. She has many years of experience within the medical office setting. She is excited and enthusiastic about her new role as Office Specialist!

We are also excited about filling the new Technology Infrastructure Specialist position that was created as part of the MLTI 2.0. This person will work with schools around improving and updating their infrastructure and will help MLTI support schools in other ways. The new Technology Infrastructure Specialist begins on April 1, 2022. The team is excited about introducing this person at the ACTEM Spring Conference.

#SELday

SAVE THE DATE
#SELDAY ON MARCH 11, 2022

The Maine Department of Education (DOE) is participating in the International SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Day 2022 by providing all Maine classroom teachers access to ready-made plans to use that day:

• Age-appropriate read aloud options
• Selected SEL4ME modules
• Interdisciplinary lesson plans

Social emotional learning (SEL) changes lives—studies show that SEL improves well-being and academic outcomes, builds a positive school climate, and provides children with the necessary skills to excel in today's workforce. Yet many

members of our communities don't know about SEL yet.

Keep your plans light for March 11th as we will be doing the planning – all you'll need to do is access the links and share with your students. Our goal is to provide the plans to Maine educators by March 1st.

While classroom teachers are accessing SEL activities throughout this international day of celebration, the Maine DOE Office of School and Student Supports (O3S) is also inviting people to join them for a day-long focus of all-things SEL. Each team member from the O3S is sponsoring an hour throughout the day that will feature articles, podcasts, videos, TED Talks, exercise, office hour time, reading, conversation, and more! From SEL Specialist Kellie Bailey to our newest Nurse Specialists Tammy Diaz and Sarah DeCato, there will be something for every person associated with Maine schools – personnel, parents, caregivers, you name it!

Be on the lookout for a day-long menu of options on March 1st. Local District SEL Teams are also encouraged to sign up for the international celebration event and create their own plans, as well! Learn more here. For further information about Maine DOE Office of School and Student Supports event, contact Julie Smyth at Julie.A.Smyth@maine.gov.

ACTEM Spring Conference
WORKSHOP TITLE: MLTI 2.0 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
WORKSHOP PRESENTER/S: JON GRAHAM & EMMA BANKS

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: MLTI team members will share the story of MLTI Professional Learning of the past school year. How the three focus areas (digital citizenship, technology integration and digital instructional design) were addressed this year and will continue to guide the team's work next year. The team will explain how and why they pivoted from their original plan to the current approach.   They will also be seeking feedback on professional learning needs and wants for the 2022-2023 school year.

WORKSHOP TITLE: MLTI 2.0 SPRING 2022 UPDATE
WORKSHOP PRESENTER/S: BETH LAMBERT & BRANDI COTA

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: Members of the Learning Through Technology team will provide important updates on MLTI 2.0 including the introduction of the new Technology Infrastructure Specialist, the work of the MLTI Software Advisory Group and the status of the program's external evaluation process. The team will also be seeking feedback on device use over the past school year.

We're back! Live!! In Portland '22 actem

Maine DOE

® ADOBE SPARK > ADOBE
CREATIVE CLOUD
EXPRESS

For K12 schools and districts, Adobe Spark for Education is now Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education. This past December Adobe Spark for Education was renamed by Adobe as Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education.

The Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education plan will include additional applications, Adobe Premiere Rush, Adobe Photoshop Express, Adobe Spark Video and Adobe Spark Page. This plan will also include access to royalty-free Adobe Stock free photos and the ability to create and convert PDFs. The Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education plan will remain FREE of charge even with the addition of these applications and services.

Existing Adobe Spark users will automatically have access to these applications and features. As always, if you want to modify your Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education plan, you may do so in the Adobe Admin Console at any time. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Adobe support team, or contact ACTEM the Adobe reseller partner for Maine school and districts.

Creative Cloud Express on Web
Create social graphics, videos and more on web.

Premiere Rush
Shoot, edit, and share videos.

Creative Cloud Express on Mobile
Create standout social graphics, videos and more on **mobile**.

Photoshop Express
Edit and retouch photos, create collages, and more.

Creative Cloud Services
Access to a K12-friendly curation of Adobe Stock photos from within the Creative Cloud Express app, Adobe Fonts, Creative Cloud Libraries – and 2 GB of storage.

Spark Video
Create video slideshows.

Spark Page
Create web pages.

Google

Google Teacher Center

Google Teacher Center offers free technology training and resources for educators. Learn basic and advanced skills across Google tools with free online training courses designed for educators of all levels. Click here for the Google Teacher Center link.

Looking for specific Google Classroom Training? Click this link for self-guided Google Classroom training.

Google also offers Certification Training Courses. This training allows you to demonstrate your mastery of Google tools in your classroom with the Educator Level 1 or 2 Certifications. Completing the certification earns you a badge that helps you stand out on your resume, portfolio, website, and more. There is a small fee for the Google Certification Training.

Each box on the right is a live link to specific offerings from the Google Teacher Center, explore these pages as you embark on your Google traing journey!

Tips for Google products

Looking for help with a specific Google app? Use these tips, tricks, and lessons for educators.

Explore tips

Certifications

Distinguish yourself as an educator and demonstrate mastery in Google tools with certifications.

Explore certifications

Professional development programs

Take your expertise to the next level with professional development programs from Google.

Explore programs

OVERDRIVE MOVING TO SORA

OverDrive will soon start the process of retiring the legacy OverDrive app and encouraging everyone to use Sora as the primary app to enjoy your digital collection.

STARTING FEBRUARY 23, 2022

- The OverDrive app will be removed from the Apple App Store, Google Play, and the Microsoft store. Download links for the legacy OverDrive desktop app for Windows and Mac will be removed from overdrive.com/apps.
- New users looking for the OverDrive app will be directed to Sora.
- Users who previously installed the OverDrive app will still be able to use it without disruption.
- All users can continue to use, borrow, and open titles from your school's lib.overdrive.com OverDrive website via a browser until we begin further migration to Sora.
- OverDrive's goal is to move everyone over to Sora by the end of 2022. Please visit the Resource Center for helpful materials, including Sora promotional kits, staff training resources, classroom activities, self-paced learning modules, and more. We encourage you to start using these materials now in preparation for this update.

OverDrive is committed to supporting a smooth transition for you and your students and will send updates on the plans and timing for the eventual retirement of the OverDrive app.

TCEA ONLINE SELF-PACED COURSES AVAILABLE STARTING AT $29

ACTEM has a new partnership with the Texas association (TCEA) to offer online self-paced courses to our members. This partnership provides over 30 course offerings to ACTEM members at very reasonable pricing.

TCEA's streamlined, self-paced courses are grounded in years of expertise and educator input. With thoughtful, thorough, and proven ways to integrate useful tech in teaching, TCEA's online courses and certifications — and bundles — are a great value starting at $29, and also an investment in lasting professional learning.

Boost your skills with remote learning, technology tools, apps, and devices. Courses include topics like Google Tools, iPads, Chromebooks, Screencasting, Seesaw, Social-Emotional Learning and much more.

TCEA's micro-credentialing online courses and certifications are self-paced, engaging, and developed by experts to give you the most relevant skills that use ed tech to create effective learning.

When you register for a course, make sure to select ACTEM from the Referring Organization drop down menu. A portion of your registration fee will be shared with ACTEM to support our mission. The catalog of TCEA's course offerings is at https://tcea.org/learn/courses

Certificates with contact hours are available at the completion of any course. For more information visit http://www.actem.org/page-1752542.

Computer Science Summer of Fun Professional Development

Project>Login will be offering a CS Summer of Fun Professional Development the week of August 9-13. Workshops will include topics including Microsoft TEALS, LoisLabs, CS Robotics for PK-6, Getting Started with CS First, and much more! Sign up below to be notified when registration goes live.

PROJECT ⟩ LOGIN

Engage. Educate. Employ.

Sign up at the following link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCnLL_MUMqNZ-zi2RmB3knmoQh2RNxuUoAKtnD_jGOwlPEnyA/viewform

kajeet.
Connection

Bringing you the latest news and resources to support your digital equity initiatives.

EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND UPDATE

As of February 22, 2022, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has extended the deadline for Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) awardees to spend their funding. The deadline is now June 23, 2023.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ADDING KAJEET SOLUTIONS INTO THE 2022-23 BUDGET?

Kajeet connectivity solutions support students in your district without reliable Internet access outside the school building.

- Low-Income households

- Rural areas of the district

- Homeless students

- Hospital or home-bound students

- Students in foster care

- Migrants students

For more information contact Jared Cooper, Kajeet Account Manager. Jared can answer your questions and help build a quote through ACTEM for Kajeet solutions.

email: jcooper@kajeet.com
website: www.kajeet.net
7901 Jones Branch Drive, Suite 350, McLean, VA 22102
cell: 607-281-4355

BIG DEAL MEDIA

Trusted Resources for Educators

Big Deal Media saves educators hours of research and thousands of dollars while identifying top-quality resources and OERs for schools and classrooms. It is a content-rich collection of trusted print and electronic publications that offer the information and tools K-12 educators need-all vetted through the prism of the curriculum. It consistently delivers wish lists of resources and funding opportunities, and has done so since 1995.

Big Deal Media publications provide timely, relevant, and reliable resources in a rapidly changing educational environment, created with insight and attention to detail by seasoned educational publishing professionals and practicing K-12 educators.

CHECK IT OUT
(https://www.bigdealbook.com)
and sign up for their K-12 Technology newsletter.

CMTC 21 *SECOND PASS!*

The 2021 Christa McAuliffe Transforming, Teaching, & Technology Conference (CMTC21) was back better than ever as we celebrated our 35th Anniversary! If you were not able to attend CMTC21 live, you can now register for a "second pass" to access to all the content that was streamed live or recorded via Zoom. CMTC21 Second Pass! provides access to ALL of the following online content through at least August 31st:

• Kate Darling PhD. (Tuesday) and Dr. Lori Elliot (Wednesday)
~ Keynote Presentations
• Monday Virtual Panel
~ Lessons Learned During the COVID Virtual Pivot
• 8 Spotlight and Keynote concurrent sessions
• 44 Concurrent Sessions & BYOD Workshops

That is a total of 55 sessions included in your CMTC21 Second Pass registration! CMTC21 Second Pass! Certificates of Participation are available upon receiving full payment. This is a great way to enhance your professional learning hours. Check out the CMTC21 website at www.nhcmtc.org to see which sessions are available online. All session titles marked with "SP!" are accessible using your CMTC21 Second Pass! registration. Click here to register online. Please do not hesitate to email cmtc@nhste.org if you have any questions.

Registration Options

General Individual
$115
5-pack **$550**
10-pack **$ 1,050**
20-pack **$2,000**

COMPTIA A+
CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Bangor Adult & Community Education is offering a CompTIA A+ Certification class to incumbent workers in the IT field. The class will be held via Zoom from April 4 – June 29 (Monday and Wednesday) from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Instructor: Alex Bridges

The cost is $1200 per participant and includes two exam vouchers. Funding may be available via the Maine Community College System and the Harold Alfond Center for Workforce Advancement. Please see the details below.

For more information and to register, please contact Bangor Adult & Community Education at 941-6316.

HAROLD ALFOND CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF **MAINE'S WORKFORCE**

The Maine Community College System (MCCS), through the Harold Alfond Center for Workforce Advancement, is offering supplemental funding for training that upgrades frontline incumbent workers' skills, leading to career advancement and job security. Bangor Adult & Community Education has joined this initiative as a third-party training partner and will work with MCCS to determine grant-funding eligibility of educational programs that we offer.

To qualify for funding, your organization will need to sign a memorandum of agreement to become an MCCS Workforce Development Compact member. Then you will be able to complete a funding request application(s) for training. As a Compact member, you are eligible to receive up to $1,200 per employee during 2022 and up to $600 per employee in subsequent years to be used toward training frontline incumbent workers. Funding is available now! This is the link to the Workforce Development Compact.

Rethinking and reshaping social studies instruction in Maine

On February 26, 2021, we convened a group of social studies supervisors across the state to discuss how we can include greater cultural responsiveness, civic engagement, and inquiry in instruction. Here are a few interesting insights shared during the virtual roundtable discussion.

1

Reexamine and refresh existing materials to address problematic perspectives and lack of representation

During the session, attendees reported that some of their top challenges were feeling stuck with existing materials that can be tainted with bias and racism. One leader put it beautifully – "We must load up our classroom libraries with books that children can see themselves in," and another mentioned the importance of building background knowledge on complex topics so students get a holistic picture of issues.

2

Ground civic engagement in shared purpose and the issues students care about

One leader shared that every year, their school rallies behind a service learning focus that shapes volunteer activities throughout the year and gets the entire school community invested in a common purpose. Another social studies supervisor has had success with student-led civic learning projects so that students can dive into issues that are most meaningful to them.

3

Put students in the driver's seat to activate natural curiosity and inquiry

Let students lead their curiosity by searching for and finding articles on their own. Students will be more engaged in the inquiry process when they have the freedom to choose topics most interesting to them. One leader noted that sometimes, this means giving teachers permission to not talk too much, and letting students fill the time with discovery and peer-to-peer discussion.

Want to put these principles into action at your school or district? Newsela Social Studies, paired with the brand new Maine Social Studies collection, includes content and instructional supports that ground learning in local history, and help students draw connections on a national and global level. Contact us to see a preview.

DIGITAL RESOURCES, ACCESS, SECURITY TRENDS, MANAGING DATA PRIVACY, AND VENDORS!

TOPICS COVERED

Digital Learning and Resources
   • Managing and onboarding digital resources securely
   • SSO and access management
   • Understanding and monitoring digital resource use and domain access
Data and Privacy
   • Working with vendors and privacy laws
   • Data and security trends
Account Creation and Secure Data Management
   • Secure rostering, data sharing, and reporting
   • Secure provisioning/ID management

Register here: https://www.classlink.com/webinars/w496-digital-resources

Featured Speakers:

Bob Chappell
VP of Instructional Technology
ClassLink

Grace Magley
Director of Digital Learning
Natick Public Schools, MA

Ramah Hawley
MA, ME, NH, RI, & VT NDPA Administrator
The Education Cooperative

UPCOMING FREE LANSCHOOL WEBINARS

Your class load, parent meetings, and special projects make for hectic days, but with a 30-minute training session, you can harness the power of Lan-School.

LANSCHOOL CLASSIC
30 MINUTE JUMP-START

LanSchool Classic can transform your classroom into a digital learning oasis. Bring your questions and we'll answer them in a Q&A session after the webinar. This training is FREE. Register using the links below now.

March 16th -- 3:00 - 3:30 PM
Register Here

April 20th -- 3:00 - 3:30 PM   Register Here

LANSCHOOL AIR
30 MINUTE JUMP-START

LanSchool Air can also transform your classroom into a digital learning oasis. Bring your questions and we'll answer them in a Q&A session after the webinar. This training is FREE. Register now.

March 8th -- 10 -10:30 AM
Register Here

March 24th -- 4-4:30 PM
Register Here

April 12th -- 3 – 3:30 PM
Register Here

April 28th -- 12 -12:30 PM
Register Here

LANSCHOOL

INNOVATORS WANTED!

JOIN THE 10G CHALLENGE!

Over the past few years, teachers and students have faced new challenges and experienced first-hand how technology can improve the way we learn. The 10G broadband network will power the next era of innovation and support a whole new realm of services and applications that improve education.

The 10G Challenge is looking for innovators developing new services, applications, or technologies that will require higher bandwidth, more speed, improved security and lower latency to operate. Do you have an idea for a technology that will shape the classrooms of the future? **Join The 10G Challenge** to win up to **$100,000** USD and an opportunity to have your idea reviewed by industry leaders from Zoom.

The Challenge is open to individuals and teams of anyone over the age of 18, so please encourage your seniors to learn more about The Challenge as well.

SPECIAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY

Einstein's Theories of relativity revolutionized how the world thinks about space, time, mass energy and gravity.

10G CHALLENGE

Drive the technologies of the future. Join the 10G Challenge!

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS. ELEVATING EQUITY.

Prices increase March 2

Register Now!

REAL EDUCATORS. REAL INSPIRATION. REAL LEARNING!

Live & Virtual

ISTELIVE 22 CONFERENCE
WE'RE EXCITED TO BE BACK LIVE AND IN PERSON IN NEW ORLEANS!

This year, ISTELive 22 will be a hybrid event featuring powerful voices and offering a treasure trove of content and resources for attendees in New Orleans and those attending virtually around the world.

For more than four decades, the ISTE conference has been recognized as one of the world's most influential education events. It's where educators and education leaders gather to engage in hands-on learning, share best practices and hear from the brightest minds from the world of education and beyond.

The annual event attracts over 16,000 attendees and industry representatives, including teachers, tech coordinators and directors, library media specialists, education leaders, tech providers and researchers from around the world. Attendees enjoy over

two dozen featured voices on our mainstage, thousands of sessions in a variety of formats and a massive expo hall.

Due to the global pandemic, the ISTE conference went fully virtual in 2020 and 2021, using a custom-built platform that allowed real-time collaboration with presenters and attendees, gamification features designed to deepen learning and engagement, and an archive of more than 1,000 learning experiences that attendees could return to for six months.

ISTELive 22 Registration is open here: https://conference.iste.org/2022/attend/

Upcoming ISTE conferences
ISTELive 23 • June 25-28, 2023 • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
ISTELive 24 • June 23-26, 2024 • Denver, Colorado

ACTEM Individual Members

ISTELive 22 would qualify for ACTEM's PD Reimbursement Program. See requirements and details about this program here: http://www.actem.org/ACTEM-PD. See page 4 to read more about ACTEM's PD reimbursement program.

Computer Science
Professional Learning Program

Code.org Regional Partner

EDUCATE MAINE

Educate Maine is the regional partner for Northern New England! Looking to bring computer science to your school? Teachers sign up for this professional development opportunity! Middle and high school applications now open.

CS Discoveries
(Grade 6-10)

An introductory computer science course that empowers students to create and use computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. The curriculum length is **50-150 hours** and can be taught as a semester or full-year course.

CS Principles
(Grade 9-12)

A more advanced introductory course that teaches the basics of computer science and challenges students to think about how computing and technology can change the world. It can be taught as an AP or non-AP course. Curriculum length: **100-180 hours**, should be taught as a full-year course. It contains 10 units, including a Create Performance Task prep unit.

CSA
(Grade 9-12)

Computer Science A introduces students to Java programming and may be taken after completing Computer Science Principles or Computer Science Discoveries and/or a similar introductory computer science course. Curriculum length is **a minimum of 140 class hours**; should be taught as a full-year course. It contains 9 units, which includes an AP Exam Prep unit.

Our yearlong program includes a 1-week summer workshop, 24 hours of follow-up workshops, and online support via the Code.org teacher forum. CS Discoveries, CS Principles, and CSA workshops are free for teachers who meet the scholarship criteria and plan to teach the course in 2022-23.

Interested in teaching CS Principles, CS Discoveries or AP CSA? Scan this QR code and apply!

Any questions? Email
Angela@educatemaine.org

CS SUMMER INSTITUTE

Educate Maine's Project>Login crew will kick off this immersive learning experience with a **5-day summer workshop** on the gorgeous UNE Campus in Biddeford!

June 27-July 1, 2022
University of New England
11 Hills Beach Rd, Biddeford, ME

EDUCATE MAINE

Educate Maine Releases 9th Annual Education Indicators for Maine Report

Educate Maine has released the 2021 edition of our annual Education Indicators for Maine report. This annual report measures access, participation, and attainment through the educational pipeline in Maine from early childhood through postsecondary education. This year the report includes a variety of additional indicators reflecting student well-being, access to technology, and adult education. The impact of the pandemic has started to be reflected in the data. You can now view the report in an interactive online format at educationindicators.me.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

It is important to note that the 2021 report contains information from the 2019, 2020, and 2021 school years depending on what data was available for each indicator. This web report format allows us to update the indicators as soon as new data becomes available.

- Maine has made progress throughout the educational pipeline: in particular, the number of CTE students has increased beyond 9,000 students for the first time, and the number of Mainers holding postsecondary degrees or credentials of value has continued to increase (53%).
- The pandemic caused declines in post-secondary enrollment (55%) and completion (63%).
- Slightly more than half of middle and high school students report feeling like they matter in their community.
- The availability and affordability of early childhood education continues to be essential for parents to participate in the workforce. 71% of Maine children under 6 years old have all available parents in the workforce.
- Achievement gaps are significant within post-secondary education based on race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender.

Spread the Word
It's Scholarship Season!

Do you know someone who might benefit from a scholarship for secondary education? Last year, MaineCF awarded more than $3.5 million in scholarships from over 625 funds.

Here's a link you can share to our scholarship listings by county, along with descriptions of support for specific areas of study, graduate studies, adult education, and more. Applying is easy online through www.mainecf.org.

Throughout the year, people approach MaineCF to start scholarship funds in memory or honor of a loved one, or for an alma mater, or a certain type of student. In 2021, we opened 69 new scholarship funds of all type.

To learn more about scholarships, contact Liz Fickett, MaineCF director of grants and scholarships, at lfickett@mainecf.org

actem Purchasing Cons...

Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine

actem Offerings
Contact the ACTEM office
for the following offers.

Maine Schools receive discounted educational pricing on the products and services listed here for ACTEM institutional members.

Actem Purchasing Consortium offers significant price savings on popular software titles from Adobe, Microsoft, Sophos and many other vendors.

ACTEM works to partner with vendors that can offer better pricing for Maine schools and also offer something in return to assist with our mission.

Microsoft | ACTEM has agreements with Microsoft for Select Plus (perpetual) and Microsoft EES - Enrollment for Educational Solutions (subscription) licensing.

Select Plus Districts register under ACTEM's agreement then can purchase software at educational volume license pricing.

Enrollment for Educational Solutions (EES) is subscription licensing based on a people count (FTE's) in a school or district ACTEM offers pricing at the 3,000 FTE level for all schools.

Adobe | ACTEM offers Maine Schools & staff subscription licensing for Adobe Creative Cloud. This licensing through Adobe's Value Incentive Plan (VIP) offers either **single app, all apps and site licensing options.** All ACTEM Creative Cloud subscriptions have an annual renewal date of Aug. 9th each year. Licensing purchased partway through the renewal period will be pro-rated in cost and will be up for renewal in August at the annual pricing.

Sophos | Security software and hardware, providing endpoint, encryption, email, web, mobile and network security as well as Unified Threat Management products.

Filemaker | FileMaker Pro is an easy-to-use cross-platform relational database software application.

Deep Freeze | Software that preserves your computer configuration. Any changes – either malicious or unintentional – are reversed on reboot.

Kaspersky | antivirus & Internet security software offers premium protection against viruses, malware, spam & other threats for your home or business.

LanSchool | Classroom management software that is used by schools to monitor students' activity in a digital classroom.

Parallels | Software for Mac that allows you to run both Windows and MacOS applications side-by-side without rebooting.

Rosetta Stone | An online subscription platform to learn a foreign language. ACTEM consolidates a group purchase to allow better pricing for all Maine schools.

Kajeet | Purchase via ACTEM and receive 5% off the Kajeet Education Broadband solution (includes hardware, wireless services, filters and management portal).

www.actem.org

Vendor Partner Offerings

These vendors have a partnership with ACTEM and offer their products or services at discounts for Maine scholls. Please contact vendors directly when ordering

BrainPOP | ACTEM Member Schools & Districts can subscribe to BrainPOP and Save Up to 20%.

CDW-G | CDWG offers discount pricing & FREE shipping on orders to ACTEM Institutional members.

ClassLink | ClassLink provides single sign-on to web and Windows applications, and instant access to files at school and in the cloud. ClassLink is an ACTEM partner and offers a discount for Maine districts.

Connection | Connection is partnered with ACTEM to extend discounted pricing on technology products. Connection has a special purchasing portal for ACTEM institutional members. Portal Link: www.govconnection.com/actem

Edspire eHall Pass | e-hallpass is a unique digital hall pass management tool for schools, designed to enhance control, security and oversight through electronic hall passes. 10% Discount for ACTEM Members.

Edspire Flextime Manager | FlexTime Manager allows teachers to create, and students to register for, school activity periods. 10% Discount for ACTEM Members.

Eduporium | Our partnership with Eduporium offers members extra discounts on all their products. An online portal provides a link to the many educational tools, customize tech bundles and activities for students. Portal Link: https://www. eduporium.com/actem Explore Learning | All Maine Schools receive a 10% discount on all Gizmos, Reflex and Science4Us orders. Contact

Brandon Nash at 866-882-4141 x357 or brandon. nash@explorelearning. com

Impero | Impero is a cross-platform software solution, combining a suite of features into one tool for a school's network management, classroom management and online safety needs.

Lightspeed Technologies | Dstricts with ACTEM Institutional Membership are eligible for discounts of 22% off Lightspeed brand classroom audio technology.

Neverware | With Cloudready, you can get the speed, simplicity, and security of Chromebooks on nearly any PC or Mac, up to 13 years old. Contact Sean Terry at sterry@ neverware.com or 646-880-3597 to get started.

Newsela | ACTEM Member Schools & Districts can subscribe to Newsela and Save between 5-25% on Newsela PRO, Powerwords, and Collections!
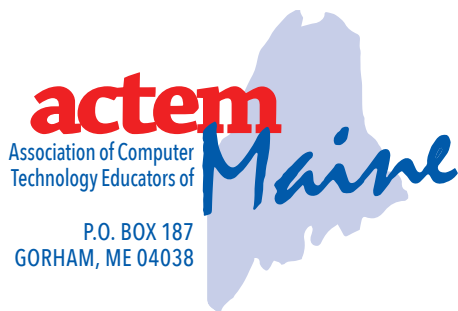
Vocabulary Spelling City | A game-based website and app that can supplement your core literacy curriculum, saves time streamlining data and improves student performance.

Wyebot | Wyebot is the leader in WiFi automation. Its vendor agnostic Wireless Intelligence Platform provides visibility and analyzes the WiFi network using the patented AI-based engine and market-leading multi-radio sensor, automatically providing problem and solution identification resulting in up to 90% reduction in mean-time to problem resolution.

For mor information, contact:
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Gorham, ME 04038
director@actem.org
207-222-4353

TOLL FREE:
866-99-ACTEM
FAX: 207-222-2057

Check the ACTEM website
for more information
http://www.actem.org/
PURCHASING

Association of Computer Technology Educators of *Maine*

P.O. BOX 187
GORHAM, ME 04038

UPCOMING EVENTS
Professional Development

March 1, 2022 MassCUE Virtual Googlepalooza, Online

April 11, 2022 CoSN 2022 Conference, Nashville, TN

May 3, 2022 ACTEM Spring Leadership Conference, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME

May 23-24, 2022 Vita-Learn Dynamic Landscapes, Champlain College, Burlington, VT

June 26-29, ISTE Live 2022 New Orleans, LA

October 13-14, 2022 ACTEM Fall Conference, Augusta Civic Center

October 19-20, 2022 MassCUE 2022, Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, MA

December 8, 2021 - June 8, 2022 Maine ELA Office Hour **-** Intended Audience, 6th-12th Grade Teachers. Monthly office hour features an instructional strategy

and unstructured conversation. More Info morgan.dunton@maine.gov - On-Line: https://mainestate.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdeugrzopGtX0nGbZj7C-newcCoCcR_Jw

Google Teacher Certifications
Become a Google Certified Educator

Maine
Become an Apple Teacher

Tech Sherpas meet every Tuesday at 3:00 pm.

#EdChatME Mondays 8:30-9:30pm

MLTI Professional Development

Apple Solutions: http://maine.gov/mlti/events/apple.shtml

HP Solution: http://maine.gov/mlti/events/hp.shtml

ACTEM OverDrive PD Library Free with your ACTEM membership!

See page 9 for more details about Overdrive and Sora.