

Learning Bites: Engaging in Continuous Improvement



MICIP and Technology

MICIP refers to a mindset, a process, and a platform. For each of these perspectives, technology plays a significant role.

Mindset

- From a systems perspective, technology is one of the primary systems needed to support district operations, including infrastructure, hardware, and software. Technology significantly impacts the ability of other district systems to function efficiently and effectively.
- From an equity perspective, technology has the potential to decrease inequities affecting access to a high-quality education.
- From a continuous improvement/instructional perspective, technology supports the teaching and learning process – including instruction and assessment - and has the potential to significantly increase student engagement. Thoughtful technology integration supports student learning while improving efficiencies. The design of high-quality learning experiences should guide technology planning.
- From a whole child and family engagement perspective, technology supports data gathering around the various whole child components and can impact the ability for families to engage in the broader educational process and support student learning.



Process

- **Assess Needs** – Technology plays a critical role in assessing district needs. District technology staff support effective data systems that are leveraged to inform needs assessment. The MICIP Platform integrates with several data visualization sources so users may interact and integrate with data visualizations from other systems.
- **Plan** – Technology personnel can suggest ways that technology can support teaching and learning in terms of pedagogy as well as hardware, software, and connectivity. Technology personnel can also provide data and insights to point out deficiencies within systems that could potentially make a goal unobtainable. As such, they also contribute valuable information for the funding/budgeting process. Technology as a system is frequently represented in the district strategic plan rather than the continuous improvement plan; however, technology should not be seen as an end in itself but rather in support of the teaching and learning process generally represented by the continuous improvement plan. That being said, the MICIP Platform can be used for both purposes.
- **Implement/Monitor/Adjust** – In addition to the planning process, technology supports monitoring and evaluation in various ways, including the collection of monitoring data.
- **Communication** – Technology is an integral part of the communication efforts around both the initial plan itself as well as around on-going monitoring and adjustments.

Platform

- The MICIP Platform is a streamlined web-based application with integrated tools and resources that facilitates dialogue around continuous improvement and provides a place for districts to record their thinking that will lead to continuous improvement plans. A key benefit of the MICIP Platform as compared to the previous ASSIST platform is that data is entered once, and the Platform can produce the wide variety of reports needed by stakeholders across plans and spanning school years. The MICIP Platform provides that easy-to-use interface identifying district needs, planning for improvement, supporting implementation, monitoring progress, and evaluating student outcomes.

Because technology has such an impact on continuous improvement, it is critical that technology personnel be members of the district continuous improvement team so the technology lens can be used throughout the continuous improvement process to both impact teaching and learning as well as to improve efficiencies.