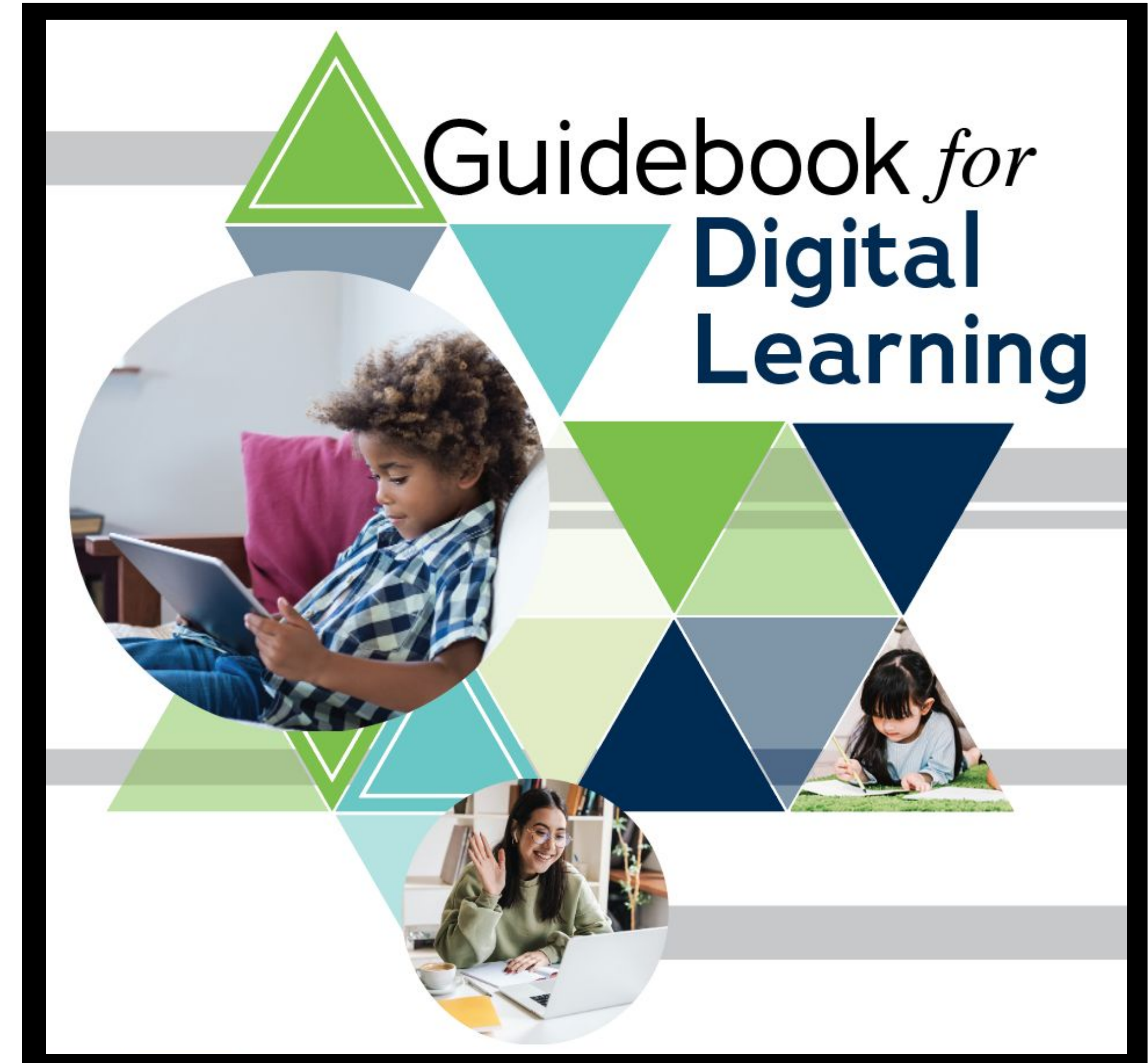


## Digital Learning

Districts may apply for an ACT 1240 Waiver to implement a digital learning program beginning in 2021-2022. The waiver may be approved for up to five (5) years.



# DIGITAL OPTIONS

*building a digital program*

How will teachers and students interact?

## Starting Point



### Asynchronous

Teachers and students are engaged in teaching and learning at *different times* and different locations (anytime, anywhere) through educational and instructional technology.

### Synchronous

Teachers and students are engaged in teaching and learning at the *same time* through educational and instructional technology.

### Asynchronous & Synchronous

Teachers and students are engaging in teaching and learning at the *same time* and at *different times* through educational and instructional technology.

# DIGITAL OPTIONS

## *building a digital program*

- What type of instructional delivery will we implement?
- Will more than one model be designed to accommodate the needs of different grades?



### Virtual (Online), Remote (Distance)

Teachers and students are not in the same place. Instruction and learning may take place asynchronously and/or synchronously.

### Blended (Hybrid)

Students learn at least in part through virtual (online) learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace; *and* at least in part in a supervised, brick-and-mortar location away from home (school or learning center).

# DIGITAL OPTIONS

## *building a digital program*

- How will content and instruction be delivered?
- What systems will allow us to best meet needs based on the type of interaction and delivery we have chosen?



### Learning Management System

A software application that helps the online teacher deliver content to students, administer and analyze assessments, track student progress, and manage records.

#### *District LMS*

### Content Management System

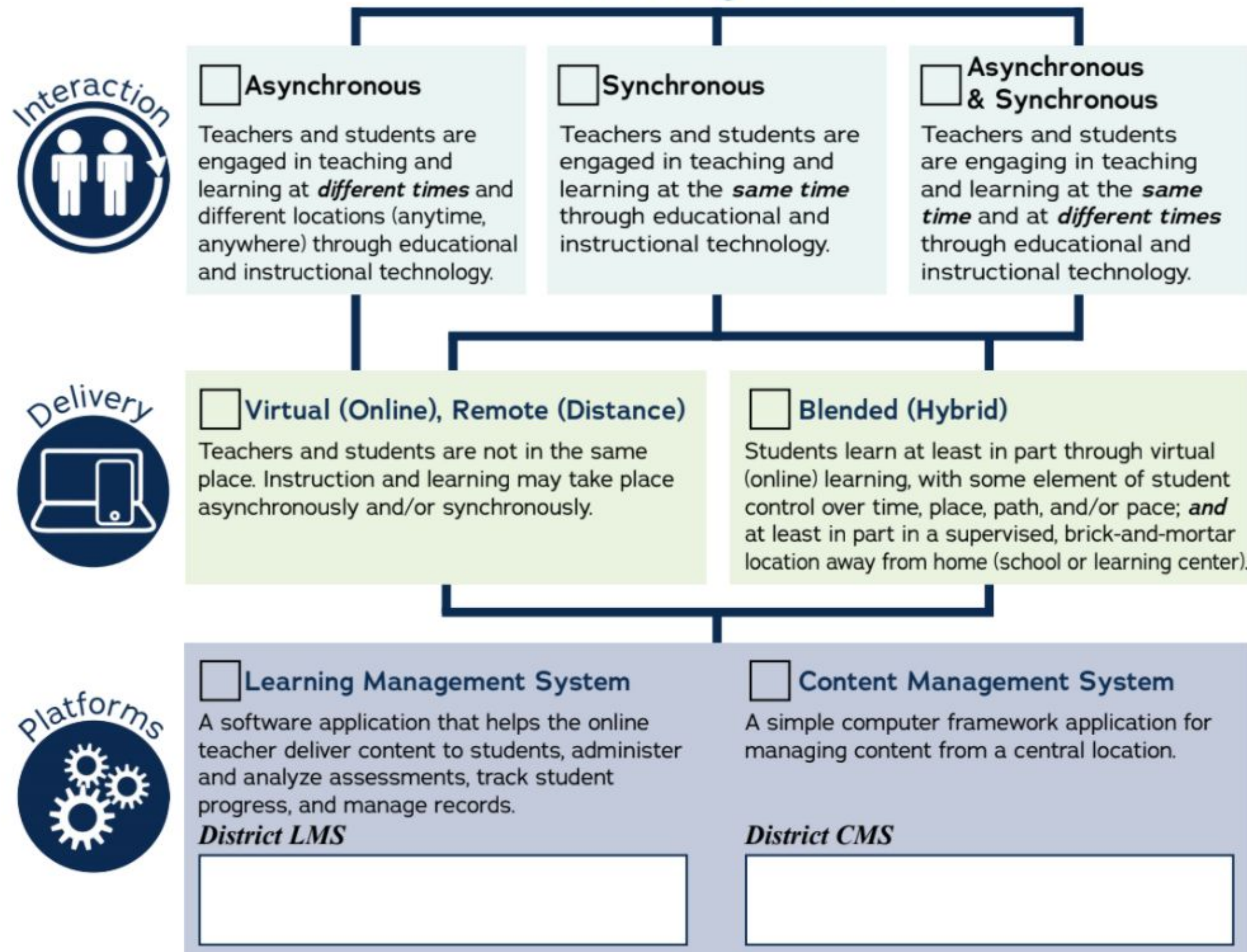
A simple computer framework application for managing content from a central location.

#### *District CMS*

# DIGITAL OPTIONS

*building a digital program*

## Starting Point



-Thinking through the Interaction, Delivery and Platforms for successful delivery

**Considerations**

- How are instructor(s) supported?
- Will more than one model be designed to accommodate the needs of different grades?
- Which of the examples best aligns with our desired digital program?

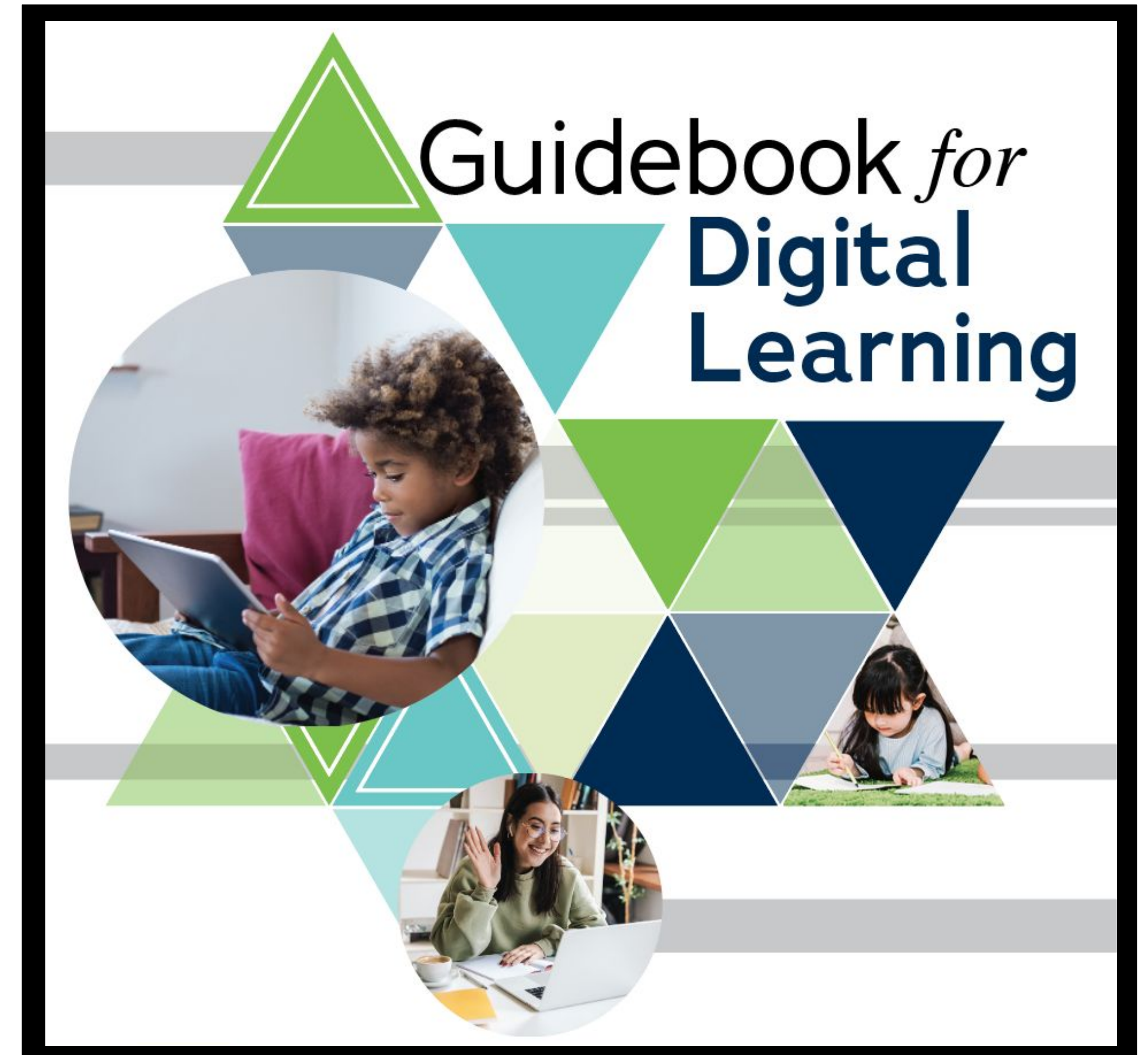
**Video Communication Software**

Online software for facilitating live synchronous conferences between two or more participants at different sites to transmit audio, video, and text data.

*District VCS*

## Need help with planning?

The Digital Learning Guidebook provides information to help districts determine need, capacity, and resources to develop a successful program.



## **Non-negotiables- Digital Programming Must...**

1. Be thoughtfully planned with specific goals and expected outcomes clearly defined
2. Deliver high-quality content and instruction
3. Provide opportunity for participating students and teachers to access the proper device and connectivity
4. Provide necessary support for teachers, students, and parents to meet goals of the digital model
5. Clearly communicate expectations, policies and guidelines
6. Allow for regular communication and interaction



## Examples of Digital Programs

virtual (online)  
remote (distance)  
synchronous

### Example 1

Teacher of Record provides virtual instruction to *only* students who are remote (distance)



Waivers will depend on  
type of program  
implemented

**PLAY**

virtual (online)  
remote (distance)  
asynchronous

### Example 2

Teacher of Record provides virtual instruction to *only* students who are remote



Waivers will depend on  
type of program  
implemented

**PLAY**



# Application For Digital Learning Program

- Streamlining the process for approval
  - DESE review applications and recommend approval to SBE
- Flexibility and types of waiver are based on type of programming implemented
- LEAs may implement more than one type of digital program to meet goals for digital learning opportunities

## Support

- DESE and Team Digital partnered with co-ops to conduct technical assistance sessions for districts as they designed digital programs and completed the Application for Waiver Requests
- Technical Assistance began in January with sessions throughout the spring semester

## Support

DESE sought SBE approval of process in January

- Technical Assistance-Started in January/February
- Applications accepted from March- May 2021
  - Application includes AMI plan submission
  - Applications will be due by May 1, 2021 to be considered as part of the streamlined process
- Review of digital programs beginning in the fall of 2021
  - Non-negotiables will form the basis for quality assurance

## Pre-approved Waivers: (Districts may apply for additional waivers)

Waiver	Standards for Accreditation	Arkansas Code Annotated	DESE Rules
Attendance		6-18-213(a)(2)	
Class Size	1-A.5	6-17-812(a)(2)	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load
Teaching Load	1-A.5	6-17-812	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load
Six Hour Instructional Day	1-A.4.2	6-16-102; 6-16-126	
Clock Hours	1-A.2		
Recess	1-A.4.3	6-6-102(a)(5)	DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11

## Review Process

- District submitted Act 1240 Digital Learning Applications via LEA Insights.
- DESE team reviewed the application and provided feedback (if applicable) to the district and co-op.
- When all components of the digital learning application meet expectations, the DESE team will recommend the application to the State Board of Education for expedited approval.
- DESE will notify the State Board of Education if there are any components that need further discussion.

## Review Team

District Support	Technology	Learning Services	Educator Effectiveness	DCTE
Ginny Stroud	Don Benton	Kiffany Pride	Karli Saracini	Mary Beck
Melissa Matus	Ray Girdler	Lisa Tyler	Andy Sullivan	
Traci Holland	Jeff Killingsworth	Matt Sewell	Sandra Hurst	
Tally Harp	Emily Powell	Rachel Horn	Joel Lookadoo	

## **SBE consideration**

Act 1240 Digital Learning Applications and Waivers

Act 1240 Digital Learning Applications with Request for Additional Waivers

DESE representatives will present the items for expedited review.

SBE members may pull an application for later review.

## DESE monitoring

DESE will monitor all digital learning programs.

- High risk applications (K-2) will be monitored to ensure implementation of Science of Reading.



# HIGH PRAISE for DESE Staff

Members of the review teams download districts' applications through LEA Insights. Each team reviews the documents and gives feedback on a shared Google spreadsheet. Once each team has completed their review, the feedback is compiled into a document that is shared with the district's local education cooperative. The coop's guide the district through the revision process using the feedback from DESE.

