

Mississippi Succeeds: Digital Learning Plan

The Equity in Distance Learning Act
Implementation PART 2: Devices & Eligibility

August 3, 2020



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Chief Information Officer

VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

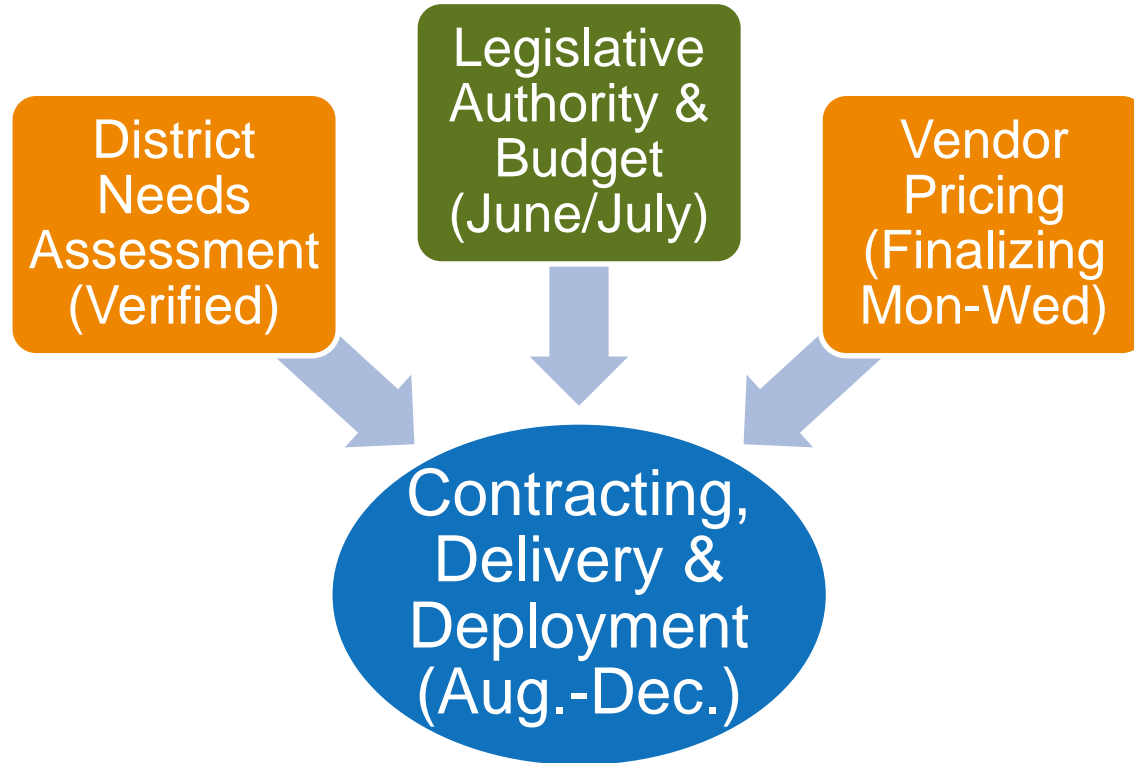
MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community

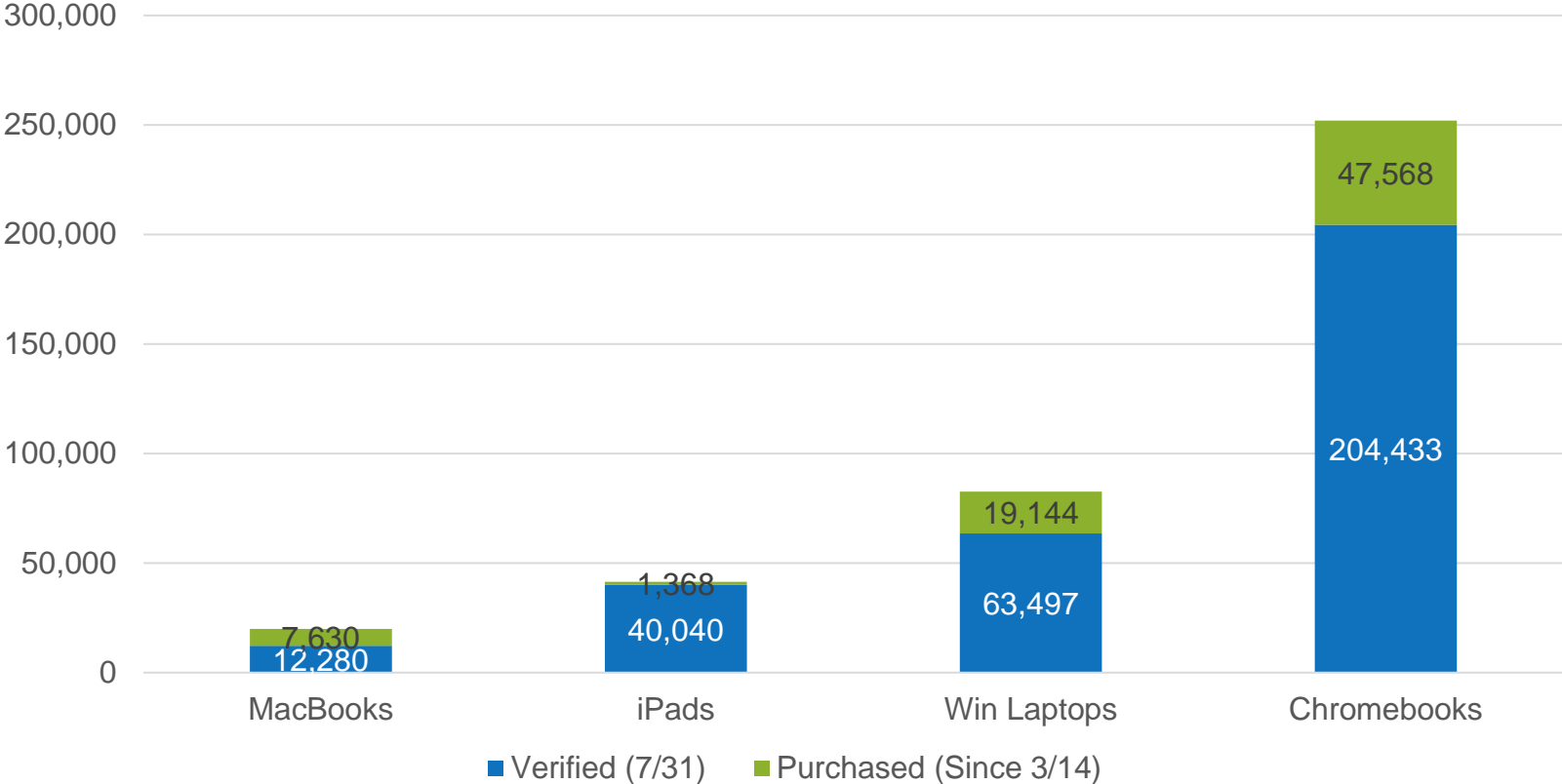
Digital Learning Plan Components

1. **Devices and services:** Laptops or tablets for all students who need one
2. **Connectivity:** Data plans with hotspots to connect to the internet
3. **Digital curriculum and learning management systems:** High-quality instructional materials and the best online platform(s) to deliver them
4. **Professional development for teachers, parents and school staff:** Training teachers how to deliver instruction online and training parents how to support their children with technology at home
5. **Computer security, planning, and support:** Device management, software, network configuration and accessibility
6. **Telehealth/Teletherapy:** Devices, connectivity, curriculum and professional development will support student access to telehealth/teletherapy and social-emotional learning

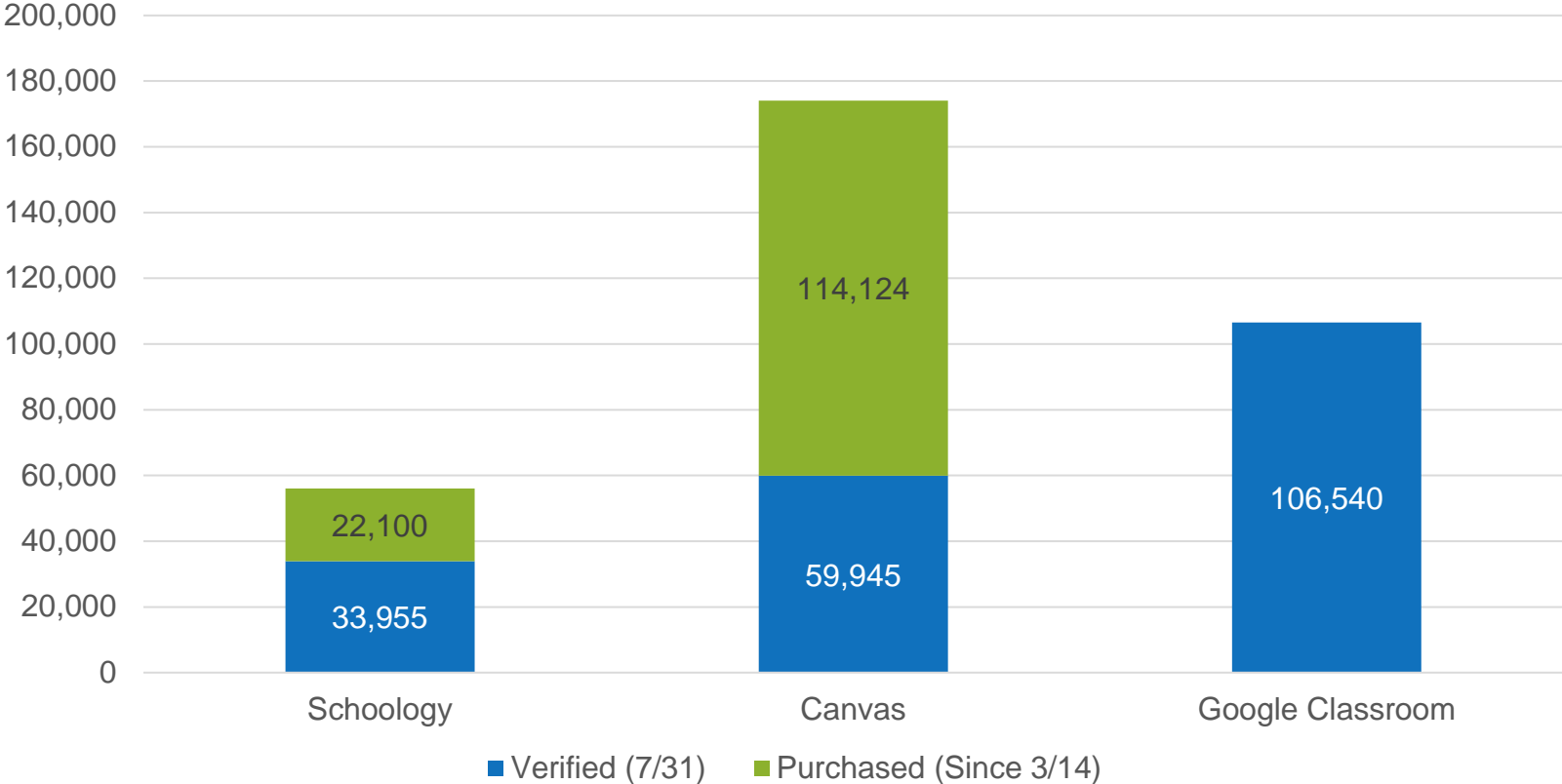
Discovery and Planning: June-December 2020



District Needs Assessment (Verified): Devices Final



District Needs Assessment (Verified): LMS Final



The MDE Will Take Two Contracts to the SBE on Aug. 6th

1. Contract with Apple for MacBooks and iPads
2. Contract with separate vendor for Windows Laptops and Chromebooks

* The MDE will bring all other contracts to the SBE on Aug. 27th

Next Steps

8/6

- The MDE negotiates vendor contracts and board approval

Week
of 8/10

- The MDE will host 1st Webinar: Digital Learning Plans, etc.

Week
of 8/17

- The MDE will host 2nd Webinar: Digital Learning Plans, etc.

Week
of 8/24

- The MDE will host 3rd Webinar: Digital Learning Plans, etc.

9/1

- *Districts submit applications w/required plans & assurances*

9/11

- Final date for district to submit purchase orders to vendors

FALL

- Delivery, deployment, training & professional development

District Eligibility

1. Prioritize purchase of products listed in SB3044
2. Match 20% of the funds received under this grant program
3. Purchase products from vendors listed on the Express Products List (EPL)
4. Submit the original, itemized receipt of purchase with district's request for reimbursement
5. Secure insurance and submit proof of insurance
6. **Submit by September 1:** Distance Learning Plan, Technology Sustainability Plan and Responsible Use Policy
7. Compile and maintain inventory

Eligible Expenses

Priority #1: Laptop computers, tablets, or other devices that can be used by a student or teacher in their home

Priority #2: Learning management systems, software and other online tools

Priority #3: Enhance internet connectivity

Priority #4: Enhance security related to devices or connectivity to comply with state and federal law

Priority #5: Professional development related to use of components of distance learning for teachers and students

Priority #6: Health and safety materials or equipment for schools

Reimbursement of the Full State Allocation Amount

1. Expenses included under the Equity in Distance Learning Act (SB3044) with MDE-defined minimum specifications listed on Express Products List (EPL) will be reimbursed.
2. Expenses equivalent to those with MDE-defined minimum specifications listed on EPL will be reimbursed. Districts will need to “upgrade” expenses below MDE minimum specifications in order to be reimbursed.
3. Expenses without MDE-defined minimum specifications listed on EPL, the districts will need to account for how their expenses support their Digital Learning Plan submitted by Sept. 1st.

1. The MDE is working on an analysis of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) broadband data to identify the “unserved areas” of the state.
2. The MDE is reaching out to Mississippi Association of Independent Schools and the administrations of the Native American tribal school districts.
3. The MDE is working with the Telecommunications companies to determine their best plans to increase internet connectivity for student and teachers.

Topics for Next Webinar (Monday, Aug. 10th)

1. More discussion of reimbursement under SB3044 and the MDE's reimbursement process
2. Update on Connectivity and HB1788
3. More discussion of eligibility requirements and guidance RE: digital learning plans, sustainability plans and use policy
4. Other topics raised by districts

"Equity in Distance Learning Act"

Questions?