

MSOC LEA Member Profile

Part II: Synopsis of MSOC Participation

Background:

- MSOC member since 2002; have been “pushing online student courses for years,” struggling to convince “higher ups that this is important.”

Benefits and Impact:

- Participating in MSOC has been a very effective collaboration process – “would not have gone anywhere without them.”
- More stakeholders now understand that online learning really can support student achievement.
- Successful pilot program at South River HS

Implementation Issues:

- Sustainability – finding long-term funding after grant ends
- AACPS content coordinators did not like consortium-developed SAT Prep or Algebra I courses

Lessons Learned:

- Having a process is essential
- Buy-in from top administrators is also essential but hard to get because of competing priorities

Next Steps:

- Future of online learning depends on availability of funding
- Successful pilot program at South River HS has resulted in several more high schools planning to get involved in online courses.