Instructional Materials Technology Information

Since EdReports released its first reviews five years ago, the materials landscape has changed dramatically, especially in the area of technology. District questions have evolved from ensuring materials could be accessed on older browsers and versions of operating systems to detailed questions about interoperability, compatibility, security, support, and digital design. These questions have become even more important during the pandemic as districts assess what instructional materials may work best in their communities not just in-person, but also remotely and in hybrid settings. Access to high quality instructional materials by all students is more important than ever, and technology plays an essential role in that access. To help provide technology information for materials that meet alignment criteria in Gateways 1 and 2, EdReports is requesting publishers answer the following questions to help consumers better understand the digital design and capabilities of their instructional materials.

- Section 1 provides broader questions most frequently asked of EdReports about the design of materials. These questions are meant to provide higher level, summary information.

- Section 2 provides more fine-grained details on aspects of design and functionality.

EdReports is seeking the most accurate, descriptive information about curricular products. We are not evaluating quality or desirability, but documenting features in materials to empower local schools and districts with information to select materials that will work best for them given their technological capabilities and instructional vision.

Section 1: Usability Snapshot

This section includes questions on digital design and support that allows users quick access to essential information. Please do not exceed a 150 word limit per question. You may use or remove prompt text in providing additional details. Words in the detail prompt text will not count toward the word limit.

* Note:
"Yes with core product" below should be used to indicate functionality in the materials purchased that are available without LMS integration.
"Yes with dependencies" below refers to functionality present or accessible only through working in a separate LMS, by utilizing other software as a plug-in, or linking externally to sites outside the materials.

Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	**Yes** with dependencies	**No**	Under Development	
Are the materials designed so that students are able to access and complete work online?	X			X	• Students can complete work online within the native materials system and can be integrated with the LMS of your choosing, if desired. • Online work requires a 1:1 device ratio • Each student needs a continuous reliable internet connection to use digitally enhanced materials features • Students can complete digitally enhanced materials online but can not complete or deliver digital PDFs through the system. This capability is under development.
In what ways do the materials support learning in hybrid settings (both in-person and remote learning) concurrently?	X				• Our materials are ideal for hybrid settings as they offer both digital and printable resources.

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					• Teachers have the option of using our materials for individual practice or for entire class demonstrations/activities/stations.
Are tasks, activities, and lessons able to be printed either for in-class use or for use in at-home learning?	X				• All of our materials are printable. • The online interactive practices are paired with printable PDFs that include the same questions and tasks.
Is there instruction so students can work independently (or with an adult at home)?	X				• Every lesson has written supporting resources that can be available to the student • The supporting resources include: instructions, words to know, key concepts, common errors/misconceptions, examples, guided questions and problem based coaching question examples. • With the supporting resources, students can work independently or be assisted by an adult.
Does the technology facilitate a teacher's ability to differentiate lessons, tasks, or other content for students?	X			X	• The technology does provide the option for students to check answers and receive immediate feedback on interactive practice problems. • The technology does provide reports and standard based recommendations for teachers. • Teachers can differentiate lessons by issuing optional learning objects (supporting resources, assessments) to individuals or groups of students.

Question					Notes
					• The technology facilitates differentiation by giving teachers the option of issuing assignments at varying DOK levels. • The technology gives teachers the ability to add their own learning object to the course, providing opportunity to differentiation. • The technology gives teachers the ability to create their own assessments (using pre-populated, standards aligned questions). • Teachers ability to manipulate wording/directions of a pre-populated assignment is under development
Are there tutorials, videos, or other integrated supports in the materials to help educators to understand and/or utilize the materials?	X				• Our knowledge base website has detailed tutorial documents and videos. • Our knowledge based website has a ticketing system where our support team will answer any questions that teachers may have about the technology or the curriculum.
Are there tutorials, videos, or other integrated supports in the materials to help parents/guardians to understand and/or utilize the materials?			X		• Parents do not have access to the digital platform. However, teachers can download any support materials and email the materials to parents or email tutorials about the student interface to parents.
Are all of the following audiences provided access to the product as part of the core purchase? • parents/guardians			X		• Our current platform does not include a parent interface • Our current technology does provide access to (teachers, administrators, etc. and to students)

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● Educators (Teachers, Administrators, etc.) ● Students					
Are the materials designed to integrate with a Learning Management System (LMS)?	X				● Materials are accessible outside of an LMS ● Materials can be modified, by our team and/or the teacher, once they are imported.
Does all content conform to the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard?	X				● Yes our content conforms to NIMAS ● NIMAS certification is available upon request.
Is technical support during day-to-day use primarily the responsibility for the client or the publisher?	X				● The publisher is responsible for technical support ● Typically we work closely with the clients technology person for any rostering or integration questions. If there is an issue with the platform technology, the publisher is responsible.

Section 2: Technology Checklist

The following checklists are designed to give more detailed information about digital design and technical capabilities in key areas of instructional materials to support state and local decision making. This list reflects details commonly requested by those making purchasing decisions at the state or local level. You may use or remove prompt text in providing additional details.

Design

Design questions address whether the materials are designed to be used digitally in an in-person environment, remote learning environment, or both. Digital design can vary, often ranging from the ability to access files that are identical to print materials online to doing tasks and assessments as part of the program. The ability to take advantage of design functionality

may depend on answers to questions in other sections of the checklist such as internet capabilities, number and type of devices, etc.

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Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	**Yes** with dependencies	**No**	Under Development	
Are the materials designed to be used with both digital and print components? Are there print options available for student-facing materials that could be utilized in a blended digital approach? Is the print content identical, similar, or comparable to the digital?	X				• Materials can be used via print or digital or in conjunction. • Print options: -Teacher and student print resources are available for purchase -Users can print at home • Print options are identical to digital except for the digitally enhanced items, which are very similar.
Is the digital design of the materials intended to replicate a textbook experience?			X		• Our digital design of the materials are an exact replica of what is in our teacher resources materials including student facing pages.
Are digital teacher guides available for the materials?	X				• Teachers access the teacher guides directly through our digital platform. • Resources are not available to parents/guardians at home unless distributed by the teacher. • Yes, teacher planning materials connect to student-facing lessons

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Question					Notes
					• There are no extra costs.
Do the materials contain videos/animations/simulations for student learning?	X				• Yes, in our digital platform we include applets, videos and simulations. • These items appear in every topic and most lessons. • We do maintain many of these items but a few materials are accessed by links that lead to other sources not maintained by the publisher.
Is any or all online content dependent on links that are not maintained by the publisher?	X				• Some of our OERs are dependent links.
Do the materials include opportunities for online collaboration among students?				X	• Online student collaboration is in development
Do the materials include built in features for student-to-teacher interaction?	X			X	• When students complete a digital assignment, teachers receive immediate insights. • In development - push notifications so that students can interact with the teacher and visa-versa
Is a 1:1 device ratio required?			X		• Since all of our resources are downloadable and printable, a 1:1 device ratio is not necessary but suggested when students are completing digitally enhanced learning objects.
Are the assessments contained within the materials able to be securely completed by students online?	X				• All assessments can be completed securely online.

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						Pre-populated assessments are not editable by teachers but teachers can create standards aligned assessments from scratch.
Is data available about user sessions (e.g., timestamps, content being viewed, callbacks fired, etc...)?	X					• The following user data can be collected (volume of unique users, volume of total logins, time stamps of logging in, digitally enhanced LOs attempts/completed. • District admin can review data on students and teachers • Teachers can review course progress / attempts by students
Are there online professional learning supports to help teachers utilize the materials?	X					• Districts can purchase Professional development sessions • Teachers can review tutorials and contact the publisher's support team for technology questions, free of charge.
Are there parent/guardian resources available for school systems to utilize: • For when there is in-person instruction? • For when there is hybrid instruction? • For creating continued learning plans for distance learning schedules?				X		• Sample schedules, Instruction guides, classroom management suggestions and feedback options are available for teachers. • Teachers can download and email or print such resources for parents/guardians.

Learning Management Systems	Blackboard	Canvas	Eduphoria	Google Classroom	ItsLearning	Moodle	Schoology	Other: Please list below
Are the materials configured to work with one or more learning management		X		X	X		X	

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systems? Check all that apply.									
If the materials integrate with any of the LMS above, include information here about any additional costs and which version of your materials and the LMS was tested.									

System Access

System access questions address how users access the digital materials and what kind of logins/passwords are accepted/supported/required.

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Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Is single sign-on supported?	X				Yes, single sign-on is supported via Clever.
Can the platform manage staff assigned to multiple schools with a single sign-on?	X				Yes, teachers can be assigned to multiple schools with single sign-on.
Can co-teachers be assigned to multiple classes?	X				Yes, co-teachers can be assigned to multiple classes.

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Can students who move between teachers or schools using the same materials be re-assigned without losing their work/progress?	X				Yes, this can be done in the Curriculum Engine, but with districts using Clever, the Clever admin would need to be involved.
Can the platform provide user accounts for staff members (principals and other admin) who are not assigned students?	X				If yes, ● What roles can be assigned within the system and how are permissions/access controlled? ● Specify if this is part of a standard contract or would require additional purchase.
Can passwords be reset without assistance from trained IT staff?		X			If yes, ● Describe if the customer is able to enable/disable this feature. ● Detail for whom (students, teachers, all staff).
When working offline, does the product automatically sync when a connection is re-established?		X			If the user has hit save on the platform and then the connection is lost, in that case the data can be synced and can be retrieved once the connection is re-established.

Technical Support

Technical Support questions are designed to help users understand what assistance to expect. These details are important to consider alongside local capacity for devices, networks, and use. Considering what level of independence users will have alongside these criteria can help schools and districts reflect on their needs for support.

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Technical Support	Check Only One				Details
	Yes	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	

	with core product				
Is technical support provided to districts during initial set-up and deployment?	X				Yes, district accounts are set up and assistance is provided for onboarding and rostering admins, teachers, and students.
Is technical support provided during the duration of the contract?	X				Yes, technical support is provided for the duration of the contract. A ticketing system is available for support for admins and teachers.
If utilizing a free or trial version, is technical support provided?	X				Yes, technical support is provided during free trials and for free accounts.
Are there self-service supports for troubleshooting?	X				Yes, self-service support is available 24/7 through our searchable Knowledge Base of articles and videos.
Does technical support include planning for emergency access and district support?	X				We do have supports in place for backup, restoration and district support.

Compatibility

Compatibility questions address technical compatibility specifications. It is designed to help users understand how the materials will look and operate on various devices. These details are important to consider alongside local capacity for devices, networks, and use. Understanding what devices function best can help determine users' needs for district device or technical support.

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Questions	Check Only One	Details

	Yes with core product	LMS Dependent	No	Under Development	
Does the product have a native mobile application?			X		
Is the product browser-based?	X				
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on smartphones?			**X**		
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on tablet devices?		x			
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on laptop devices?		x			
Does the product use responsive design for rendering on desktop devices?		x			
Are all users (students/teachers/staff/admin/parents) permitted to use the product on more than one device (e.g. computer at school and a laptop at home or a smartphone and a laptop)?	X				Additional software and licenses are not necessary.

Device Type	Mark box if device is compatible	Oldest operating system/version supported	Newest operating system/version supported	Details Indicate if the materials are designed for a specific device type or if they are generally compatible.
Windows	X☐			
Linux	☐			
Windows Tablet	☐			
Apple Laptop/Desktop	X☐			

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iPhone	☐			If supported, provide details about any differences between devices.
iPad	X☐			
Android Phone	☐			If supported, provide details about any differences between devices.
Android Tablet	☐			
Chromebook/Chrome OS	X☐			
Amazon Fire OS	☐			
Other E-Reader	☐			If supported, specify which e-readers are compatible.
Interactive Whiteboard	☐			

Browser		Operating System						
		Apple		Windows		Linux	Chrome OS	N/A
	Check if browser is compatible	Oldest version supported	Newest version supported	Oldest version supported	Newest version supported			
Chrome	X☐		Latest version					
Firefox	X☐		Latest version					
Safari	X☐		Latest version					
Edge (formerly Internet Explorer)	X☐		Latest version					

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Internet Explorer	☐							
Other:____	☐							
Additional Notes:								

Accessibility

Curricula with digital capabilities integrate accessible supports in a variety of ways. Accessibility questions pertain specifically to diverse learners who may need specific supports to be able to successfully interact with materials.

Questions	Check Only One				Details
	Yes with core product	Yes with dependencies	No	Under Development	
Screen Readers	X				
Screen Magnification Software	X				Yes, on both PDFS and digitally enhanced learning objects
Text Readers		X			
Adjustable Print Size			X		
Speech Input Software			X		
Header Point Devices			X		
Motion/Eye Tracking Devices			X		
Single Switch Entry Devices			X		
Braille Readers/ Display Devices			X		

	Yes	No		
Closed Captioning			X		
Alternative Input Devices			X		
High Color Contrast Display Options			X		
Translation of Text to Other Languages			X		
Bilingual Dictionaries available for students				X	
Are there required accessories (headsets, speakers)?				X	
Multiple Playback of audio/video				X	
Can students adjust the speed of audio/video playback?				X	
Are these accessibility supports able to be turned on/off?				X	
Does all browser-based technology satisfy the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines or VPAT?	X				● The platform is WCAG 2.0 AA complaint

Additional Technology Specifications

Data Security and Privacy

Data Security and Privacy questions address how student data storage, disposal, and adherence to privacy laws are addressed. If applicable, privacy reports and/or certificates can be found next to the respective indicator.

Questions	Check Only One			Details
	Yes	**No**	**Under Development**	

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Data Security: Are data elements encrypted at rest, i.e. in a database or file system?	X			If yes,
				• Specify which data elements are encrypted.
				   ○ MariaDB database
				   ○ S3 data files
				• Describe the encryption method used.
				   ○ S3 uses SSE-KMS
				   ○ MariaDB uses AES 256
				• Identify data that are persisted without encryption.
				   ○ RabbitMQ

Data Security: Do the materials refer students to video, content, and other online sources that are not native to the materials?		X		If yes, • Is it a closed system? If no, how does it direct out of the environment? • Learnosity content is native to the system and it uses Learnosity APIs with the Client and Secret Keys sent to us by Learnosity
Data Security: Does the end-user licensing agreement allow customers to scrape data from the product?		X		
Privacy: Is personally-identifying student data provided to, generated by, or stored in any systems used by the product?	X			If yes, • List all data elements that customers are required to provide. **Student first and last name.** • List all data elements that are optional for customers to provide. • List all data elements created by the product. • List all data elements stored in any of the product's systems. **Student first name, last name, username**
Privacy: Does the product/vendor make their student privacy policy publicly available?	X			If yes, • Provide a link to the policy in the details.

Feature/Requirement/Specification	Yes	No	Under Development	Details
Privacy: Does the product conform with FERPA regulations (e.g., allows districts to maintain direct control of the student record, implements permissions to prevent unnecessary disclosures, etc.)?	X			
Privacy: Has a third-party evaluated the product for FERPA compliance?		X		If yes, ● Identify the third party who conducted the evaluation and provide a link to the report.
Privacy: Does the product allow registration or data collection from children under the age of 13?	X			If yes, ● Provide a link to the COPPA Safe Harbor certificate.

Installation

Feature/Requirement/Specification	Check Only One			Details
	Yes	**No**	**Under Development**	
Is the product downloaded to individual devices: one-time internet connection required?		X		
Is the product installed on individual computers (from CD-ROM/DVD, flash drive, etc.): no internet connection required?		X		If yes, ● Estimate time per device required for setup, indicate if support is provided, and if local IT staff is needed.
Is the product installed on LAN/WAN (school or district server): no internet connection required for teachers/students after installation?		X		
Required server configuration. Do network admins need to ensure a specific set of domains are white listed to allow the internet traffic to those endpoints?	X			● Network content/web filtering, caching, proxying and packet shaping must be bypassed for the following domains for both http and https, for the content types HTML, JavaScript,CSS, PDF, GIF/JPEG/PNG and JSON. If

				caching or proxying webpages by default, these domains must be added to your non-cache/non-proxy lists: ● lti-app.curriculumengine.com ● Walch.com ● learnosity.com
Does the product support deployment through Mobile Device Management (MDM) systems?		X		If yes, ● Identify which systems are compatible.
Does the product provide a detailed schedule of updates that minimizes access interruption?	X			Upon request
Does the login authentication use district protocols to establish unique and memorable usernames and passwords?	X			If yes, ● District staff and student have unique IDs
Is there an option for concurrent user licensing?		X		

Standards Compliance/Certification	Check all that apply	Details
SIF		
CEDS		
EDUPUB		
Ed-Fi (SIS/ODS)		
Ed-Fi (Assessments)		
MS Global (Competencies and Academic Standards Exchange)		

IMS Global (Comprehensive Learner Record)		
IMS Global (Open Badges)		
IMS Global (One Roster)	X	Curriculum Engine is IMS global complaint for OneRoster but not certified
IMS Global (Caliper Analytics)		
IMS Global (Question and Test Interoperability (QTI))		
IMS Global (Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI))	X	Curriculum Engine is IMS global complaint for LTI
IMS Global (LTI Advantage)		
IMS Global (Common Cartridge)		
IMS Global (Lite Common Cartridge)	X	Curriculum Engine is IMS global complaint for LTI
IMS Global (Open Video)		
Other:		

Implementation and Scalability	Yes/No or Value
What is the average page load time?	Average page load time - 3-4 secs
What is the required bandwidth per user?	20 MBPS
Are results of stress tests provided to customers?	No
Is a disaster recovery plan for data provided to customers?	No

Are customers provided with a standardized implementation plan to ensure a successful rollout?	Yes, we provide a standardized implementation plan for customers that can be adapted to any special requirements of the district.
Does the service level agreement include uptime guarantees of at least 95% excluding planned maintenance/down-times?	Yes
Does the product require a VPN for off site access?	No.

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