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## ISTE's Mobile Learning Framework and the VMLA Pathway

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The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) has developed a mobile learning framework to use to meet the needs of educators in the U.S. wanting to begin a mobile learning initiative. This framework has been used in the Verizon Mobile Learning Academy. ISTE's Mobile Learning Framework and the VMLA pathway will be shared in this session.

The many unique attributes of mobile devices provide educators new opportunities to push the boundaries of traditional pedagogies. However, although mobile technologies may have these capabilities, they are not always used to their potential and advanced technologies are often used to carry out traditional instructional practice (Bjered & Dede, 2011, Crompton & Keane, 2012). In a recent study, researchers conducted a mixed methods study to determine what K-12 educators wanted to successfully implement a mobile learning initiative in a K-12 environment. Data from study show that by far, the main need was mobile learning training (see, Crompton, Olszewski, & Bielefeldt, 2015). In a study conducted by Cheon, Lee, Crooks, and Song (2012) the findings show that in the majority of schools with mobile learning implementations, there is a lack of teacher professional development on the use of these devices in for teaching.

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) has recently developed a mobile learning framework to use to meet the needs of educators in the U.S. The framework includes five steps as seen in Figure 1.

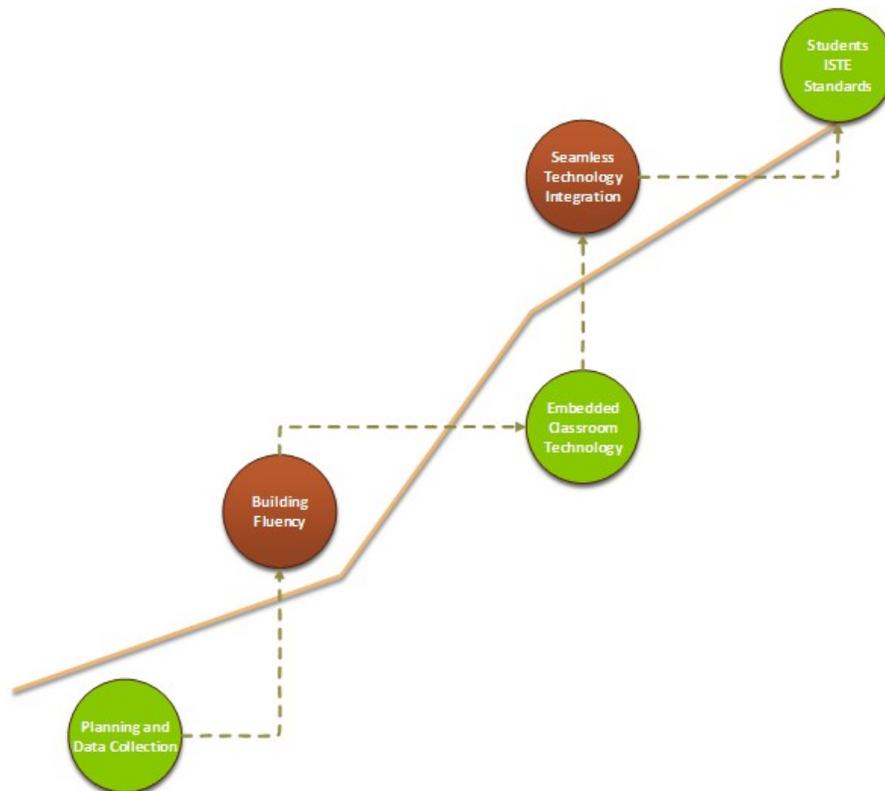


Figure 1. ISTE's Mobile Learning Framework

During this session, the five steps of this framework will be delineated to show how educators can be better prepared to use mobile devices in the K-12 classroom. Each of the steps are designed to be cumulative as the foundations are gained and each step in the framework builds up to a well-rounded understanding of what makes mobile learning initiatives successful.

During this session, the presenter will describe how this framework is used in the Verizon Mobile Learning Academy (VMLA). The VMLA is an initiative funded by the Verizon Foundation to provide free training to K-12 administrators, technology coaches and teachers in the United States. This initiative is implemented by the professional development services at ISTE to provide a 10 week online course in Mobile Learning. Participants attending this session will be able to experience examples of activities from the VMLA that correspond with ISTE's Mobile Learning Framework.

The presenter will describe how each of the activities are designed to be low threshold – high ceiling tasks that participants of various levels benefit from the work. For example, groups of participants that are new to mobile learning and just in the process of unpacking the mobile devices can be successful as well as groups of participants who may be in their fifth year or more of a mobile learning initiative. Participants at all levels of learning will benefit from the VMLA implementing ISTE's mobile learning framework. As part of the VMLA participants will design mobile learning lesson plans for their school. Figure 2 shows a student engaged in a mobile learning activity.

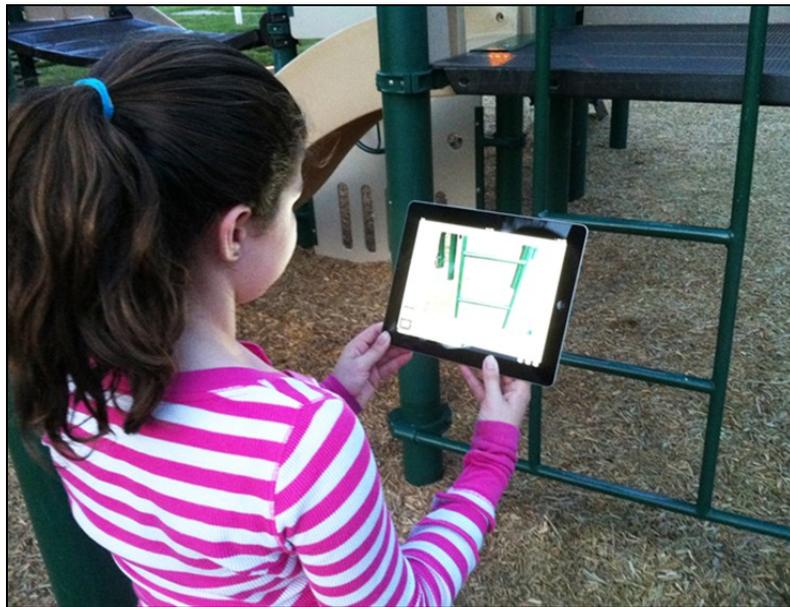


Figure 2. A student using mobile learning in mathematics

The VMLA is now in the second year of using ISTE's Mobile Learning Framework and has been used in over 35 different States in North America. Figure 3 shows the states and number of groups that have used the framework. The VMLA is currently on the fifth cohort.

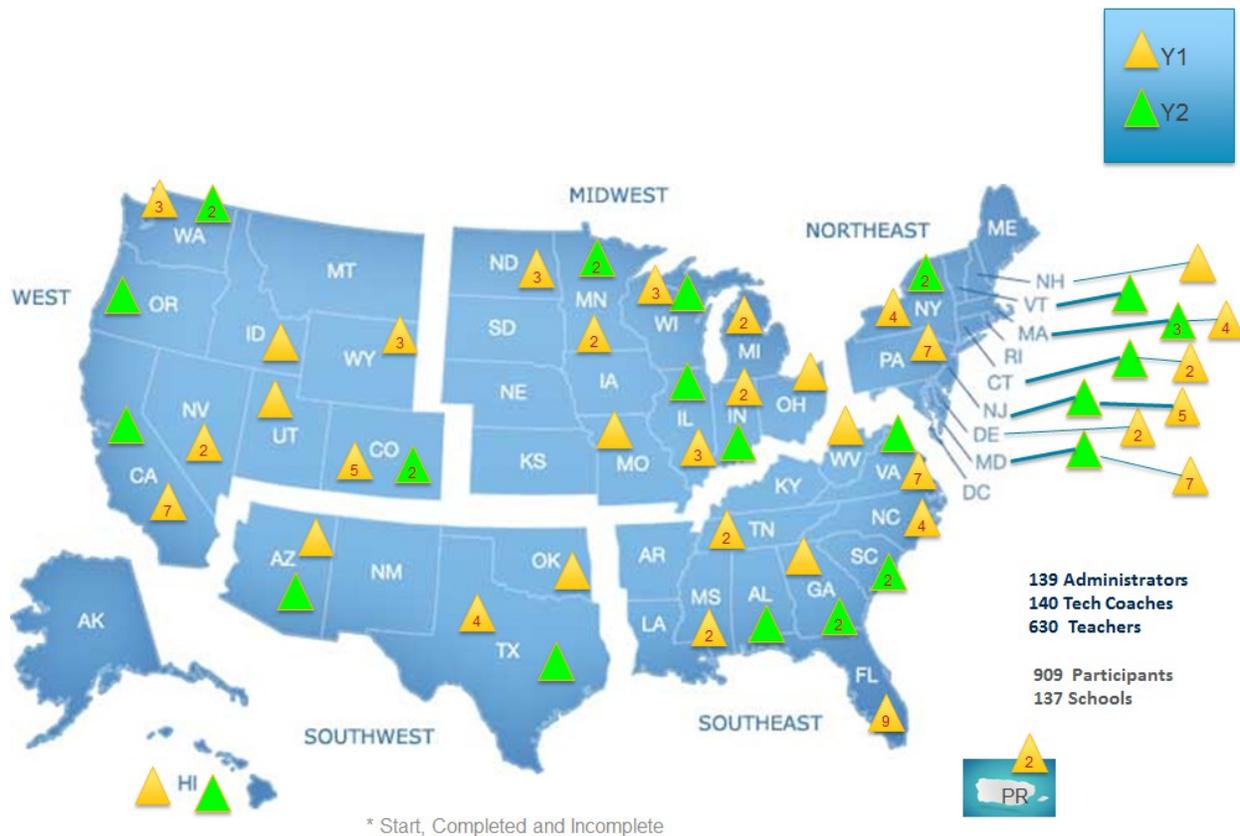


Figure 3. North American States where district and school teams have participated in the VMLA program.

During the 10 week VMLA course, the participants have three synchronous sessions where the whole cohort meet online. These meetings are at the beginning, middle, and for the final capstone assignment. Following a blended approach, the groups then work asynchronously with the lead instructor to complete the additional readings and activities for the weeks in between. Each group of participants in the VMLA are assigned an Instructional Consultant. This person works with the teams as additional support and guidance throughout the course. There is an additional social networked community for the VMLA that is held in Google +. This community continues beyond the course as current course participants and alumni continue discussing the mobile learning landscape.

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