Broadband News
FROM AROUND THE WEB

A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the Iowa Communications Network
Weekly Update: August 6, 2021

How will schools take advantage of $7B FCC fund to address the homework gap?

Vancouver Public Schools in Washington state, for example, is looking to purchase 12,400 laptops — one for every student in grades 6-12.

Source: K-12 Dive

ICN launched a Hotspot service that qualifies for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program. Learn more about our service.

Education

4 Signs That You Should Say Goodbye to Legacy Technology
Maintaining a tech platform to support teaching, learning and administration is a challenge. Here are some signs that it's time to choose a new direction for a key technology.
Source: EdTech

Cybersecurity

New Cyber Research: Government Leaders See Path to Zero Vulnerability
A survey found that 91% of cyber leaders say they want to see their organization shift from an "assume breach" mindset to a breach prevention focus in the next 3 years.
Source: MeriTalk

Detecting, blocking grid cyberattacks
To help block cyberattacks on the electric grid, researchers have developed a device that alerts operators to abnormal commands and automatically blocks them.
Source: GCN

Digital Divide

Broadband for All Will Take New Coordination, Standards
A roundtable discussion about Internet access featuring local, regional and international perspectives, covering everything from accountability of leadership to Wi-Fi innovation.
Source: Government Technology

Federal Funding to Support Telehealth at Hawaii Libraries
The Hawaii State Dept. of Health has announced that it will be bringing telehealth services to 15 libraries in underserved and rural parts of the state at the end of this year.
Source: Government Technology

Government

State Government's Pandemic Response: Impact on Policy and Technology
The survey consisted of 21 questions covering areas such as: security, workforce, network management, budget, continuity of operations, policy and governance.
Source: The National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD)

Kansas Creates Cybersecurity Task Force to Protect State's Digital Infrastructure
The bipartisan task force will identify opportunities to improve the overall cybersecurity posture across all levels of government within Kansas.
Source: MeriTalk

Healthcare

Telehealth Usage Rises During Pandemic in North Dakota
From late June to early November, an average of about 30% of health-care visits took place using telehealth, which is a significant increase.
Source: Government Technology

COVID Telehealth Patient Satisfaction High, In-Person Still Preferred
While telehealth patient satisfaction was high during the pandemic, 82% of US adults still prefer in-person doctor's visits, a new survey reveals.
Source: Patient Engagement HIT

Illinois Legislation Extends Telehealth Benefits Past Pandemic
Patients who need a doctor, nurse practitioner, counselor or other health professional will continue to benefit from video or telephone visits after the COVID-19 pandemic.
Source: Government Technology

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.