

**Name:** Chantell Manahan  
**Organization:** MSD of Steuben County  
**Title:** Director of Technology

**Briefly describe your professional background and experience in education technology**

Chantell Manahan is the Director of Technology at MSD of Steuben County Schools in Angola, Indiana. She spent nearly ten years teaching high school French and English before moving into the Technology Director role for the past seven years, and Chantell is focused on keeping teaching, learning, and data at the center of decision making. She has earned Master's degrees in Secondary Education and Educational Leadership and an Educational Specialist degree, holds a Six Sigma Green Belt certificate, maintains certifications as a Google for Education trainer and a Google Administrator, and is a CETL. Chantell currently serves on the CETL Ambassadors committee, on the CoSN CTO Council, and as a board member of the Indiana CTO Council, where she is the DEI committee chair and mentors new tech leaders in their CTO2B program. Chantell is passionate about student agency, data interoperability, and the impact technology can have on educational outcomes.

**What are the two most important priorities for CoSN to focus on in the next three years?**

CoSN should focus on expanding their brand and diversifying their membership in the next three years. In Indiana, I feel we work really hard at promoting our CoSN chapter and building our brand, yet we have less than 50% of Indiana districts as CoSN members. CoSN still has several states without chapters. We need to build our brand recognition and presence, retaining members and solidifying new members. This may mean working more closely with partner organizations such as ISTE, AASA, and other, but it certainly means stepping up our social media game and our responsiveness to questions and interactions. We need more open ended, add your responses, share with your colleagues type media to drive interaction. CoSN has made a great start and great gains in DEI work, and we need to continue them.

**Please explain how your diverse background, personal and professional, will help impact the CoSN Board.**

There are not too many CTOs that started as a French teacher! This unique classroom experience forced me into making connections with others, since there were no other French teachers in my county, let alone in my building. I have been building virtual connections with colleagues since the early 2000s, and technology was a way for us to connect with each other and to connect our students to the world. My classroom experience also taught me a lot about PR and marketing; you have to be your own best advocate and get students in your program so that you still have a job. I have carried both of these professional experiences into my leadership, where I go out of my way to build connections with colleagues and promote the good work we are doing.

**Describe your relevant experience in providing leadership to nonprofit organizations (e.g. service on boards, events, fundraising), with particular emphasis on any experience working with state or national education and/or ed tech associations.**

I have served on our local Chamber of Commerce board and our local library board for the past two years. For the Chamber, I chair the Governance Committee and serve on the fundraising event committee for each of the four annual events--a golf outing, a Christmas celebration, a member expo, and our local business awards gala. For the library, I serve on the PR committee and help create social media posts each month. I just completed my first year as a board member of our Indiana CoSN chapter, where I served on the CTO Clinic committee that saw a record number of attendees and sponsors last year.

**CoSN has identified diversity as a priority for both the CTO profession and the CoSN organization. As a CoSN Board nominee, how would you help to broaden diversity and/or what experience have you had in evaluating or managing organizational diversity?**

As chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee for the Indiana CoSN chapter, I bring resources and talking points to our monthly meetings and publish them in our bi-monthly newsletter to encourage continued conversations and change in our practices. I brought a DEI strand to our CTO Clinic in 2022, with sessions on topics of digital equity, diverse hiring practices, and a female edtech leader panel discussion. I have also transformed my own technology department from a very homogeneous group to a diverse group by living these practices.

**Describe your past involvement in CoSN and/or our state chapters**

I have been a CoSN member since I became a technology leader, and I attended our Indiana CTO Clinic and signed myself up immediately for our CTO2B program. I earned my CETL within three years, and I have been giving back to that program as a mentor ever since. I have also served on the CoSN Ambassadors Committee for the past two years, planning the CETL specific programming for the CoSN conference and building awareness of it. Last year was my first year as a board member for the Indiana CTO Council, where I chair the DEI committee, publish our bi-monthly newsletter, and serve on our CTO Clinic committee. This is my first year also serving on the CoSN CTO Council.