

CoSN is leading the effort to consolidate interoperability best practices into a single, universally-accepted matrix.

The evaluation below is an example of a team’s interoperability analysis for a school district. The team compared current practices to best practices and scored them from 1 (lowest maturity) to 5 (highest maturity), followed by recommended action steps.

## Leadership and Vision

### Best practice

### Current practice

### Action steps

Key leadership are accepting of and willing to actively support, participate in, and promote interoperability efforts.

The organization understands the value of interoperability, but has not yet adopted, developed, and published a written policy.

Create opportunities for IT leaders and the broader leadership team to collaboratively advance toward interoperability and privacy goals. Provide clear guidance on the value of interoperability and privacy standards.

## Buy-in

Maturity level: 1

Proactively planning for change management, continuation of efforts despite change in personnel, and the provision of resources to grow access, reliability, and capacity ahead of demand.

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Develop cross-departmental feedback opportunities on activities that rely on or refer to data. Identify data owner for specific interoperability projects.

## Change Management

Maturity level: 1

Organization understands the value/purpose of interoperability and the importance of knowledge management process, including the difference between open and proprietary interoperability solutions and which standards solve which problems.

Institutional knowledge on the value/purpose of interoperability is developing. There are a few stakeholders who are considered the “go to” persons for institutional knowledge, and they are usually consulted when information is needed.

Establish a repository for collecting and sharing information in a well-known area for all stakeholders. Promote communication and cooperation between functional areas.

## Knowledge & Expertise

Maturity level: 2

Considers the equity impact of interoperability projects and decisions.

A documented process for considering the equity impact of interoperability projects is in development.

Get sign-off from all stakeholders on implementation plan. Secure funding for implementation. Approve project charter for implementation with clear timelines.

## Equity Considerations

Maturity level: 2