



Maine's Road to Unity

A Journey Toward Statewide Interoperability

***Connect + SIF Unity
Go-Live: July 1, 2026***



Presenters



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Why SIF?

Strategic –

**People leading People managing People who are managing data.
People governing data and data policy**

- Strategic Business Goal – CREATE VALUE
 - Give time back to educators - Get the non-instructional work of education the heck outta the way so that teachers can teach and kids can grow.
- Strategic Technical Goal – Single Capture, Integration and Interoperability
 - Data Transport systems and processes optimized for Core Data and a Single Pipe
 - Service based architecture focused on maximizing value creation through the elimination of friction.
 - If the data isn't in the hands of its consumer and being put to work to benefit kids it is not creating the value we centered in our mission & vision
- Strategic People Goal (Culture = People + Values in Action)
 - Tenacious, focused attention, by the PEOPLE, end to end, C-suite to cubicle, to ensure efficient data transport delivered through operational systems focused on excellence in the practice of data quality, data literacy, and data governance.

Standards Agnostic – Domain Neutral – Service Based – Single Pipe

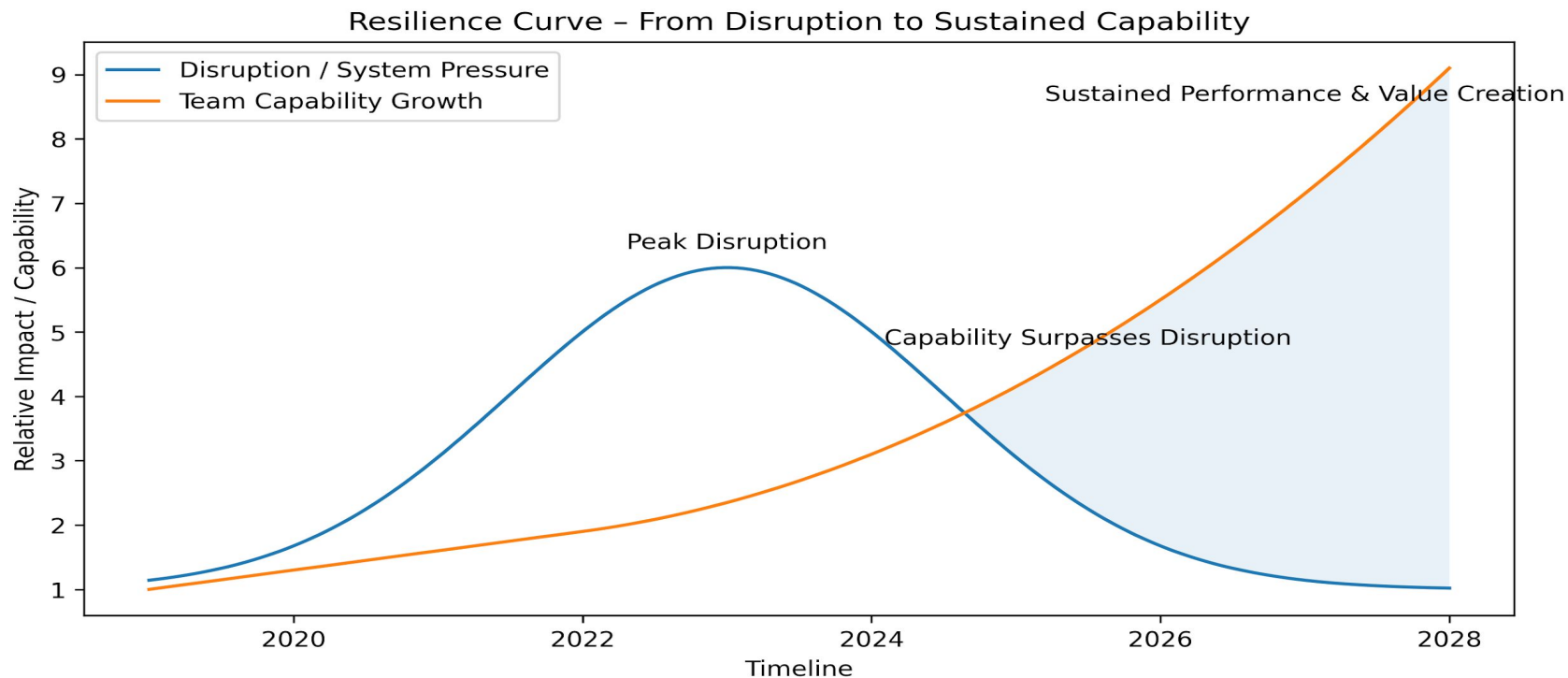
SINGLE PIPE DATA TRANSPORT SERVICES APIs • Broker • Secure Exchange • Interoperability



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE Data Quality • Data Literacy • Data Governance Practice

The Interoperability of People

Iterating, elevating and evolving: an AI experiment in capturing organizational change in real time



Why SIF UNITY ?



What we're seeing about SIF Unity:

- **easier to troubleshoot integration**
- **easier for new vendor adoption**
- **better performance**
- **still a transition for legacy vendors**
- **still have a hybrid environment**
- **student participation & attendance**

Legacy data system (NEO) integration based on SIF infrastructure

Work Smarter....

- Make life easier for LEAs
- Maintain local control/autonomy
- Giving everyone a common language
- Connection, Trust & Validation



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Tactical – People leading and managing People working with data. People responsible for managing data operations.

- Change is hard and takes time
- Three powerful words: "I don't know."
- Embracing difficult conversations
- Not customers, but partners

SIF Testing & QA

**“This whole thing works...
Right...?”**

- No Internal SIF Agent/SIS at MDOE
- Existing LEA Relationships Were Solely Responsible for Progress
- Leveraged a pre-prod test environment and existing CS structure (phone/email) to work bugs and configuration issues.
- Detailed trackers with bi-weekly virtual office hours.
- Established a tiered bug submission workflow to ensure issues were being resolved quickly.

Get Connected

- Meet with LEAs early and often
 - Attend LEA meetings where issues are often surfaced.
 - Provide a predictable cadence for data support and training, including up-to-date resources.
 - Develop a trusted team of LEA representatives for testing.
- Identify data reporting processes within LEAs
 - What will be improved?
 - What needs to be considered for additional support in transitions?
- Meet with vendors on a regular cadence
 - Know the point of contact and who works with LEAs.