

## **Links to Utah's Virtual & Blended Teaching and Learning Tools**

### **UPSTART Home-based online kindergarten readiness program**

I was scheduled to present at SXSW in Austin TX in March 2020 but it became the first major conference in the US to be cancelled because of COVID 19. As you know, they instead held a virtual conference. Here

The web link starts with the Overview which provides a link to the Masterplan. The "Software Initiatives"

<https://www.ecs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Frank-Newman-Award-for-State-Innovation.pdf#:~:text=The%20Frank%20Newman%20Award%20for%20State%20Innovation%20is,recognizes%20a%20for-profit%20corporation%2C%20nonprofit%20organization%20or%20foundation>

## **SETDA State Policymaker of the Year Award**

Utah was positioned to quickly and effectively transition to remote learning thanks to many years of preparation and leadership from Dr. Sydnee Dickson. In 2015, the Utah state legislature called for the development of a master plan to improve classroom technology use. Under the direction of Dr. Dickson, a team of stakeholders created Utah's Essential Elements for Technology Powered Learning. In the plan, Utah identified several components of effective technology integration and proposed a statewide DTL grant necessary for implementation, which became codified into law.

<https://www.setda.org/news/awards/policymaker/>