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NewBay Media

The latest edtech news curated by SchoolCIO editor Ellen Ullman.

A BLENDED LEARNING DATABASE

The Clayton Christensen Institute has created a blended learning database. Already, the directory contains nearly 300 profiles from more than 175 districts across 38 states. Profiles include a description of the blended model, student demographics, tech tools, academic results, and feedback on what's working and what isn't. Add your district to the mix.

MORE E-RATE TIPS

■ There is approximately \$1.9 billion in "rollover" funds from

2015 that can be used in FY2016

if the demand supports it. "With a minimum annual cap of \$3.9 billion allotted, there is a possibility that 2016 will be the largest year in E-rate history, totaling \$5.8 billion. This unprecedented amount of funding can help drive innovation in schools," says Cathy Cruzan, president of Funds For Learning.

- The close date of the FY2016 filing window may be the latest it's ever been.
- This year, the Universal Service Administrative Company's online portal system, the E-rate Productivity Center, is entirely new, so allow extra time for preparing your applications.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

THE GOOD. Texas is hoping to launch P-TECH, a statewide program to build partnerships between K-12, higher ed, and industry to help students earn associates degrees and/or be prepared for high-demand jobs.

THE BAD. The Walton Family Foundation announced for the second time that all online public school instruction, via cyber charter schools, is a colossal disaster for most K-12 students.

<u>THE UGLY.</u> A 52-year-old Pittston Area (PA) School District teacher filed a federal age discrimination lawsuit, saying he was rejected from becoming the district's new technology director because of his age.