

Grand Island Central School District Technology Plan



School District: Grand Island Central School District

BEDS Code 14-15-01-06-0000

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Table of Contents

Introductory Material/Vision & Goals

- Mission, Vision & Goals 3
- District Background & Demographics 4
- Technology Planning Committee 5

Component 1: Curriculum

- Goals 6
- Action Plans 7
- Parental Communication & Community Relations 12

Component 2: Professional Development

- Professional Development Statement & Strategies 13
- Current Staff Development for Technology 14

Component 3: Infrastructure, Hardware, Technical Support and Software

- Inventory 15
- Technical Support 19

Component 4: Monitoring & Evaluation

- Performance Indicators/Revision Strategies/AUP Statements 20

Appendix

- A. ISTE NETS for Teachers Appendix A
- B. ISTE NETS for Administrators Appendix B
- C. Acceptable Use Policy – Faculty & Staff Appendix C
- D. Responsible Use Policy – Student Appendix D
- E. Filtering Policy Appendix E

Introductory Material / Vision & Goals

Mission:

The goal of the Grand Island School District Technology Plan is to create an environment in which students, staff and community can effectively use ever-changing technologies to foster academic excellence, personal growth, and social responsibility.

Vision:

The Grand Island School District provides technology to support education of the highest quality which enables students to:

- *Discover their abilities and talents and channel them for the good of themselves and the community.
- Learn about and understand themselves, the community, the nation, and the global society so that they can interact, collaborate and engage responsibly and confidently with the world around them.
- Appreciate and engage in a broad range of endeavors to enjoy healthy and satisfying lives.
- Establish healthy relationships with others characterized by respect and compassion.
- Be responsible, respectful and safe citizens.
- Develop a passion for lifelong learning.
- Accept responsibility for environmental conservation.
- Use technology as an educational tool, obtaining skills needed to adapt to ever-changing technologies.

Goals:

- We will use technology as a primary tool for transforming instruction as it fosters an environment of 21st Century learning.
- All staff members will integrate technology in ways that support and improve instruction while focusing on creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration
- We will seek the types of technology that support best practices in teaching and learning
- The availability and use of technology will address equity and fairness issues to ensure students and teachers have access to technology in all areas
- Essential instruction will be provide in Digital Citizenship (internet safety, information literacy & ethics) as well as data security.
- Technology systems will be reliable and accessible at all times
- Stakeholders, students, staff, parents and community members will be part of the on-going technology planning to allow the district to adapt to changing needs and technological advances.
- Our stakeholders will recognize that the implementation of our technology plan requires an annually funded budget line to provide continuing commitment of resources to support our technology goals.
- Differentiated staff development will be provided to allow staff access to and use of technology.

District Background & Demographics:

Our Community:

Grand Island is one of the world's largest fresh water islands and is situated in the Niagara River between the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls. The island is 7.5 miles long and 6 miles wide with 21 miles of river frontage. The island divides the Niagara River into East and West branches, joining again at the north end before flowing over Niagara Falls. The 21,000 residents appreciate a full range of government services and civic groups in a mix of residential, shopping and light industry areas.

Our Schools:

There are three elementary schools in the district including one school that services students from pre-kindergarten through grade one and two schools that service grades two through five. The Middle School contains grades six through eight and is located on the same campus as the high school. The middle school shares the auditorium, music rooms, pool and some faculty with the high school. The high school and middle school feature interdisciplinary teams and team teaching at all levels. Accelerated, enriched and basic programs are available in the middle and high school including Advanced Placement courses. Universal Pre-Kindergarten is offered through our primary school, Charlotte Sidway Elementary, and at community-based organizations.

Our Students:

The Grand Island Central School District is comprised of 2,910 students. For the ?? graduates in the class of 2014, ??% students earned a NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, the highest level in New York State. Over ??% of our graduates go on to higher education after high school. Of the ??students who challenged the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) in 2009, the critical reading average was approximately 80 points higher than the national average. In a similar result, our students scored at least four points above the national average on the American College Test (ACT). 4 of 11 Regents exams had mastery (85-100) rates of 50% or higher, while 9 of 11 had mastery rates of 36% or higher. 8 of 11 Regents exams had passing percentages (65-100) above 90%, and the other 3 had passing percentages in the high 80%'s – results much higher than other WNY schools.

The Grand Island School District participates in occupational educational services offered by Erie 1 BOCES.

TECHNOLOGY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Name	Title	Constituencies Represented
Lisa Anderson	Teacher	Veronica E. Connor Middle School
Janet Balk	Librarian	Sidway Elementary School
Cyndi Booker	Teacher/Parent	Kaegebein Elementary School
Amy Boutet	Instructional Technology Teacher	Grand Island High School
Julie Bowen	Teacher	Grand Island High School
Karen Cartwright	Teacher	Kaegebein Elementary School
Katherine Chadwick	Teacher	Kaegebein Elementary School
Mary Cooke	Community Member	Community
Karen Cuddy-Miller	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	Grand Island District Office
Carrie Earnst	Teacher	Grand Island High School
Mary Gentz	Instructional Technology Aide	Grand Island High School
Angela Gorecki	Teacher	Huth Road Elementary School
Mary Haggerty	Principal	Kaegebein Elementary School
Carol Horrigan	Teacher	Huth Road Elementary School
Mary Howard	Teacher/Parent	Veronica E. Connor Middle School
Robin Kwiatek	Director of Instructional Technology	Grand Island District Office
Teresa Lawrence	Superintendent	Grand Island District Office
Jamie Mancuso-Dulak	Instructional Technology Teacher	Kaegebein & Huth Rd. Elementary
Sharyn Mudd	Librarian	Veronica E. Connor Middle School
Josh Nichols	Systems Administrator	Technology Department
Kerri Nowak	Principal	Huth Road Elementary School
Freda Orosz	Librarian	Huth Road Elementary School
Stephanie Pritchard	Librarian	Kaegebein Elementary School
Deanna Przepiora	Teacher	Veronica E. Connor Middle School
Anne Rich	Director of Food Services	Grand Island District Office
Kevin Schoener	Community Member	Community
Jeannine Scibilia	Teacher	Grand Island High School
Michelle Smilanich	Teacher	Grand Island High School
Paul Thompson	Teacher	Grand Island High School
Marlene Winkler	Teacher	Grand Island High School

GOALS

1. Integrate technology skills in all curriculum to foster an environment of 21st Century Learning.
2. Staff access to on-going professional development that is timely, appropriate & differentiated.
3. Staff and students have access to hardware & software that is current and equitable to support a 21st Century Learning environment.
4. A support model exists that addresses end users' needs both instructionally and technically.
5. Streamline technology procedures and resources to improve communication and operations.
6. Staff and students demonstrate responsible digital citizenship including data security.

Action Plan

Goal 1: Integrate technology skills in all curriculum to foster an environment of 21st Century Learning.

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Responsibility	Date each action will be Completed	Indication(s) of Success
Review & update district technology curriculum to remain current with National and State Standards	Stay abreast with articles and posts	Technology Department Curriculum Department	Ongoing	Living technology curriculum maps that are evaluated and updated as needed.
Inform district community of updated curriculum	Presentations to the BOE Faculty meetings	Technology Department Curriculum Department	Ongoing	Community aware of Technology curriculum
Embed the technology standards into the curriculum maps	Aligning tools/resources to content. How to access & edit via Google Docs.	Curriculum Department Principals	Instructional meetings	Lesson objective reflect technology standards
Increase student access to online learning environments	CSLO workshops Vendor specific workshops	Curriculum Department Classroom Teachers Principals	Ongoing	Students demonstrate 21 century skills
Increase access to best practices	Collaboration workshops	Curriculum Department Principals	Ongoing	Staff collaborate with others around best practices

Action Plan

Goal 2: Staff access to on-going professional development that is timely, appropriate & differentiated

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Date each action will be Completed	Indication of Success
Survey staff to determine PD needs	Review existing surveys	Technology Department Principals	Fall & Spring	Full participation in survey
Structure and provide access to Professional Learning Communities for staff	Before and after school meetings, Teacher Center, CSLO, and other Educational Resources	Technology Department Curriculum Department Principals	Ongoing	Personnel make effective use of Professional Learning Communities to share ideas and broaden knowledge base
Provide point of need personnel support to reinforce skills and build confidence with using technology		Technology Department Curriculum Department Principals Faculty/Staff	Ongoing	Faculty/Staff are comfortable exploring new technologies
Re-design Technology Integration Facilitator Program		Technology Committee	Fall 2016	Real Time learning happens for faculty and staff

Action Plan

Goal 3: Staff and students have access to hardware & software that is current and equitable to support a 21st Century Learning environment

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Date each action will be Completed	Indication of Success
Share documents to list hardware/software building needs	Training in shared document use	Administrators Technology Department	May each year	Administrators aware of technology purchases and priorities
Grade level and Department meetings discuss hardware/software needs and report to admins	Faculty/Staff access to resources to learn about new technologies	Technology Department Principals	Periodic	Faculty/Staff are part of the purchase process
Report to stakeholders current technology state and needs	Stay abreast of innovation	Technology Department Curriculum Department Principals Faculty	Annually	BOE and community aware of current technology uses and needs for improvement
Explore software to assist with monitoring student progress in academic and social interventions	Research available software	Technology Department Curriculum Department Committee on Special Education	Summer 2016	Faculty and staff have access to student data to help inform instruction
Increase mobile hardware purchases to improve accessibility of technology to students and staff	Training in use of mobile devices	Technology Department Curriculum Department	Ongoing	Mobile devices are used fluidly throughout the school day by students and staff
Upgrade infrastructure to include cat 6 cable and increasing number of wireless access points in District to support mobile hardware		Technology Department	Fall 2018	Mobile devices work seamlessly
Review shared services with Town of GI for cable infrastructure		Technology Department	Fall 2018	Cost of internet service is reduced
Create Disaster Recovery Site for essential infrastructure		Technology Department	Fall 2017	

Action Plan

Goal 4: A support model exists that addresses end users' needs both instructionally and technically.

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Date each action will be Completed	Indication of Success
Better utilize work order system to streamline technical support	Assist end users in articulating needs	Technology Department	Fall 2016	Quicker response time and less clarification needed in work orders
Increase Instructional Technology support across the district	Communicate need for increased staffing and support	District Administration	Fall 2017	Increased number of Instructional Technology support staff
Establish liaisons with colleges and universities to explore possible IT internships at schools	Reaching out to network connections to promote district as a valuable learning experience	Building Administration, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Direction of Instructional Technology	Spring 2017	Established liaisons with colleges and universities Internships established pending district support

Action Plan

Goal 5: Streamline technology procedures and resources to improve communication and operations.

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Date each action will be Completed	Indication of Success
Reduce individual storage deficiency by effectively utilizing share folders, file management & the Cloud.	Educate teachers on accessing & successfully using share folders. Teach file management techniques. Share & encourage use of online storage.	Technology Department Faculty/Staff	Fall 2016	Less teachers approaching/exceeding home folder capacity.
District website and news are current, easy to navigate and meaningful.	How to login and edit website. Effective organization and management of web pages.	Designated Web Editors, Public Relations Specialist, Administrators & Web Masters	Spring 2017	Positive feedback from all stakeholders & increased use of website
Teacher Web Pages that are current, instructional and improve communication between home and school	How to login and edit Teacher Page. Effective organization and management of web pages. Instructional uses of Teacher Page	Administrators, All Teachers, TIFs and IT Teacher	June 2013 (promotion & training increased) June 2014 (increased use by teachers) June 2015 (increased use by parents/students)	More teachers have web pages that reflect action in column 1. Positive feedback from parents and students.
Establish procedures to manage security systems	Train administrators on use of new security systems	Technology Department	Fall 2016	Administrators are confident in procedures and use of security systems
Maintain shared document repositories	Train staff in when best to use different repositories (ex. Shared folder, document library, cloud space)	Technology Department, Staff	Ongoing	Streamlined methods of sharing forms and files.
Expand use of the parent portal in all buildings	Use of training documents and videos to inform families and staff	Technology Department Principals Staff	Spring 2017	Parent Portal is rolled out K-12.
Utilize SIS for directed e-mail communications from District, buildings and faculty	Use of training documents and videos to inform families and staff	Technology Department Principals Staff	Fall 2016	E-mail communication to parents is done securely

Action Plan

Goal 6: Staff and students demonstrate responsible digital citizenship including data security

Actions needed to achieve goal	Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Date each action will be Completed	Indication of Success
Continually review and update district policy for the inclusion of responsible use	Erie 1 BOCES policy services will provide information & recommendations to district administration	Administrators and Board of Education	Ongoing	Policies are up to date with current trends addressed
Host public forums to increase awareness of Digital Citizenship in the community.	Stay current in trends related to digital citizenship.	Administration and PTA with support from the Director of IT & IT Teacher	Annually by June 2017	Website information is posted and community nights are offered at least annually.
Faculty and Staff periodically review good digital citizenship and data security practices	Instruction in current practices	District Administration BOCES	During faculty and staff meetings	Increased number of Instructional Technology support staff
Establish liaisons with colleges and universities to explore possible IT internships at schools	Reaching out to network connections to promote district as a valuable learning experience	Building Administration, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Direction of Instructional Technology	Spring 2017	Established liaisons with colleges and universities Internships established pending district support
Disseminate information on proper use of personal device in school settings to students and staff	Research best practices in other Districts Stay abreast of current trends	District Administration Building Leaders	During faculty and staff meetings During class meetings	Personal mobile devices are used appropriately

Parental Communication & Community Relations/Collaboration

Disseminating the educational technology plan to the community:

- Plan will be presented to the Board of Education
- Plan will be shared with all faculty and staff members via building principals
- Plan will be shared with PTA & Shared Decision Making Teams via building principals
- The approved plan will be posted on the Grand Island Schools website
- The district newsletter will be used to advise the public of the impact of their spending on technology
- The district newsletter, teacher newsletters, local press and the Grand Island Website will be used to showcase technology projects and curriculum integration as appropriate
- Collected data on staff development will be shared with principals, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, the Board Of Education and community as appropriate
- Timeline for sharing plan will be established & shared upon plan approval

Building principals will discuss the development of the plan in an appropriate format, as they deem meaningful. The purpose of all communications is to gather information from shareholder groups as well as disseminate information about the plan itself.

Information to be disseminated about the plan should include its purpose, its connection to CDEP (Comprehensive District Education Plan), the names of the Technology Committee members and how to contact them.

Effectively Communicating with parents and promoting parent involvement:

- Newspaper articles, district web page and district committees will serve as vehicles for sharing information.
- E-alerts for each building & PTA are well utilized via district website

COMPONENT 2: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development Strategies

Technology based professional development will be:

- Connected to a comprehensive change process focused on improving student learning
- Primarily school based and built into the day-to-day work of teaching
- Continuous and on-going, involving follow-up and support for further learning - including support from sources external to the school that can provide necessary resources and new perspectives
- Organized around collaborative problem-solving
- Opportunities to gain an understanding of the theory underlying the knowledge and skills being learned

A needs assessment was conducted and analyzed with results indicating that faculty and staffs are utilizing technology resources as an instructional, management, research and communication tool. The survey findings also support the need for more individualized or department specific instruction. In addition, more support in instructional technology is needed. This will be obtained through additional technology staff to support the instructional use of technology as well as the acquisition of more building level support in the TIF (Technology Integration Facilitators) program. These additions are contingent on budget implications.

Staff development is critical to the success of this technology plan. Ongoing opportunities tied to learner outcomes provide teachers with the skills they both desire and need to use technology in support of student learning. Technology will be integrated into district professional development opportunities as appropriate.

As new technology emerges, teachers will be introduced to the available technology to support instruction through demonstrations, emails, staff testimonials and presentations from TIFs.

State & National Standards Addressing Technology Competencies:

- ★ National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS-T) will provide a framework for identifying staff development and will be implemented with this plan (Appendix A).
- ★ National Educational Technology Standards for Administrators (NETS-A) will provide a framework for technology expectations for Administrators (Appendix B).

A table of current Technology Professional Development follows, providing examples of the professional development opportunities available. Opportunities are planned based on current staff needs, prior workshop evaluations, surveys, new initiatives and feedback from stakeholders.

Current Professional Development for Technology			
Course	Provider	Target Audience	Training Mode Used
New Teacher Orientation/Training	Director of IT/IT Teacher	All New Teachers	Hands On Training
Microsoft Office	Technology Department/TIFs	All Faculty & Staff (requesting help)	Hands on Training and Instructional Handouts
Grand Island Web Page Training	Director of IT/IT Teacher/Public Relations Consultant	School Building or Department appointed web page editor	Hands on Training
Teacher Web Page Training	IT Teacher/TIFs	Any Teachers requesting help	Hands on Training
Infinite Campus Ongoing Training	District Coach, Building Coaches & Teacher Coaches	Secretaries/School Related Personnel/Teachers	Hands on Training/Instructional Hand Outs
Various Teacher Center Courses	GI/Tonawanda Teacher Center	All Faculty & Staff	Hands on Training
One-on-One Support/Training	IT Teacher, Technology TA, Technology Department	All Faculty & Staff (requesting help)	Hands on Training
Support for Technology Infused Research Projects	Director of IT/IT Teacher/Librarians/TIFs	All Faculty	Hands on Training & Individualized Training
CSLO/IRT/RTTT Workshops	BOCES Trainers	All Teachers	Hands On Training
ITP (Instructional Technology Partners) Training	BOCES CSLO Trainers	Collaborative teams of teachers from building(s)	Extensive Individualized Training (3 days each)
TIF Summer Training Institute	Director of IT/IT Teacher/BOCES CSLO Trainers	TIFs	Hands on Training and Instructional Handouts
Technology-Based Study Groups	Study Group Facilitator	All Faculty	Hands On Training
Before or After school "mini-workshops"	IT Teacher/TIFs/Librarians	All Faculty & Staff	Hands On Training
Instructional Technology Moodle	IT Teacher	All Faculty & Staff	Online Resources & Tools for Self-Initiated Learning
GI Moodle	BOCES – DL	Moodle Managers (Course Admin)	Hands On Training
AIMSweb	BOCES/Rtl Task Force	Rtl SWAT Teams & other faculty as needed	Hands On Training
Apex Credit Recovery	BOCES	HS Teachers as needed	Hands on Training

COMPONENT 3: Infrastructure, Hardware, Technical Support & Software

Inventory	Computer Labs	Class-rooms	Library or Media Ctr	Admin. Office	Other Location	Planned Future Acquisitions		
						Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Computers (list by type)								
A. Dell/HP	364	574	116	70	28	Replacement cycle of 1/5. Add as needed to support instruction.	Replacement cycle of 1/5. Add as needed to support instruction.	Replacement cycle of 1/5. Add as needed to support instruction.
B. Apple	25	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peripheral Devices								
A. Printers	16	29	6	21	11	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction`	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
B. Scanners	3	9	1	2	0	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
C. Assistive/Adaptive Devices	0	34	0	0	0	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
D. Digital Cameras	0	21	8	11	1	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction

E. Projection Devices	12	220	4	0	4	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
Software (list by type with # of licenses)								
A. Base Image: Windows 7 Professional w/Service Pack 1, IE 9 , Office 2010 Professional Plus, iTunes 10.2.2, QuickTime 7.6.9, Mozilla Firefox 4.0.1 , Roxio 10.3 DE, Symantec Endpoint 11.0.6200.754 , Adobe 10.0.1, Java 1.6_25, PowerDVD DX 8.3.1.6107, Flash 10.2/Shockwave 11.5.9.620, Windows Live MovieMaker, Windows Live Photo Gallery, CCleaner 3.06.1433, Classic Shell, MalwareBytes anti-Malware 1.50.1.1100	All	All	All	All	All			
B. Elementary Programs: Natural Reader, Type To Learn, Kidspiration, Kid Pix, PhotoStory, Zoombinis, Classroom Jeopardy, CPS, Google	All Elem	All Elem	All Elem	All Elem	All Elem			

Earth, SMART Board Notebook, Audacity, Podium								
C. Secondary Programs: Natural Reader, Geometer's Sketchpad, TI Connect, Green Globs, RealPlayer, PhotoStory, Audacity, SMART Notebook, Worksheet Builder, Google Earth, ExamGen, CPS, ExamView, Kaleidos, Finale Notepad, Podium, Vernier Logger	All Secondary	All Secondary	All Secondary	All Secondary	All Secondary			
Network Equipment								
A. Hubs / Switches / Routers	0	13	5	1	73	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
B. Servers	0	0	0	0	23	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
C. Number of rooms wired for internal connections	All	All	All	All	All			
D. 1 Gigabit Broadband WAN for Data & the Internet is in place for all buildings						Replace/Add as needed	Replace/Add as needed	Replace/Add as needed
Telecommunication Links								

A. Full or fractional T1	0	0	0	0	0			
B. ISDN	0	0	0	0	1			
C. Dedicated cable/microwave	0	0	0	0	11	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction	Replace/ Add as needed to support instruction
D. Phones (VoIP)/Cell Phones/Pagers/E-mail (Lotus Notes) – all in place						Replace/Add as needed	Replace/Add as needed	Replace/Add as needed

Broadband Statement: With the Lightspeed Web Filter, school districts receive CIPA compliant filtering based on a comprehensive education specific database and granularly customizable policies, enabling teachers and students get access to the sites and tools that enhance education. Along with this granularity, you receive detailed reporting, internet browsing history combined with detailed user specific actions and requests which include search engine queries. This product also allows you to block various security risks enabling a layered security approach to assist in the protection of your end points.

Increasing Access: Goal number 3 of our plan addresses continuously increasing access to online resources, software and hardware. In addition, the district has a process in place for [Assistive Technology](#).

Technical Support

Technology Staff - Overview

- .5 Director of Instructional Technology
- 1 Microcomputer Technical Support Specialist/Help Desk Secretary
- 1 Microcomputer Decision Support Specialist
- 1.2 PC Technician – Secondary/Office PC & Phones Support
- 1 PC Technician - Supports Elementary
- .6 Senior Technical Consultant - Network & Phones Support
- 1 District Audio Visual Technician

Instructional Support for Teachers and Students

- Middle School has a Teaching Assistant / Building Coordinator
- High School has a Computer Aide
- We have one full-time Instructional Technology Teacher who provides support to teachers across the district
- Technology Integration Facilitators (TIFs) have been identified in each building and provide continuous support

Technology Staff Issues

- Decreasing technology staff despite increasing amounts of technology to support
- Continue to improve cross training & communication across technicians
- Limited coverage for the Mac side and no coverage when staff are absent
- Minimal coverage for network administration when consultant is in other districts
- Increasing need for Instructional Technology Support

COMPONENT 4: MONITORING & EVALUATION

1. Describe the performance indicators you have developed to assess the effectiveness of the strategies you identified

- The gaps in all state assessments at all grade levels goals will decrease
- Increased use by teachers and students, successes in the area of curriculum integration, participation in staff development activities and other trends that support growth or need areas.
- Technology is integrated into staff development plans through the results of the annual needs assessment, and the activities in the buildings and district.
- Technology is successfully integrated into all content areas as outlined in the curriculum maps
- Data will be collected and analyzed regarding the usage of technology by students.

2. Explain how the district and the planning committee will use evaluation results and data to revise strategies.

- Progress will be assessed twice a year through electronic surveys and the data reviewed by representatives from various stakeholder groups. A report will be written by the Director of Instructional Technology and forwarded onto the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for review.
- The District Technology Planning Committee will meet again to review progresses and revise strategies in order to continuously refine and adapt the plan to new findings, information and goal redevelopment.

3. Acceptable/Responsible Use of Technology Policy (AUP/RUP) -

- Faculty & Staff AUP (Appendix C)
- Student RUP (Appendix D)
- Filtering Policy (Appendix E)