

Technology Plan Cover Sheet
2016-2018 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018)

Organization Information

District/Agency/School (legal name): ROCKFORD AREA SCHOOLS

District Number: 883

Technology Plan Status

The District/Agency/School has an approved 2013-15 technology plan:

Yes No

2016-2018 Technology Plan Date of Creation: January - June, 2015

Identified Official with Authority

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2016-18 Technology Plan

Technology Needs Assessment.

Technology needs assessment and planning is currently completed by a committee made up of the District Administrative Team and other key personnel. Current membership includes:

- Superintendent
- Business Manager
- School Principals
- Director of Technology
- Director of Teaching and Learning
- District Teachers/Technology Integrationists

The assessment process involved reviewing the previous technology plan and inventory of district wide hardware, software and infrastructure, along with ongoing discussions of building and departmental needs, and requests throughout the 2014-15 school year. A brief survey of teaching staff was recently completed and respondents agreed favorably with our general plan to increase classroom technology through added interactive whiteboards and mobile computing devices.

Technology funding decisions for 2015-16 were finalized through a capital request process. The same process will be used for remaining years in plan.

Technology Needs Summary:

- Continued classroom technology improvements including interactive whiteboards, amplification systems and student mobile devices
- Review and realignment of K-12 Technology Standards
- Ongoing telecommunications and internet services (E-rate supported)
- Ongoing security expansion and enhancements
- Ongoing paging and sound system enhancements

Goals and Strategies.

District Mission: Building a Community for Life-Long Learning

District Vision: Provide a respectful learning environment in which all students achieve their highest potential for a changing world.

District Values:

- Visionary leadership that encourages continuous improvement.
- Managing by facts, focusing on results and creating value.
- Valuing faculty, staff, students and partners.
- Communicating openly and consistently with all stakeholders.
- Learning-centered education.

District Technology Vision: Technology is an integral component in achieving the district's goal to shape a student's mastery of core subjects and 21st century skills.

Technology must support the district mission to meet the educational needs of all students. The District is nearing completion of a curriculum mapping project that will include technology standards addressed by various classes in all schools. Upon completion, specific mapping to technology standards, based on the International Society for Technology in Education National Educational Technology Standards for Students (ISTE's NETS•S), will be made available on our website.

The district plans to use technology to meet a number of objectives identified as part of its mission and more clearly identified as part of the needs assessment. Key objectives identified are discussed below.

Improve District Technology Infrastructure

During the past two years the District has upgraded the majority of technology infrastructure including the following:

- New VoIP phone system (E-rate supported)
- Increased bandwidth (E-rate supported)
- Campus-wide wireless networking
- Network switches
- Servers and storage
- All computer labs upgraded
- All staff desktops upgraded
- In second year of two year lease for staff laptops
- Expanded security systems
- New auditorium sound system and upgraded lighting

Improve Classroom Technology

- Add interactive whiteboards in all classrooms where applicable
- Install classroom amplification systems with paging enhancements
- Add mobile devices for students (ChromeBooks, Tablets, etc.)
- Implement upcoming improvements in Infinite Campus

Improve District Communication

- Increase use and promotion of the Student and Parent Portals in Infinite Campus
- Continue promotion of messenger system within Infinite Campus
- New informational kiosks – Elementary and High Schools
- Re-evaluate web site for improvement or replacement
- Continue improvements to other technology-based communications (Facebook, newsletters, weekly parent updates, etc.)

Improve Business Technology Services

- Implementing fee payment system within Infinite Campus
- Adding School Aged Childcare billing to Infinite Campus
- Re-evaluate facilities scheduling/calendaring system for improvement or replacement

Professional Development Plan.

The district is committed to providing necessary staff development to ensure the successful use of technology in the classroom and beyond. The District Staff Development committee conducts an annual needs assessment survey, which includes technology related training topics. Teacher PLCs will also identify technology training needs and share these with the staff development committee through an ongoing survey process. Technology training needs identified through these processes will be addressed at subsequent late start days.

Prior to school starting, technology training is provided for any new technologies within the district. Mentor/mentee training takes place for all new teaching staff.

During the school year, there are four two-hour late start days providing time for technology training. The training is generally provided through six to eight sessions, with teachers choosing their topics of interest.

Additional training is provided for new technologies as needed. As an example, anyone receiving a new interactive whiteboard will receive initial training on use, and subsequent in-depth training throughout the school year.

Evaluation.

The technology plan is reviewed annually by the District Technology Committee and updated as needed. Implementation status reports are made throughout the year by the Director of Technology.

Assessment of individual plan goals and strategies will involve feedback in a variety of ways including evaluation forms, surveys and meetings. Results will be submitted to the Technology Committee and disseminated through various means.

Optional Links.

Classroom Technology Survey - <http://goo.gl/6xfpkn>

Staff Development Needs Assessment Survey - <http://goo.gl/myaaAx>

Link to Current Technology Plan. Provide the link on the LEA website where the technology plan will be posted and updated throughout the planning period: <http://goo.gl/kaneze>

Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

This LEA has an Internet Safety/Acceptable Use Policy in place.

Yes No

If yes, please provide a link to access the policy at the LEA website:

Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy - <http://goo.gl/21AdqC>

This school district deploys an Internet filter to protect minors from material that is pornographic or otherwise harmful to them.

Yes No