

Gilbert Public Schools 2014-2017 Technology Strategic Plan

“Scholarship, Innovation and **Technology**”

January 13, 2015

Introduction

The district Strategic Technology Plan is a result of extensive feedback and discussion with students, teachers, parents, school leaders and district administrators. It is now being presented to the community for review. The guiding principles emerged from the analysis of feedback and discussion with key stakeholders and the goals were established to prioritize the initiatives that follow. The Strategic Technology Plan is an evolving document. It will be reviewed and revised at least annually based upon implementation progress, finances and feedback from stakeholder groups.

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Director of Technology Services

Guiding Principles

1. Student needs come first.
2. Curriculum Plan should drive device strategy.
3. Teachers need relevant professional development in order to transform the learning experience through technology.
4. Student and teachers should have access to learning materials and curriculum anywhere, any time, from any device.

Technology Goals

1. Provide students with the technology needed to research, analyze, synthesize and present information anywhere, any time
2. Enable teachers to integrate technology into lessons whenever and wherever needed.
3. Provide students and teachers with the technology to collaborate in the learning process.
4. Optimize systems to ensure long-term sustainability of successful technology programs and initiatives.
5. Engage and communicate effectively with all stakeholder groups.

Strategy 1: Policy and Leadership

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Develop and maintain a three-year technology plan with input from teachers, students, school leaders, parents and community members.	X	X	X	Superintendent shared with board on January 9, 2015	No incremental cost to district
Reorganize the Technology Services team to better align with student, teacher and district technology needs.	X			Reviewed with HR and Finance; shared with Superintendent on January 7, 2015	Savings of \$210K per year
Update district technology policies and regulations to support teaching and learning objectives, to include policies IJND, IJNDB, IJNDC, GBEF	X	X		Superintendent will present at Policy Committee in Spring 2015	No incremental cost to district
Update district internet filtering policy for students and staff	X			Superintendent will present at Policy Committee in Spring 2015	No incremental cost to district
Update records retention strategy to align with state and federal statute	X	X			No incremental cost to district

Note: shaded Financial cells indicated additional funding required in FY16 and FY17

Strategy 2: Teaching and Learning

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Implement an online curriculum system	X	X		Reviewing systems from Dysart and Vail schools districts	\$100K - \$250K per year
Update competency-based technology standards for grades K through 12	X	X		Establishing Work Group to revise standards	No incremental cost to district
Expand and enhance differentiated educational technology learning and development opportunities for teachers	X	X	X	First annual Technology Institute scheduled for June 2-3, 2015	\$100,000 per year (80% of costs to be offset by business sponsors)
Implement technologies that enable remote/distance instruction and blended learning experiences	X	X		Pilot planning underway with GHS for Calculus III course	\$10,000 to \$50,000 per year
Enhance center-based instruction in grades K through 2 with more student devices	X	X	X	Focus on tablets	\$500,000 per year
Implement a “one device per student” program for all students in grades 7-12	X	X	X	Begin with 7th grade in FY15	\$2 million per year
Identify teachers developing innovative technology integration practices that can be shared across the district	X	X	X	Summer Technology Institute will utilize innovative teachers	No incremental cost to district
Develop a for-credit technology internship program for 11th and 12th graders		X	X	In HS course book for pilot in FY16; exploring business partnership opportunities	No incremental cost to district

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Transition state-assessment process from paper and pencil to computer for the new AZ Merit test	X	X		Piloting with six schools in FY15 school year; all schools in FY16	Incremental cost offset by other reductions
Transition away from general purpose computing labs and implement more classroom/cart devices		X	X		No incremental cost to district

Strategy 3: School Design and Innovation

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Collaborate with Curriculum to support new school design and development, enhancing the integration and use of classroom technology		X	X		No incremental cost to district
Provide after-hours remote access to computer labs both physical and virtual		X	X		\$50,000 to \$100,000 per year
Enable student and teacher access to files and file shares on or off campus from most mainstream devices	X	X	X	Google Apps for Education implemented in FY15	Long-term reduction in technology costs
Upgrade wired and wireless capacity to support one device per student in the classroom		X	X	eRate bid in progress; required for AZmerit	\$5M to \$7M + \$2M per year
Upgrade wiring on school campuses to support increased wireless capacity		X	X	eRate bid in progress	\$300,000 to \$400,000 per year
Create model classroom designs and budgetary plans for technology in Elem. and HS classrooms		X	X	Creating "Smart Room" on TSC campus	No incremental cost to district

Strategy 4: Community Engagement

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Commission Technology Steering Committee with selected community business and technology leaders	X	X	X	To be seated by the end of January 2015	No incremental cost to district
Extend access to learning technologies and collaboration platforms to parents and families of GPS students	X	X	X	Upgrading and improving website design	No incremental cost to district
Streamline online access to district resources for parents and community		X	X		No incremental cost to district
Communicate the technology strategy and the related financial implications to the community	X	X	X	Presenting at business leaders mtg on 1/15/15	No incremental cost to district
Engage with business leaders to support strategic technology initiatives	X	X	X		No incremental cost to district
Collaborate with higher education institutions to support training and development goals for district teachers and staff	X	X	X		No incremental cost to district

Strategy 5: Systems Alignment

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Support the implementation of a new finance and HR software management system	X	X		Project underway, Phase one complete 7/1	\$1.5MM - \$2MM
Budget for and implement a 5-year computer refresh cycle for teacher, classroom, lab and administrative computers		X	X		\$800K per year

Initiative / Action Step	FY15	FY16	FY17	Monitoring/Progress	Financial
Conduct a data security assessment	X		X	Every two years	\$25K - 75K every two years
Convert district to new email and collaboration system and provide district email addresses to all students	X			Implementing Google Apps for Education in Spring 2015	Reduction in software licensing costs of ~\$50K per year
Provide campus technology resources with greater "first contact resolution" capability		X	X		No incremental cost to district
Convert district from outdated Novell eDirectory to industry-standard Microsoft Active Directory, allowing for better management of end-user access to network resources; required for implementation of new Finance and HR system	X	X		Pilot at Greenfield JH initiated in December 2014	\$600K for implementation; yearly savings of \$100,000 - \$150,000 per year
Implement a laptop loaner/spares program so that teachers and administrators will retain computer access when repairs or upgrades are required		X	X	Program development underway	No incremental cost to district
Collaborate with campus technology point persons to improve working relationship with Technology Services	X	X	X	Monthly conference calls beginning in March 2015	No incremental cost to district
Improve the device asset tracking process for all school devices		X	X	Utilize new Finance system database	No incremental cost to district
Document and communicate service level expectations for end-users to include: time to acknowledgement, critical issues, moves/adds/changes	X	X	X	Helpdesk system currently being upgraded to support this initiative	No incremental cost to district
Design and implement a comprehensive disaster recovery and business continuity plan for the district	X	X		Backup site at Campo Verde being established	\$150,000 to \$200,000

