

## Hardin County Technology Plan

2010-2011

### 1. *Needs Assessment*

Representatives from accounting, administration, and the classroom along with technology staff will evaluate current needs, resources, and scientific research to determine how technology should be implemented.

The Tennessee Star Charts and the TESS survey will be used as a beginning and an ending point each year. They will serve as evaluation tools and sources of planning data.

Needs are based on the interpretation of the requirements in the curriculum standards for Tennessee schools outlined by the Tennessee State Department of Education. These are aligned with the ISTE standards. Needs are also identified by the individual schools' School Improvement Plans. The stakeholders responsible for technological issues in the schools will track the changing needs of technology for the school district.

## 2. *Stakeholders*

John O. Thomas – Director of Schools

Hardin County Board Of Education

Supervisors of Instruction & Attendance with facilitators

Principals and Vice Principals – Building level

Technology Coordinator & technology staff

Building Level Technology Coordinators

Hardin County Technology/Classroom teachers

Hardin County Media Specialists

Stakeholders are involved in continually assessing the technological needs of individual schools through the School Improvement Plan objectives and components, teacher conferences, and personal observations. Committee members communicate to the Technology Coordinator, Stephen Johnson, the immediate needs of each school as well as the long range needs.

### 3. *Timeline 2011*

July, 2010-June 30, 2011

- July, 2010: Complete construction of two new sites, including the fiber and networking to all classrooms and offices.
- July, 2010: Finish renovations to existing site, including the upgrade of fiber and networking to make all sites
- July, 2010: Upgrade bandwidth to fiber at all schools and Educational Center. Provide T1 or less to the maintenance office and garage. It is scheduled to be in place by the beginning of school but dependant on construction and renovations.
- 2010-2011: Continue ENA managed firewall for more efficient Internet security.
- 2010-2011: Plan and implement professional development on internet safety and cyber bullying for all personnel.
- Fall 2010: Professional development at individual school sites with follow-up training throughout the year for instructional software.
- Fall, 2010: Maintain network operating system of Novell 6.5 with appropriate upgrades and patches.
- Fall, 2010: Confirm that all sites have the current version of Panda Antivirus installed and working properly.
- Ongoing: Train for all Technology coordinators, technicians, and trainers on security, issues and applications pertinent to our school system.
- Fall, 2010 and ongoing: Professional development on the Success Maker and A+ network based software.
- 2010: Staff development at individual school sites throughout the school year.

- December 2010: Minimum of ten staff members attends TETC from technology funds. More will be sponsored with available Title and building level funds.
- Mid-year, 2010: Administrators at each site will complete the TESS surveys at the building levels. District Technology Coordinator will complete the district component of the TESS survey. The TESS surveys will be used to evaluate progress and weaknesses and used as a tool to plan for next year.
- 2010: Work with CyberTech, ENA and EduTech to maintain fluid network and Internet usage.
- 2010 and ongoing: Purchase new equipment based on needed upgrades and budget allowances.
- Use data from ThinkLink, SIP, Terra Nova/T-CAP, and Gateway tests to determine high priority areas of need. Use this information for software and Internet integration.
- May-August: Evaluate current Internet connectivity and LAN capacity to determine needs for the next school year.
- Plan ongoing, sustained, research based professional development according to on STAR chart, TESS survey, and current teacher needs.
- Purchase instructional software and Internet services and plan professional development accordingly.
- Purchase new equipment based on needed upgrades and budget allowances.
- Use data from TCSPP, SIP, Terra Nova/T-CAP, and Gateway tests to determine high priority areas of need. Use this information for software and Internet integration.

#### 4. *Responsible Parties*

In-house technology coordinators, principals, and assistant principals are responsible for overseeing implementation of specific elements of the plan.

Stephen Johnson –Technology Coordinator

Levin Edwards – High School Technology Coordinator

Matt Colburn – Technical Engineer

John Milender & Riley Patterson – Computer technicians

## 5. *Vision*

We are striving to meet the ongoing technological needs of the students and staff of Hardin County Schools, as we believe students' achievements can be directly enhanced by the use of technology in the classroom.

## 6. *Goals, Strategies, and Objectives*

All goals and objectives are aligned with the state standards and federal guidelines, as defined by ISTE.

**Goal 1: All students will be educated in learning environments that have access to educational technology used in support of academic achievement.**

- *Provide adequate access to technology. Provide student-to-computer ratio of 3 to 1.*
- *Maintain local infrastructure with appropriate technical support with timely and adequate technical support.*
- *Provide quality of use of technology. Provide ongoing, sustained, and intensive, high-quality professional development.*

Strategy 1 Focus technology resources to improve student learning:

1. Expect educators to use technology in developmentally appropriate ways to promote active learning and individualized instruction.
2. Terra Nova/T-CAP, TVASS, End-of-Course tests and Gateway results will be used to measure effectiveness of integration of technology into the classrooms, of teachers, and to enable students to reach state academic standards.
3. Practice content-appropriate technology learning expectations and appropriately aligned technology resources in core content curriculum standards.
4. Expect schools to use assistive technology to ensure all students have access to the general curriculum

Strategy 2 Provide all students with access to technology resources in the classroom and the opportunity to use them to improve learning in all learning areas.

1. Use of Integrated technology will lead to improvements in student achievement.
2. Ensure adequate student to internet-capable computer ratios and appropriate technology resources are available in every school.
3. Fund local capacity for technology allocation of funds at the building level.

4. All classrooms will have WinXP or higher student machines capable of accessing the Internet and running academic software.

Strategy 3 Provide technical assistance and support for networking in schools.

1. Fund positions for one countywide technology coordinator, a high school technology coordinator, a middle school technology coordinator/trainer, and computer technicians.
2. Establish building level technical support personnel.
3. Participate in statewide Internet network in all schools. Provide additional services via ENA to insure efficient connection.
4. Participate in technology conferences to acquire current information on trends, effective practice, and emerging technologies.
5. All classrooms will be networked to share multiple resources and applications.
6. Network servers will be maintained with operating system capable to support resources and Internet in every classroom.
7. All classroom equipment purchased by the school system, regardless of funding source, will be maintained by the technology staff.
8. Specialty equipment, such as medical apparatus, etc., will be maintained via contract with the vendor or production company.

Strategy 4 Use resources to provide technology access to all students and teachers.

1. BEP, E-RATE, IDEA, Title and other funds will be used to provide technology access to all students and teachers.
2. Title II Part D formula funds will be used to distribute technology to all students, focusing on those in high poverty, high need, and /or high priority schools.

Strategy 5 Obtain or develop online instruction to meet individual student learning needs and course requirements.



**Goal 2: All students will demonstrate technology literacy based on the state standards.**

*Technology literacy is the ability to appropriately use the tools of technology in pursuit of an information and learning objective.*

- *Use state technology standards as a technology curriculum.*
- *Integrate technology into everyday teaching and learning.*

Strategy 1 Advance student technology literacy to ensure that all students are prepared for high skilled, high wage jobs and to support lifelong learning.

1. Expect that all students demonstrate technology literacy based on the grade level state standards.
2. Incorporate technology learning expectations and resources in core content curriculum.
3. Instruction based software and Internet resources will be available for teachers to integrate into the curriculum.

**Goal 3: All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers trained to use technology for instruction.**

Strategy 1 Support opportunities for teachers and administrators to develop competence in using technology to meet instructional goals.

1. All school personnel will be trained on internet safety and cyber bullying.
2. Teachers and administrators will communicate via e-mail.
3. Provide ongoing, sustained high-quality professional development in effective technology integration for all certified personnel.
4. Provide opportunities for teachers and administrators to attend TETC and other technology conferences.
5. Provide support for teachers pursuing independent learning opportunities.
6. Coordinate staff development with the instructional software used by the teachers.
7. Every teacher will have access to professional development modules in the local training facilities and in the classroom via Internet with support from the LEA.
8. All teachers will have dedicated teacher machines capable of accessing the Internet and supporting multitasking.

Strategy 2 Obtain or develop online instruction to meet teacher learning needs. Use technology to provide ongoing professional growth opportunities.

1. Provide research based training to teachers for ongoing, sustained, high quality staff development.
2. Research new and share known resources available for teachers' use as teaching tools.

### ***7. Collaboration Among Educators***

Communication among all educators via conferences, classes, professional development activities, and electronic media will be encouraged providing opportunities

to share teaching strategies. Technology representatives in each school will keep the technology coordinators informed of immediate and long-range needs. Media Center specialists will facilitate the use of technology by engaging faculty in the processes of integrating technology into the classroom by helping to provide services and equipment to teachers.

#### ***8. Collaboration with Community Partners***

The system will publish district and school web pages, parent newsletters, and memos and communicate through TIGER Broadcasting and radio, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and “Alert Now” telecommunications. The local newspaper will be used to keep the community aware of educational events happening in our system. This will include school and student highlights as well as a district newsletter. The phone messaging system (Alert Now) will be used as a notification system between the school system and the community. Adult literacy will be stressed through the cooperation of the Adult Education program and the technology coordinators, faculty members, and principals. The administration will maintain accessibility to local technology institutes and colleges in order to boost awareness of the needs of a technological society as well as the opportunities that exist for all students to achieve in the field of technology.

### ***9. Curricula and Teaching that Integrate Technology***

District wide coordinators, supervisors, and teachers distribute programs to share awareness of curricula and teaching strategies that effectively integrate technology throughout the school system based on the latest recommendations and developments provided through educational data driven research.

### ***10. Increasing Accessibility***

Internet resources such as the <http://www.thegateway.org/> sponsored by the United States Department of Education and <http://tennessee.gov/education/tpd/PC989.shtml> will be posted on the county website with other teacher resources. Technology plans will incorporate new technology, provide and maintain new and innovative researched based technology. Internet connectivity and LAN capacity will be evaluated for efficiency at appropriate intervals in order to make necessary adaptations. An ongoing effort will be made to provide quality professional development in order to attract and attain highly qualified teachers.

### ***11. Equity***

The technology budget will be distributed equitably and fairly. An effort will be made to make available technology to all students equally through continued efforts to receive grants and equally distribute funds for technological needs. Technology funds will be used to increase accessibility to technology for all students, focusing on those in high poverty, high need, and/or high priority schools. All technology equipment purchased with system funds (regardless of the source) will be maintained by the technology staff. This includes federal (IDEA, Title, stimulus, grants etc.) funds. Professional development on the use of equipment and instructional software will be available for all teachers.

## 12. *Professional Development*

- The school system will provide a technology coordinator, HCHS technology coordinator, HCMS technology coordinator, computer technicians, and trainers to provide professional development resources for teachers and administrators.
- Each school will have a technology representative to coordinate with the TCs to meet the teachers' needs.
- The LEA will maintain teacher-training resources available for all teachers.
- Resource Internet sites such as <http://caret.iste.org/>, <http://www.the-atec.org/>, and <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/> will be shared via county webpage.
- Training will be provided for networked curriculum based software.
- The LEA will provide online resources for students and teachers.

## 13. *Interoperability*

Each site will have a network server, LAN access, and Internet services managed by technology coordinators. Windows operating system will be required for compatibility with the network system. Peripherals will be selected for individual classroom needs and attuned computer and network operating systems. Technology Coordinators, classroom teachers and administration will stay abreast of innovative ideas, trends, ethical issues, and other appropriate issues that affect the use of technology in a school environment through sites such as <http://caret.iste.org/>, CARET, Center for Applied Research in Educational Technology.

Network software purchases must be compatible with the appropriate network operating system. Data from this software can be used in multiple cross-curricular environments. LEA provided staff development will prepare teachers to use this software to create a strong learning experience for the students.

## 14. *Leadership*

Provide support for integrated technology through communication with all teachers in all schools as well as community members, parents, and other stakeholders that enable schools to move forward. The technology coordinators will continue to communicate the importance of technology use in the schools to improve, enhance, and enable student achievement.

#### ***15. Review of Policies and Procedures***

Develop board approved technology policies and procedures appropriate for the education environment as outlined by state and federal standards. Current policies and procedures are implemented at building level.

#### ***16. Evaluation***

- The LEA will maintain accurate records of services, hardware, and software.
- Administrators and Technology Coordinators will monitor use of technology services, hardware, and software to make adaptations and adjustments throughout the school year.
- Classroom projects, Internet and local, will demonstrate achievement of goals.
- The TCSPP will be used to monitor and make changes as needs arise.
- Star Charts and TESS will be used to track resources and needs. They will also be used for the measurement of growth and planning for future instruction.
- Surveys will be used to gather information to measure growth and improve instruction.