Johnson County Schools
District Technology Plan
2014-2017

Tennessee's Enhancing Education through Technology Program

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1. Goals and Strategies

The following goals and strategies are currently being implemented to enhance education through technology for Johnson County students, teachers and stakeholders in the educational process. These goals and strategies are aligned with state academic and technology standards including the ISTE standards. Effectiveness will be measured over a three year period using student benchmark assessments in technology, parent surveys and staff development surveys. These goals will support an increase in student and teacher technology usage from the current level to 100% by the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

A. Goals

1. All students will learn in a technology-rich environment that will support the individual and diverse academic needs of each learner while continuing to improve operational technology skills.
2. Teachers will use a variety of technology methods to address content standards as outlined in Title II-D of NCLB and effectively assess student learning.
3. Johnson County Schools will strive to offer teachers and students access to and training in the use of the most current instructional technology.
4. Johnson County Schools will begin a broad scale preparation for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) assessments.

B. Strategies to Meet System Goals

Action Plan # 1

Goal #1: All students will learn in a technology-rich environment that will support the individual and diverse academic needs of each learner while continuing to enhance operational technology skills.					
Action Steps	Timeline	Persons Responsible	Required Resources	Funding Source(s)	Evaluation
A benchmark system will be conducted that utilizes students' technology skills.	Throughout the school year	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Teachers, & Site Tech Coordinators	System Benchmark Assessment	Local funds & Federal Funds	Students ability to complete the benchmark assessments
Update classroom technology hardware as needed and as funds are available.	Each Semester	Teachers, Site Tech Coordinators, & System Tech Coordinator	Appropriate Technology Hardware	Local funds & Federal funds	Budget Requests; Inventories

Upgrade of Software and applications will be updated at each school site to support state curriculum goals for enhancement of student achievement.	Monitored annually	Instructional Supervisors, Site Tech Coordinators, & System Tech Coordinator	Software Updates	Local funds & Federal Funds	Budget requests supported by school improvement goals
Classroom teachers and media specialists will provide student technology training to broaden skills at appropriate to the grade level standards.	Throughout the school year as determined by the Common Core grade level standards	Teachers, Media Specialists, & Site Tech Coordinators	Grade level Standards & Appropriate technology	Local funds & Federal Funds	Classroom observation/walk-through/teacher evaluation;
Parent involvement and training in technology will continue to be provided by schools and the Adult Education Department.	Throughout the school year	Principals, Site Tech Coordinators, System Tech Coordinator & Adult Education Personnel	Software Hardware	Local funds & Federal Funds	Agendas; Sign-in sheets; Students ability to complete AE curriculum skills performance checklist

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Action Plan # 2

Goal #2: Teachers will use a variety of technology methods to address content standards as outlined in Title II-D of NCLB and effectively assess student learning.					
Action Steps:	Timeline	Persons Responsible	Required Resources	Funding Source(s)	Evaluation
Individual school improvement plans will document utilization of research based technology based programs and strategies.	Evaluated and updated annually	School Improvement Planning Committee	Research Based Programs, Hardware & Software	Local Funds & Federal Funds	School Improvement Plans
Teachers will utilize technology based resources aligned with Common Core standards to enhance student learning.	Throughout the school year	Teachers, Media Specialists, & Site Tech Coordinators	Research Based Technology Resources	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Classroom observation/walk-through/teacher evaluation; Formative and summative student achievement data
Students' technology skills will be informally monitored.	Throughout the school year	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Teachers, Media Specialists, & Site Tech Coordinators	Common Core Grade level Standards & Appropriate technology	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Classroom observation/walk-through/teacher evaluation

Action Plan #3

Goal #3: Johnson County Schools will strive to offer teachers and students access to and training in the use of the most current instructional technology.					
Action Steps:	Timeline	Persons Responsible	Required Resources	Funding Source(s)	Evaluation
Opportunities for teacher training in technology will be provided to broaden skills and operations.	Faculty Meetings, Vertical Meetings, Common Planning Sessions, After School Sessions, Summer Training Sessions	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Teachers, Site Tech Coordinators & Consultants	Software, Hardware, & Technology Resources	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Sign-in Sheets; Agendas; Staff development Surveys
Appropriate personnel will conduct an annual walk-through with technology coordinator to determine needs as well as innovative technology initiatives.	Monitored annually	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Site Tech Coordinator, & System Tech Coordinator	Funds for replacement of out-dated hardware and purchase of innovative technologies	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Equipment Inventory; Budget Requests, Purchase Orders

Web based Resources, applications, and distance learning tools will be used to enhance student learning.	Monitored throughout the school year	Principals, Teachers, Site Tech Coordinators & System Tech Coordinator	Student Achievement Data	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Formative and Summative Student Assessment Data

Action Plan #4

Goal #4: **Johnson County Schools will begin a broad scale preparation for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) assessments.**					
Action Steps:	Timeline	Persons Responsible	Required Resources	Funding Source(s)	Evaluation
Update classroom technology hardware as required by PARCC.	Throughout the school year	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Site Tech Coordinators & System Tech Coordinator	Appropriate Technology Hardware	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Budget requests; Inventories; PARCC requirements
Upgrade of software will be conducted at each school site to support PARCC requirements	Throughout the school year	Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Site Tech Coordinators & System Tech Coordinator	Appropriate Technology Software	Local Funds & Federal Funds	Budget requests; Inventories; PARCC requirements

C. Information and Technology Services Strategy

Many technology based services are available in Johnson County. These include Edmentum Assessment Series, United Streaming, Plato, Study Island, Moodle, Brain Pop, Math IXL, Reading Plus, Renaissance Learning Products and a variety of other web-based program and services. Strategies will be explored for the future includes implementation of a full time technology coach at the Prek-6 and 7-12 grade levels and a district web master.

D. Steps to Increase Accessibility

The use of distance learning for students at all schools will continue to be explored. Outdated technology will be replaced as needed. All 6th, 7th & 9th grade students are currently included in the 1:1 iPad initiative during the 2013-2014 school year. Expanding the grade levels to include all 6th – 12th grade students in the 1:1 iPad initiative is being explored. Increasing our district egress to comply with PARCC requirements will be implemented.

E. Innovative Delivery Strategies

The Johnson County School system will utilize a portion of EdTech funds to investigate strategies to provide professional development through the use of distance learning and other electronic networks. Delivery of professional development will continue to be enhanced through technology. A computer lab with a SmartBoard and a mobile Tandberg Distance Learning unit is maintained in the technology department of the Johnson County Central Office for staff development, technology coordinator meetings, WebEx presentations and other appropriate uses. The use of distance learning for homebound students' is also being explored as a possibility for the future.

F. Technology Assessment

A walk-though assessment by the instructional supervisors, technology coordinators, and principals will determine technology needs in the areas of upgrade, replacement, and new equipment acquisition. Teacher input will be utilized as well as school improvement plans to help make informed decisions involving the purchase of hardware, software, and services.

2. Technical Overview

A. Elementary Schools

All of Johnson County's five elementary schools are connected to the internet via wireless hubs. Each classroom is equipped with at least one multimedia computer. Interactive whiteboards (i.e.SmartBoards) have been installed in all five elementary schools as well as several mobile laptop, netbook or iPad carts. All five schools have active websites. All schools are served by 100 Mb local area network.

B. Secondary/Career-Technical

Johnson County has a career-technical center, high school and middle school complex on one campus. The complex has all classrooms connected to the internet via 1 Gb copper and 1GB wireless access points. All classrooms are equipped with at least one multimedia computer. The career-technical school has three computer labs, networked and connected to the internet. The middle school has two computer labs which both are fully networked and connected to the internet. JCHS is served additionally by five wireless mobile laptop and netbook labs. JCMS is served by three wireless laptop labs as well. JCMS also has seventeen SmartBoards while JCHS has twenty-eight Smart Boards. Additionally, the CTE Center has eight Smart Boards. The CTE and JCMS infrastructure is connected to JCHS via 10 Gb fiber optic cable. All secondary closets are connected to the main wiring closet via 1 Gb fiber optic cable.

C. Connectivity Improvements

A major goal of Johnson County Schools is to increase the district egress to be compliant with PARCC Standards. Doe, Laurel, MCE and SVE are connected using 100 Mb fiber optic to the central office. Roan Creek Elementary and the JCHS complex are connected using 1 Gb fiber optic to the central office.

D. New Projects in Curriculum and Technology

Pursuit of innovative technology and providing that technology to teachers and students continues to be a goal for Johnson County Schools. Other new projects in technology include the use of individual student response systems, Smart Tables and adding additional grades to the 1:1 iPad initiative. Johnson County continues to strive to be aware and explore the effective use of emerging technologies. Strategies to be explored for the future also include implementation of a full time technology coach at the Prek-6 and 7-12 grade levels and a district web master.

3. Promotion of Curricular and Teaching Strategies that Integrate Technology

A. Standards and Strategies Based on Review of Relevant Research

Tennessee Instructional K-12 standards supporting technology are to be integrated throughout all curriculum areas in Johnson County Schools. These standards and performance indicators have been based on international standards (ISTE) and are Research-based. As this plan progresses, relevant research from educational literature such as *Educational Leadership, Scholastic Administrator, Technology and Learning,* and *District Administration: K-12 Education Leadership, Curriculum, Technology, and Trends* will be continually reviewed and discussed. Continued meetings of our site technology coordinators will focus on monitoring and adjusting the technology plan according to individual school needs.   New innovations presented at the annual state technology conference will also be discussed and implemented as they fit into our plan.

B. Alignment of Standards and Emphasis on Student Achievement

 The implementation of the Tennessee Instructional Technology Standards into Johnson County School's core educational curriculum will be emphasized with special focus on student achievement in areas linked to assessments in the Common Core focus of the PARCC assessment as well as Explore/Plan/ACT. Alignment of the current core curriculum is ongoing and the technology standards will be integrated where appropriate and as designated by the performance indicators.

C. Timeline for Improvements

The walk-through results will be used annually to determine effectiveness of the system technology plans and steer the direction of future district technology initiatives. Annual inventories will also be used to determine technology needs. Principals and instructional supervisors will complete instructional walk-through and required evaluations throughout the school year to determine use of technology to support student achievement. Professional development opportunities in technology will be provided throughout the school year and in the summer.

4. Professional Development

All staff development will be linked to measurable student achievement outcomes through such assessment methods as formative and summative assessment including system benchmarks and TVAAS data. Staff development in technology will also be linked to both system improvement planning goals and school improvement planning (TSIP) goals. Supported with EdTech and local staff development funds, each school site technology coordinator will collaborate with the principal, instructional supervisors, and system technology coordinator to provide the appropriate training. Such funds will be utilized for multi-session technology training, software and hardware purchases, and teacher stipends. Ongoing, sustained, and research-based professional development in the area of technology is currently being offered or planned in the following areas.

1. Integration of technology into core subjects at all schools
2. Formation and use of classroom web-based pages at all schools and all grade levels
3. Use of distance learning program
4. Use of Smart Board technologies to support student achievement
5. Use of internet resources to support student achievement
6. Use of innovative technologies to support the achievement of today's digital learner
7. Ongoing opportunities for staff to enhance and maintain their technological capabilities.
8. Use of IPADs to support classroom instruction
9. Use of assistive technology as a method to provide support for students with disabilities.

5. Evaluation and Accountability

A. Description of the Evaluation Process

Student ability to complete web based assessments will be monitored throughout the school year. Training sessions with school site technology coordinators, the system technology coordinator and instructional supervisors will allow for planning and modification of the technology plan. Related student expectations and staff development needs will be developed as part of each schools improvement plan to support technology. Staff development opportunities which arise throughout the school year will be monitored by the school level site technology coordinators. Summer professional development opportunities will be provided to all personnel based on technology needs.

B. Description of Progress Monitoring

For all technology integration programs ongoing in Johnson County Schools, an equipment request form and a staff development request form was developed which asks that employees link all requested supplies/staff development to ongoing and sustained activities at the school or district level to school improvement goals. A follow-up and assessment process is detailed on each form before funding is granted.

In addition, further evaluation procedures specific to the integration of technology into the core curriculum will be developed as described in this plan. These procedures will link the increasing effectiveness of teachers to enabling students to reach challenging Common Core standards through the use of technology.

6. Parent Involvement

A. Use of Technology to Support Parent Involvement

The Johnson County Schools Website located at http://www.jocoed.k12tn.net provides a variety of useful information for parents including information about school board members, central office staff and faculty and staff at individual schools along with a monthly parent newsletter. The website is updated daily to reflect news such as holidays, schedule changes due to inclement weather and scheduled activities. The mission statement, beliefs and goals of the system are also available on the website along with the code of conduct and the Johnson County Parent Involvement Policy. It should be noted that the Johnson County 2014-2017 Educational Technology Plan is available on the website.

The district has implemented a school messenger callout system that is used inform parents and students of schedule changes, school events and related information. Family meetings are held throughout the school year to provide opportunities for parents and students to become more familiar with different types of technology, which includes iPads, used in the school system.

Individual schools also maintain websites designed to increase parent involvement through the use of technology. A variety of information is maintained on the individual school websites including information about school faculty and staff, school wide projects, clubs, individual student projects and honors, calendars of events and lunch menus. Support from community organizations and businesses are also highlighted on school websites. Individual class or grade pages also give specific information about homework, class events and celebrations of student success. Links are given to resources for parents to encourage the use of technology at home to support instruction.

Information about the system and school websites is shared with parents and community through school handbooks and newsletters. Parents are informed of the use of technology in the schools through school handbooks, school and class newsletters, brochures, system and school newsletters and local media. Parents are also made aware of the use of technology to support instruction through federal projects annual meetings and through the school improvement planning process.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Adult Education (AE) Service Delivery Area one (SDA1) Johnson/Carter Counties has a computer lab with Internet connection located at the school system's Extended Service Center in the Johnson County location. The lab is available to students from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday during the school year. Resources are being sought to be able to provide computer services including Internet in SDA1-Careter County.

B. Collaboration with adult literacy service providers.

The Johnson County Board of Education technology department will continue to maintain, troubleshoot, and install software for the SDA1/Johnson County AE program. Connectivity to the Internet will continue to be provided by the Johnson County School System at the Johnson County location. Outside resources will provide Internet connections for the SDA1 Carter County location. Office internet is being furnished by the Carter County School System. The General Equivalency Development (GED) Official Practice Test software has been purchased, which provides computerized testing and provide analysis for student performance. In addition, the Rosetta Stone software has been implemented as part of the outreach program to limited-English speaking adults. As a means of students' active learning and engaging in hands-on participatory activities, a list of approved Internet sites is given to the student so that they may choose what area needs improvement.

Computer technology skills are incorporated into classroom learning and will be ongoing during evenings and summers. Parents and adults in the community will be notified of available opportunities through the Adult Education program by advertisements in school flyers, newsletters, newspapers, radio announcements, brochures, and the Adult Education website located at http://www.jocoed.k12tn.net.

7. Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Compliance

A. Technology Protection Measure

The Johnson County School System uses Internet connectivity provided by Education Networks of America (ENA). Filtering is provided through ENA by a highly modified version of NetSweeper preventing access to inappropriate material as defined by CIPA

requirements. The local system policy does not allow the filter to be disabled or bypassed. Teachers can request that a site be reviewed for appropriate content should the need arise. Teachers are required to monitor online activities of students as required by Board policy #4.406. All students and parents must sign an acceptable use policy at the beginning of each school year for access to technology.

B. Internet Safety Policy

Filtering and monitoring for school based Internet connections are provided at the state level through ENA. This limits access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web. Teachers are required to monitor student usage of chat rooms, instant messages, and e-mail to ensure that students are in a safe environment. The Technology Department monitors the wide area network (WAN) for evidence of proxy use, "hacking" or other unauthorized activities. If file sharing programs are detected, they are removed and the source is investigated. Since "open file shares" are vulnerable to viruses as well as used to transfer unauthorized data, they are examined and closed. In compliance with state and federal guidelines, there is no unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information regarding students: access to the student management system is limited to administrators. There must be district approval of all web pages before publishing. (Board policy #4.407)

C. Public Notice and Hearing

The Board shall provide reasonable public notice of at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address and communicate its Internet safety measures. (Board Policy #4.406)