

Technology Planning Committee

Superintendent – Paul Vranish

Assistant Superintendent – Rudy Barreda

Campus Principals – Ruth Lara, Adriana Cantu, Severo Alcoset

District Technology Department – Carlos Garcia

District Technology Department – Sergio Sosa

District Technology Department – Imelda Garcia (PEIMS)

Elementary Teacher – Claudia Cruz

Elementary Teacher – Carol Ginty

Elementary Teacher – William Cramer

Intermediate Teacher – Elsa Alvarado

Intermediate Teacher – Noe Cantu

Intermediate Teacher – Roberta Trejo

Junior High Teacher – Elizabeth Carreto

Junior High Teacher – Sergio Morales

High School Teacher – Jose Luis Silva

High School Teacher – Jesse Garcia

High School Teacher – Alex Macias

Executive Summary

The Tornillo Independent School District Technology Plan is intended to cover all aspects of the use of technology in the District for the next three years. The goals and objectives set forth in the plan are aligned with the District Mission Statement, and District Goals established by the Board of Trustees. The Plan also incorporates the requirements of E-Rate and the No Child Left Behind Act.

The members of the Technology Planning Committee developed the plan to be inclusive of all district employees, and the community of Tornillo. The needs assessment, including the information gained from the completion of the campus STaR Charts, greatly assisted the Committee in developing an effective plan. This effectiveness will be measured, to a great degree, by how well teachers and other instructional staff utilize new and emerging technologies in ways that improve student motivation and academic performance. It is also hoped all district staff use technology in ways that enables them to work more efficiently and effectively.

Because technology changes so rapidly, the plan is a “work in progress”. The Committee will regularly review the plan and make revisions as needed, to better ensure the goals and objectives set forth in the plan are achieved.

NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Assessment Process

The Tornillo District Technology Committee completed a comprehensive needs assessment using a number of tools to analyze the current state of technology in the district and the effectiveness of technology integration in instruction. Some of the tools used by the committee include teacher surveys, interviews, inventories, and the results of the Texas Campus STaR Charts. Items analyzed include the district technology infrastructure, hardware, software, instructional programs, student achievement, technology resources, staff development, and technical support.

The District Technology Committee, via formal and informal meetings and discussions, gain important information about the district's technology status. The needs of teachers, students and parents are identified and reflected in the plan. The totality of this information has guided the Committee in updating the Technology Plan. By using these same modes of communication and information gathering, the Committee will be able to monitor the goals, objectives and strategies, evaluating the effectiveness of the plan, and make revisions to the plan as necessary.

Current Conditions

Telecommunication Services

- Landline phone service provided to all campuses and offices; phones provided in every classroom.
- Cell phone service for district and campus administrators, supervisors, and support personnel.

Network Infrastructure

- T-1 lines for Internet Access provided district-wide
- Wireless internet access is available district-wide for staff, student, and community use.
- Several servers in operation – E-mail, Web, File-Sharing, Applications, Backup, Business, Student Information System, IP Surveillance.
- 85% of network is connected via 10 GB Fiber backbone. (See Attachment A-1)
- Every classroom, excluding portables, district-wide have a minimum of 6 (10 GB capability) Cat 6 data drops to the workstations.
- Indoor/outdoor IP network surveillance cameras in operation district-wide.

Technology Availability

- All campuses have access to at least one computer lab and/or laptop portable lab.
- Some assistive technology in use for special education students.
- One computer lab at the High School is used for credit recovery and on-line distance learning dual-credit courses.
- Every classroom, including portables, has 1 teacher computer and 2 or more student computers with access to internet and server applications. (See Attachment A-2)
- 61% of all classrooms have either a mounted or portable LCD Projector. (See Attachment A-3)
- 30% of all classrooms are equipped with interactive boards. (See Attachment A-4)
- 100% of the district computers have been upgraded to Windows XP or Windows Vista operating system. (See Attachment A-5)
- Non-computer based technology are in use - includes digital cameras, video cameras, document cameras, VCD/DVD players.
- Computer Availability Ratio:
 - 1 Computer for every 1 Teacher
 - 1 Computer for every ? Students
 - 1 Computer for every ? Technician

Staff Development

- Educator preparation and development currently at the developing technology stage.

Identified Needs

Phone Services

- Upgrade and/or replace existing phone/voicemail system to support new high school building and to allow for future growth.
- Continue to provide cell phone service for district and campus administrators, supervisors, and support personnel.

Network Infrastructure

- As more web-based applications outside our network are sought, faster internet access bandwidth connections will be needed.
- Expand wireless internet access to new high school building.
- Ongoing maintenance and support of servers.
- Upgrade existing 1 GB fiber to 10 GB fiber in various locations to support existing network. Expand 10 GB backbone to new high school building.
- Build and maintain network for new high school building.
- Streamline technology maintenance and repair services.
- Ensure students utilize computers starting in Kindergarten.
- Upgrade workstation network devices to maximize connectivity performance.
- Ongoing maintenance of network and phone system connectivity.

Technology Availability

- Continue to acquire needed hardware, including updated computers, laptops, LCD projectors interactive boards, and document cameras for instructional use.
- Increase the number of students enrolled and expand the number of courses available via long distance dual credit EPCC coursework.
- Create student email system.

Staff Development

- Continue and improve technology staff development opportunities provided to instructional and support staff.
- Expand the use of technology for instructional use.
- Provide instructional staff with ongoing training on all hardware and software available to them in the classroom.
- Maintain and increase the use of technology-driven instructional tools.
- Provide computer learning classes to the local community.
- Increase technology services for parents and the community.

Evaluation Process

Evaluation of the Technology Plan will be a systematic ongoing process. All aspects of the Plan will be evaluated formally four times each year: July, November, February, and May.

The Technology Plan Committee will be responsible for the ongoing evaluation of this plan. The intention of the evaluation will be to make decisions regarding the impact that technology has on the learning process of all students. Results of the quarterly evaluations will be reported to the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees.

Evaluation Methods

The Texas STaR Chart results for each campus will be used to help assess progress made toward meeting the goals of the Long Range Plan for Technology. Other methods used for evaluation will include:

- Surveys of the staff conducted annually in regards to their use of technology in the classroom.
- Informal interviews conducted once a semester by the campus Technology Committee representatives.
- Records of staff member participation in technology training monitored by sign-in sheets and teacher professional developments records.
- Integration of training into the classroom as measured by lesson plans and number and type of technology and distance learning projects and activities.
- Monitoring and documentation of community access to technology resources and information on the campuses and on the web site.
- Monitoring and documentation of community involvement.
- Yearly inventory of hardware and software.
- Support and maintenance of technology as documented by technical support records.