

Community Preparatory School Technology Plan 2008 – 2011

Community Preparatory School
Technology Plan
Revision A, dated 9/1/2007
September 2008 - September 2011
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School Statistics

- Independent middle school, grades three through eight
- Located in South Providence, Rhode Island
- Vital education institution for the neighborhood
- Serves approximately 150 students
- Founded in 1983

Mission Statement

While serving students from across Rhode Island, Community Preparatory School's primary commitment is to minority and low-income students from Providence. The school's goal is to help its students succeed in college preparatory high school programs and to become community leaders. Moreover, the school is committed to developing and sharing its vision, programs, and resources with the local neighborhood and with the broader educational community. Community Preparatory School:

- Challenges students to become confident, independent learners.
- Encourages respect for the cultural and ethnic identities of its multicultural and economically diverse student body.
- Develops a strong sense of public service in students.
- Engages parents, students and teachers in goal setting and planning to ensure academic and social success for each student.
- Provides equipment, staff, network and software to insure that each student and staff obtains a well-integrated program incorporating learning with computers.

Vision Statement

The use of computers throughout the school is an important part of the education of each student. The teaching staff and the technology coordinator will continue to develop the use of technology in the classroom together. The technical skills acquired by the students will be essential in the development of the well-rounded student for success in the future. By using technology as a tool, teachers and staff will become more effective at managing and creating a dynamic, compelling and adaptive learning family.

To insure that the integration of technology is successful, the administration, staff and technology coordinator will work together to assess how the integration is planned, funded, supported and applied.

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Statement of Past Conditions

- 2007:

- The school has a full-time technology coordinator.
- Wired and wireless network throughout the school, with filtered T I connection to the internet.
- School has an up-to-date computer lab and an up-to-date mobile lab. Both labs can provide computer access for all students of any grade. Each classroom has one or more older computers.
- School has a file server with limited internet connectivity.
- Formal classes are held in the lab teaching a variety of software for math, English, reading, and creative writing.
- After school classes teaching a variety of digital skills are held in the lab.
- Internet-based keyboarding classes are supplied to grades 3 through 6.
- Internet-based math and reading are supplied to grades 6 through 8.
- School uses a remote hosted website to provide a student portal for general use. Specific initial use is upper grade writing with peer review and external review.

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2008-2009 Goals

- Increase the use of internet content in the classroom and/or computer lab, such as streaming media and online testing.
- Provide the students with the means to connect to the school server, while away from school, to allow for the students to perform their homework on a computer.
- Provide a system to allow online collaboration between students and reviewers on curriculum items.
- Provide a system to allow students to download homework assignments.
- Provide the students and their parents with an online reporting system to continuously check students progress and performance.

Long Term Goals

- Provide a computer and network infrastructure that can sustain the demand for digital learning with progressing technologies.
- Provide for improved connectivity and security, allowing for continued improvements with respect to class-wide and school-wide collaboration.
- Continue professional development efforts to teach staff best practices for integrating technology in day-to-day class projects.
- Increase the number of computers available to students.

Strategies for implementing goals

- Setup server and proxy server system to provide increased internet access and allow streaming with only limited bandwidth.
- Setup server for online access to shared volumes and user volumes, based on Open Directory implementation, and both OSX and Windows access.
- Setup a shared calendar system to provide a means to efficiently have the classes share the available computer labs.
- Maintain and improve the school portal website. The website will need to provide a repository for homework assignments and a forum/blogging section for student / reviewer interaction.
- Setup an online grading system to allow faculty to enter grades and comments throughout the course of the year.
- Obtain the hardware required to improve the computer and network infrastructure. The hardware will be purchased directly, obtained through grants and donated by third parties.
- Host professional development meetings at regular intervals to inform and share with faculty methods and means to use technology in the curriculum.

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Assessment of technology

The following system improvements will need to be made to allow for the implementation of the goals listed above.

- The internet connection bandwidth will remain the same from previous years.
- New proxy server system to provide increased internet access and allow streaming with only limited bandwidth. The new proxy server will most likely be built in-house.
- OSX 10.5 server for improved volumes sharing and shared calendar hosting. This server has been ordered from the general budget in 2007-2008.
- 1 additional mobile computer lab to allow more students to use computers at any given time. The mobile lab will be funded through donations.
- New wireless network to allow for increased bandwidth with new mobile computer lab. This network will be funded through donations.
- Several computers will need memory upgrades to allow for new OS upgrades. The upgrades will be funded through the technology budget.

Budget Technology and Communications

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|----------------------|--|------------|
| IT Budget | | \$7,820.00 |
| Books | | \$100.00 |
| DVD's | | \$100.00 |
| General repairs | | \$500.00 |
| Keyboarding Online | | \$300.00 |
| Lab hardware | | \$400.00 |
| Memory Updates | | \$500.00 |
| Mobile Lab Repairs | | \$1,840.00 |
| Network Hardware | | \$500.00 |
| OS updates | | \$500.00 |
| Outside consulting | | \$380.00 |
| Printers | | \$500.00 |
| Software | | \$300.00 |
| Toner | | \$1,500.00 |
| Various | | \$300.00 |
| Website subscription | | \$100.00 |

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Plan for evaluation

- The administration and the technology coordinator meet twice per year to assess the progress towards the goals of the technology plan.
- The progress of staff development with regard to faculty and student computer literacy is assessed annually.
- The degree to which technology has been integrated into normal classroom teaching is assessed annually.
- The need for upgrading of computers and other hardware is assessed annually and implemented in the Technology budget.

Acceptable Use of Technology

- Attached to this plan is our current use policy for the school. Each student signs a copy of this policy at the beginning of the school year.