

**Technology Plan 2013-2015  
(July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015).**

| <b>ORGANIZATION INFORMATION</b>                        |  |
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| <b>District/Agency/School<br/>(legal name):</b>        | <b>JACKSON COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOL<br/>DISTRICT</b>  |
| <b>District Number:</b>                                | <b>2895</b>  |
| <b>Technology Plan Status</b>                          | The District/Agency/School has an approved 2012 technology bridge plan:<br>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>2013-2015 Technology<br/>Plan Date of Creation:</b> | <b>December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011</b>   |
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## Technology Needs Assessment:

A survey was conducted including administrators, staff, students, parents, school board members, and community members. The technology plan is based on the needs identified in the survey and the changing role technology has in the classroom. The District has determined it will continue to need E-rate supported telephone, WAN and internet communication, as they are used on a daily basis by all teachers and support staff.

Some of the teacher's expressed the need to have training on how to integrate technology into the curriculum. Teachers need skills and equipment so that they can use technology for instructional delivery. This would include training, computer workstation, projection equipment, interactive devices, and software. By using technology in the classroom teachers hope to provide interactive and engaging instruction. They also use technology to create assignments and track grades.

A second need identified in the survey is the need for newer and more computers for the students. With the increasing role the internet and web 2.0 tools have in education, it is necessary to have a computer for every student in the 3rd through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the district. The district would like to put iPads in the hands of all students, through a 1:1 initiative for 6th through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and iPad work centers or carts for the lower grades. A wireless network and upgrades to our network infrastructure is needed to support any type of 1:1 initiative.

Another need identified was the need for multimedia and interactive devices in the classrooms. Teachers are using the internet and multimedia more and more in their classrooms and need their rooms equipped with a projector to display content to their students. Interactive whiteboards, iPads, ActivExpression, or other interactive devices are also needed to enhance the learning environment with interactive and engaging lessons.

Training to better utilize the district website was also a need identified. The website has many web 2.0 features such as Calendars, RSS feeds, wikis, slideshows, blogs, and podcasts. These are all tools that teachers can use to engage students and prepare them for using 21<sup>st</sup> century tools.

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# Goals and Strategies

## Goals:

### **Goal 1: Increase student performance through the use of technology.**

Provide all teacher, support staff, and students with access to computers and interactive technologies, which may include iPads, Activboards, and student response systems. Today's students use technology in their daily lives, so schools must also engage them with technology integrated into their lessons and also align the curriculum with state standards. Through the use of technology, parents may be better informed about their child's education and help to ensure the student is staying up to date with their assignments.

### **Goal 2: Increase the technological base of knowledge throughout the district.**

Emphasize and provide technology staff development and education. Encourage sharing of technology skills among staff. Provide building level technical support to keep all equipment functioning properly. Train Students in the use of new hardware or software. Also instruct students of the importance of being good cyber citizens.

### **Goal 3: Increase productivity and efficiency through the use of technology**

Continue to provide all staff with access to a phone, voice mail, the internet and 24/7 access to e-mail, the school website, and the school application servers. Implement automated administrative systems to provide timely and accurate data. Provide curriculum materials in digital format. Use the website and web 2.0 tools, such as RSS feeds, e-mail, and instant alert to keep staff, students, and parents informed.

### **Goal 4: Continue to improve communications with parents and community and stimulate parental involvement.**

Promote the use of email, the website, instant alert, and the Student Information system. Reduce the amount of paper used by encouraging parents to check the website daily for school related communication. Have technology open houses so

parent's can learn more about the technology the school is using to help them remain or become more involved in their students education.

**Goal 5: Systematically and continuously evaluate the goals, objectives and strategies contained in the District Technology Plan.**

Review the technology plan quarterly to see if goals are being met. Modify goals and strategies as needed. Use surveys to query staff, students, administrators, board members, and community members to determine if goals are being meet by the technology users.

## **2013-2015 Strategies to meet our Goals**

### **Remote Desktop Strategy**

Provide 24/7 access to the school's cloud for use of the staff and students through the use of Remote Desktop Servers. Students and staff will access their files and software from any internet capable computer.

### **Classroom Equipment Strategy**

Each classroom should be evaluated for the proper technical equipment. Classrooms should be more interactive and engaging to the student. Depending on grade level, course, and special needs of each classroom, different technology will be incorporated, but each classroom should have at a minimum a phone, a teacher workstation, at least one student computer, and a projector. The teacher workstation and the student computer can be either a desktop computer or a thin client workstation. iPads should be available in each room, see iPad initiative below for more information.

### **Interactive Classroom Strategy**

Install projectors and interactive boards in all classrooms to engage students with interactive content. Use iPads and other interactive classroom tools, such as ActivInspire devices or smart phones, to act as classroom response system. When ever possible use online or e-books that can be viewed on the iPads.

### **Web 2.0 Strategy**

Provide 24/7 access to the school website where students can check for their daily assignments, respond to classroom blogs, drop assignments in the teacher's drop

boxes, sign up for RSS feeds, and maintain a personnel calendar. Teachers will be trained on using 21<sup>st</sup> century web tools so that they can teach students these skills by incorporate blogs, wikis, and video assignments as part of their lessons.

### **iPad initiative**

Provide iPads to all grade levels with the appropriate density of iPads per grade level. The iPads will be used to engage students with educational apps. They will also be used as interactive classroom devices to respond to questions asked by the teacher and to access the school website and student files. iPads will also be used to access on-line text books or store e-books to be used in a student's education.

### **Telecommunications**

The district contracts internet and WAN service through the SWSC Minnesota. The WAN allows the district to provide centralized services. The internet access is a key infrastructure component in an increasing number of instructional technology programs. At least annual review is needed of our internet provider as the need for higher bandwidth to bring web 2.0 content to the classrooms increases.

### **Wireless Network**

The district currently has a new wireless 802.11n network. Because it was implemented at the end of the last school year it will need to be monitored and adjusted as needed. As wireless standards change and devices start using the new technology, the wireless arrays may need to be upgraded to new software and hardware. The network will also be monitored to make sure the switches are able to manage the increased network traffic.

### **Student Labs**

The district currently has eleven computer labs. Five of the labs have equipment less than 2 years old, but the other six labs have very old equipment that needs to be replaced. With a 1:1 iPad initiative some of the labs will be eliminated and others will no longer need to be full desktop workstations, but instead can be thin clients or iPad docking stations with keyboards. The labs will continue to be evaluated and replaced on a five year rotation to keep up with aging computer hardware, software, and changes in technology. The current Labs include:

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- Graphics Lab            25    High-end Desktop computers    new in 2010
  - Riverside Lab            25    Desktop computers            new in 2010
  - Pleasantview Lab    30    Desktop computers            new in 2010
  - Plato Lab                10    Desktop computers            new in 2011
  - Read 180 Lab            7    Desktop computers            new in 2011
  - Ag Lab                    30    Thin clients                    future updates\*
  - HS Media Center       40    Thin clients                    future updates\*
  - HS Business Lab       28    Desktop computers            needs updating#
  - MS Media Center       25    Desktop computers            needs updating\*
  - MS Open Lab            35    Desktop computers            needs updating#
- \* Eliminate with 1:1 initiative    # Replace with iPad docking stations with keyboards
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## **Professional Development Plan:**

### **Staff Development days**

Include technology training during staff development days. Staff should be knowledgeable in operating all the technology equipment in their classroom. They must also be knowledgeable in the software they use every day which includes TIES Student Information system, SchoolFusion website tools, Microsoft Office applications, iPad apps, ActivInspire, and other software that is used in the classroom.

### **Website Self-Training Videos**

Self training videos and pamphlets will be made available on the school's web site so that staff can learn how to use certain features of the website, iPads, or Student Information System. Links to other useful tools will also be available on the website.

### **Tech Tuesdays**

Continue to encourage staff to exchange technology skills during Tech Tuesday meetings. Have Technology Coordinators lead a Tech Tuesday open session in each of the schools, at least quarterly, to answer questions or teach new technology.

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## **Evaluation:**

To evaluate the effectiveness of the technology plan, the technology committee will meet quarterly to review the plan and adjust the strategies as needed. Student and staff surveys will also be submitted to identify what accomplishments are working and what needs still need to be addressed. Student test scores will be used to determine if the interactive classroom strategy is increasing performance.

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## **Optional Links:**

<http://www.jccschools.com>

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## **Link to Current Technology Plan:**

<http://tinyurl.com/ck4sp8t>

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## Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Internet Safety/Acceptable Use Policy in place?

Yes

No

The link to the CIPA on JCC School's website follows. It can be found on the Public Notices tab of the District's main page of the web site.

<http://jccschools.schoolfusion.us/modules/groups/homepagefiles/cms/2351608/File/JCCPolicies/524.pdf>

This school district, through a contract SWSC, deploys an Internet filter to protect minors from material that is pornographic or otherwise harmful to them.

Yes

No