

Thomas County School System

Technology Plan

July 2017 - June 2020



Vision:

The vision of the Thomas County Schools Technology Department is to provide all students with access to state-of-the-art technology and digital learning resources which will increase their ability to become empowered learners and responsible digital citizens who have the necessary skills and proficiencies for the next level of education and today's workforce.

Mission:

By staying up-to-date on the latest technology and digital learning tools, we work together to provide leadership and support to teachers, staff members, and students as they use technology to transform learning.

GOAL 1: Prepare and maintain a reliable network that provides access to available resources for staff, students, and community stakeholders.

Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Seek eRate and other grant funding to maintain network hardware and cabling to keep LAN/Wireless robust enough to handle streaming video, voice over IP, Google Suite and all other technology needs	All classrooms have access to necessary online and local resources	Awarding of eRate funding annually and State GOSA Grants when available	eRate and other state grants, ESPLOST	Technology Director Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Network Administrator and Technicians eRate Consultant
Maintain annual subscriptions for Palo Alto content filter, Gaggle monitoring, GoGuardian Admin and Teacher, Active Directory Sync and Barracuda Backup	Accounts with safe and appropriate content are being provided for staff and students	Keeping subscription for all infrastructure software up to date	Local funding and state grants when available	Technology Director Network Administrator and Technicians
Maintain eRate funding for WAN connections and Internet Bandwidth. Anticipate future needs and increase bandwidth capabilities before experiencing network bottleneck	School and BOE WAN Connections and Internet Access with adequate speed are provided.	Awarding of eRate funding annually	eRate and Local Funding	Technology Director Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Network Administrator eRate Consultant
Maintain and Update Domain Controllers, File Servers and Virtual Machine Servers	Locally stored data is safe and reliably accessible	Monitoring condition of servers and updating when needed	ESPLOST and Local funding	Technology Director Network Administrator

GOAL 2: Increase instructional technology use through equitable access.

Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Maintain and update the number of classrooms that use 21st century tools (SMART Boards, sound enhancements, etc.)	100% of classrooms will maintain equipment	Annual technology inventory	ESPLOST	Technology Director
Maintain and increase access to technology devices throughout the district for teachers, students, and staff	100% access to devices for teachers and students	Annual technology inventory	ESPLOST	Technology Director
Increase the ease of access to technology tools through the use of Active Directory, Google Admin console, Infinite Campus, and Clever Single Sign-On	Provide 100% access	Annually	State and Local funds	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator SIS Coordinator
Maintain and increase effective use of Google Suite for Education	Provide 100% access	Annually	No cost	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists
Continue to provide 1:1 checkout of Chromebooks at Bishop Hall and TCCHS	Provide 100% access	Annually	ESPLOST	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals
Maintain and increase effective use of Learning Management Systems (Google Classroom and D2L)	Increase by departments each school year	Annually	State and Local Funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals

Provide access to virtual learning programs, such as Georgia Virtual School, FuelEd, and Odysseyware	Provide 100% access	Annually	State and Local Funds	Associate Superintendent Virtual School Instructor Principals
Increase use of teacher webpages to post instructional materials, teacher-created materials, and blogs	Provide 100% access	Periodic website evaluations	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals Teachers
Research methods of providing wireless access throughout the county	Provide access as it becomes available	Annual Technology Inventory	eRate	Technology Director Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Digital Learning Coordinator
Increase number of eBooks and provide access to Open Education Resources	10% increase in eBooks each year	Annual Media Center Inventory	State and Local Funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Media Specialists
Provide training and information to teachers, students, staff, and parents on how to access educational resources	Professional Learning Calendar	Stakeholder Surveys	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Media Specialists Principals Parent Coordinators Teachers

GOAL 3: Improve student academic performance through the use and integration of technology for mastery of the Georgia Standards of Excellence and/or other relevant course standards.

Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
<p>Use of server-based software and online programs to monitor student learning in order to increase achievement on the Georgia Milestones and other assessments. Software includes, but is not limited to, Brain Pop and Brain Pop, Jr., Starfall, Reading Eggs, Math Seeds, Moby Max, Study Island, Keyboarding without Tears, Google Suite for Education, Education City, IXL, Discovery Education, iReady, Odyssey Ware, Khan Academy, Explore Learning, etc.</p>	<p>Increase in Georgia Milestones scores and other assessments</p>	<p>Test score reports</p>	<p>Annual dues to maintain software paid by federal, state, and local funds.</p>	<p>Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Curriculum Department Principals Teachers</p>
<p>Analyze data reports in order to determine software program effectiveness</p>	<p>Annual analysis of usage reports</p>	<p>Usage reports Surveys and teacher feedback</p>	<p>No cost</p>	<p>Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Curriculum Department Principals</p>
<p>Increase effective use of blended learning by using Learning Management Systems such as Google Classroom and D2L - BryteSpace</p>	<p>Increased content in Learning Management Systems</p>	<p>Grant evaluator reports Surveys of stakeholders</p>	<p>Professional Learning Funds</p>	<p>Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals</p>

				Teachers
Use data from common assessment program to inform and guide instruction	Increase in test scores	Data from assessment program	Title funds, Local funds	Director of Assessment Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals Teachers
Use a variety of digital formative assessment tools (Kahoot, Socrative, Google Forms, Ed Puzzle, Nearpod, etc.) to inform and guide instruction	Increase in benchmark test scores and Georgia Milestones scores	Data from benchmark exams and Georgia Milestones	No cost for some programs State and Local funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Curriculum Department Principals Teachers
Use innovative ideas to transform learning through the use of various technology tools by understanding and using the SAMR model	Increase in understanding of SAMR model by digital learning staff and school staff	Teacher surveys Review of digital learning reports	Professional Learning funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Curriculum Department Principals Teachers Media Specialists
Provide access to professional learning regarding using technology for learning through summer sessions, trainings throughout the school year, GaETC, Google	Increase in professional learning as it relates to technology	Professional Learning Calendar	Professional Learning funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Curriculum Department

Summits, and the system-wide annual Techno Expo				Principals Teachers Media Specialists
Increase the number of student projects created using digital tools	Increase in Media Festival and Technology Fair winners, Increase in digitally created student projects	Media festival and technology fair project lists, Teacher lesson plans	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals Teachers Media Specialists
Award Digital Learning All-Star Teacher of the Year at each school and the district level	Nominations for Digital Learning All-Star Teacher of the Year from each school	Award winners list and PR reports	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Principals

<i>GOAL 4: Provide state-of-the-art learning environments for computer science and coding education.</i>				
Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Provide access to computer science and coding education through specials, electives, and embedded classroom lessons	Courses provided annually	School schedules	Grants, state, and local funds	Coding and computer science teachers Classroom teachers
Increase Lego League, Robotics team, and Girls who Code membership	10% increase annually	Rosters of club membership	Local funds	Coding and computer science teachers Team or Club Leaders
Promote participation in Hour of Code activities	100% of schools will participate in Hour of Code activities annually	PR reports	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning

				Specialists Coding and computer science teachers Principals
Increase number of students in AP Computer Science	10% increase of enrolled students annually	Enrollment reports from TCCHS	No cost	Coding and computer science teachers Principals

GOAL 5: Increase student awareness of the responsibilities of living and working in a digital environment.

Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Provide Digital Citizenship Curriculum through Common Sense Media and other providers	100% of students will receive digital citizenship education beginning in 2017-2018 Decrease in number of technology-related discipline referrals	Student surveys School discipline referral reports	State and Local funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Digital Citizenship Instructors
Institute Digital Citizenship campaign that highlights the importance of digital citizenship	All schools will participate in the Digital Citizenship campaign	Stakeholder surveys	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Digital Citizenship Instructors Principals
Educate parents on digital citizenship	All schools will include digital citizenship on a parent involvement night	Parent involvement sign-in sheets Parent surveys	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Digital Citizenship

				Instructors Parent Involvement Coordinators
--	--	--	--	--

GOAL 6: Increase the application and use of technology to enhance job performance, productivity, and collaboration between stakeholders.

Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Continue to provide access to and training for Google Suite for Education (Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets, Google Forms, Google Classroom, etc.)	100% of schools and school system staff will continue to use Google Suite for Education	Staff technology survey Professional learning calendar	Professional Learning Funds	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists
Research new productivity tools as they become available	Productivity tools will be up-to-date to meet the needs of the staff	Staff technology survey	No cost	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists
Provide training on Infinite Campus (SIS), finance, and special education software	Annual training on all software for teachers and administrators	Professional learning calendar Teachers, staff, and administrators will continue to use all programs	Professional Learning Funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Director of Special Education Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations SIS Coordinator
Provide access to professional learning regarding using technology for learning through summer sessions, trainings throughout the school	Increase in professional learning as it relates to technology	Professional Learning Calendar	Professional Learning Funds	Technology Director Digital Learning Coordinator Curriculum

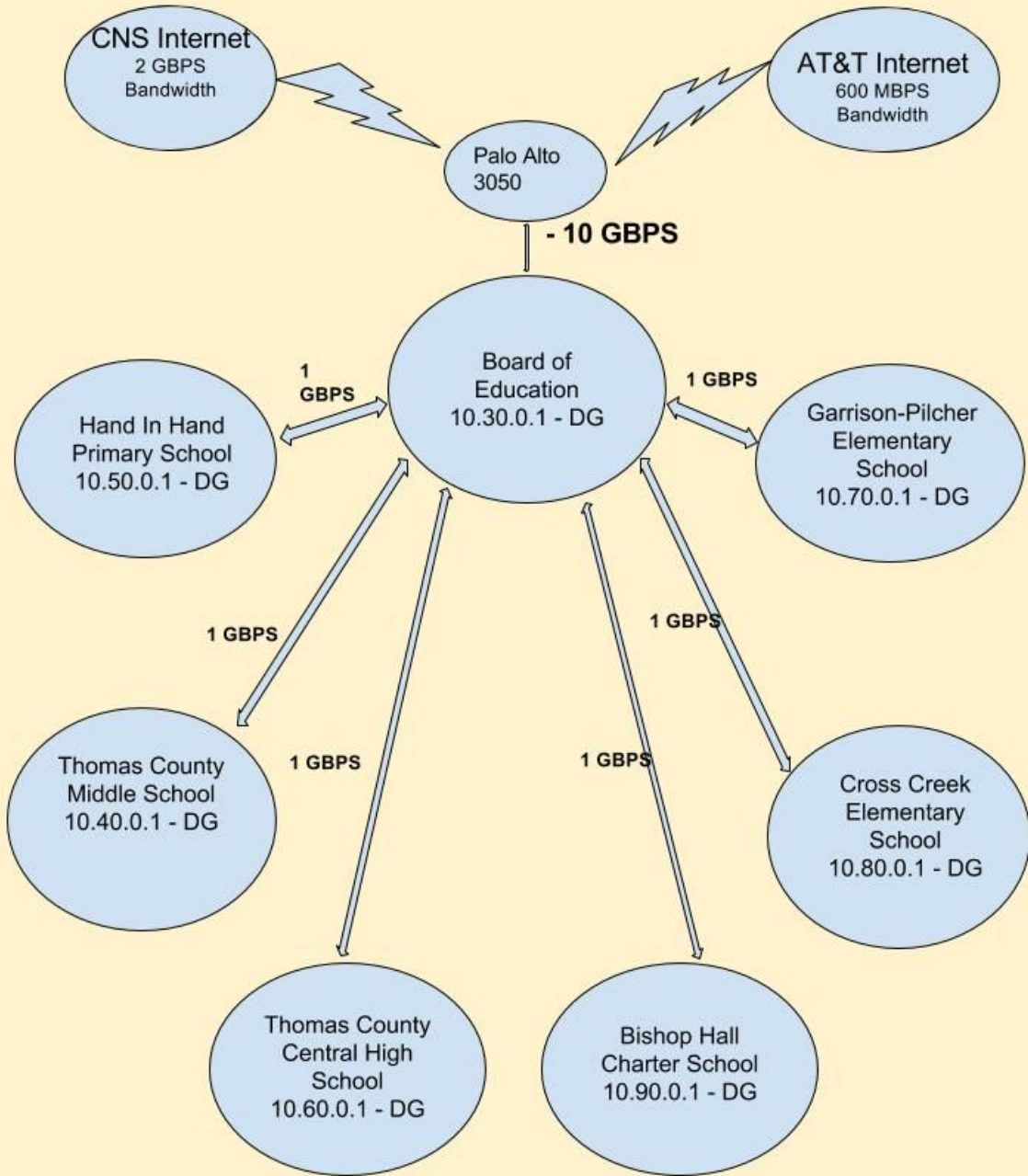
year, and the system-wide annual Techno Expo				Department Digital Learning Specialists
Provide access and training to the State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) to all staff	100% access to SLDS through Infinite Campus	Usage reports	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals

<i>GOAL 7: Utilize technology to enhance parent/community communication and collaboration in student achievement.</i>				
Strategies	Benchmarks	Evaluation Plan	Budget	Responsibility List
Provide access, directions, and training for using parent portal for Infinite Campus (SIS)	10% increase in parent participation annually	Resources located on school and system websites Reports from software indicating the number of parent users	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Associate Superintendent SIS Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals School Counselors Parent Involvement Coordinators
Maintain district, school, and teacher websites for access by parents and community stakeholders	Websites will consistently be kept up-to-date	Website evaluations	Local funds	Digital Learning Coordinator District-level department leaders School webmasters School principals

				Teachers
Maintain and promote the use of the Thomas County School System app available in the App Store and through Google Play	App will be kept up-to-date and promoted through PR outlets 10% increase annually in the number of app downloads	Number of app downloads	Local funds	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Public Relations (PR) Coordinator
Promote use of Remind by teachers to increase parent contact	100% of teachers will use Remind	Parent surveys	No cost	Digital Learning Coordinator Digital Learning Specialists Principals Teachers
Use digital tools (i.e. Google Forms) to log parent communication	Increase in number of of electronic logs	Parent involvement reports	No cost	Digital Learning Specialists Principals Teachers Parent Involvement Coordinators

<p>Update and promote school and district social media sites</p>	<p>10% annual increase in number of social media posts and followers</p>	<p>Social media evaluations and interactions</p>	<p>No cost</p>	<p>Public Relations Coordinator Digital Learning Coordinator Principals School PR representatives</p>
<p>Provide continued communication with parents and staff concerning school news through One Call now, Infinite Campus (SIS), Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram</p>	<p>All schools will make calls and post announcements online</p>	<p>Monitor call log and Infinite Campus and social media posts</p>	<p>Local funds</p>	<p>Digital Learning Coordinator Associate Superintendent Principals PR Coordinator School PR representatives</p>
<p>Increase use of digital signage in school buildings</p>	<p>100% of schools will have digital signage by the end of the 2018-2019 school year</p>	<p>Monitor digital signage</p>	<p>ESPLOST</p>	<p>Technology Director Principals</p>

Thomas County Schools



Network Topography

April 14, 2017

**Current Device Reality
April 2017**

Hand-in-Hand Primary School

Desktop Computers for Students	28
Computers for Faculty and Staff	85
NComputing Devices	144
Chromebooks	96
Tablets	401
Document Cameras	34
SMART Boards	40

Garrison-Pilcher Elementary School

Desktop Computers for Students	99
Computers for Faculty and Staff	73
NComputing Devices	193
Chromebooks	580
Tablets	570
Document Cameras	47
SMART Boards	60

Cross Creek Elementary School

Desktop Computers for Students	160
Computers for Faculty and Staff	73
NComputing Devices	198
Chromebooks	1224
Tablets	93
Document Cameras	49
SMART Boards	59

Thomas County Middle School

Desktop Computers for Students	219
Computers for Faculty and Staff	288
NComputing Devices	32
Chromebooks	2298
Laptops	210
Tablets	140
Document Cameras	82
SMART Boards	109

Thomas County Central High School

Desktop Computers for Students	528
Computers for Faculty and Staff	124
NComputing Devices	0
Chromebooks	1894
Tablets	26
Document Cameras	46
SMART Boards	82

Bishop Hall Charter School

Desktop Computers for Students	32
Computers for Faculty and Staff	43
NComputing Devices	0
Chromebooks	277
Tablets	30
Document Cameras	12
SMART Boards	10

The Renaissance Center

Desktop Computers for Students	89
Desktop Computers for Faculty and Staff	9
NComputing Devices	0
Chromebooks	33
Tablets	0
Document Cameras	1
SMART Boards	6