

**Iredell Independent School District
Technology Plan
2007-2010**

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Iredell Independent School District Technology Plan

Executive Summary

Mission

The mission of education technology in the Iredell Independent School District is to prepare students for the next appropriate step in their lives (college, vocational training, and/or employment).

Purpose

Iredell ISD has prepared this Long-Range Technology Plan to articulate a common vision for technology in the district. We will identify the strategies that will help us use advanced technology to improve the academic achievement, including technology literacy, of all students. We will utilize rigorous curriculum standards and develop critical thinking skills that are essential for academic and workplace success. We will build the capacity of all teachers to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction.

Parameters

This Long-Range Technology Plan is driven by the state curriculum standards and supports the educational mission and instructional goals of Iredell ISD and by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Specific attention is given to addressing student standards for technology as defined by the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), required in the Texas Education Code, Section 28.002. The Technology Applications TEKS found in 19 TAC Chapter 126 describes what students should know and be able to do using technology. As a part of the enrichment curriculum, these TEKS are to be used as guidelines for providing instruction. The goal of the Technology Applications TEKS is for students to gain technology-based knowledge and skills and to apply them to all curriculum areas at all grade levels.

This plan stresses the importance of ongoing and sustained staff development in the integration of technology into the curriculum for teachers, principals, administrators, and school library media personnel to further the effective use of technology in the classroom or library media center. It also is consistent with the recommendations for LEAs as defined by the Texas Long-Range Plan for Technology in the areas of Teaching and Learning, Educator Preparation and Development, Administration and Support Services, and Infrastructure for Technology. It is also consistent with E-rate application guidelines, and other state standards, such as the newly adopted Technology Applications Standards for Beginning Teachers.

Introduction

Iredell is a single campus employing 30 teachers and support staff, and serving approximately 140 students PreK-12th grade. The school's purpose in the community is to provide and exceptional education to the best of our ability. This school currently has an Academically Acceptable status.

Vision Statement

Through the use of technology, students will be knowledgeable, confident and experienced in technology. Students will be provided the opportunity to explore and investigate, analyze, evaluate, design and create using the state-of-the-art technology to solve real-world problems. Students will be equipped with the best skills, attitudes and tools to get the job done in a global economy.

Mission Statement

The mission of education technology in the Iredell Independent School District is to prepare students for the next appropriate step in their lives (college, vocational training, and/or employment). Classrooms will have the technologies needed to make learning exciting and interesting. Ultimately, Iredell students will be prepared for a successful future regarding their technological abilities, skills and experiences.

Demographics

Iredell is a rural community of approximately 360 people without industry. Iredell ISD serves 140 students Pre-K through 12. More than 55% of our students are economically disadvantaged, with little opportunity to access a computer outside of school. Faculty and students have a person to person relationship with each other. Due to the remoteness of the area and the small enrollment of the school, students have little opportunity to interact with others or to develop a global perspective necessary in today's world. Our students are isolated from access to research resources. The Iredell School library holdings number a little over 10,000 titles. Our reference collection is extremely limited. At least once annually, our secondary students are transported to the nearest university to conduct research. The faculty is aware of and fairly comfortable with technology integration in the classroom, but could use more in-depth training in the use of today's technological possibilities. Staff development is required to improve the hands-on experiences needed for students to become not only knowledgeable, but also skilled in technology. Therefore, a great deal of additional training and hands-on experience for the teachers is necessary to transfer skills to the students. Parents also need opportunities to develop skills in technology as well.

Assessment Process

Iredell ISD's STaR Chart results for each campus will be used to help the Iredell ISD assess its progress toward meeting the goals of the Long-Range Plan for Technology. The STaR Chart will also be used to compare Iredell's results with other Texas districts. By using the STaR chart as a monitoring tool, Iredell will be able to accurately assess technical growth on an annual basis.

Current Conditions

Iredell ISD consists of a single campus that serves PreK-12th grades.

The following technology is currently in place District-Wide:

- ❖ Direct connection to the Internet via T1 leased to Educational Service Center Region 12 in Waco.

- ❖ District web servers in place providing district information and student work maintained by students.
- ❖ Written policies in place on acceptable use of the Internet, World Wide Web content, network management, and equipment donations.
- ❖ One computer lab has at least 16 computers and another has at least 12 computers. Each classroom has at least one computer with Internet access, most have 2-4. There are 2 computers in the library with Internet access.
- ❖ 10 laptop computers are available for staff and students to check out.
- ❖ 2 projectors are available to be checked out.
- ❖ Staff development.
- ❖ Networked computers in labs and all classrooms.
- ❖ Automated library checkout.

Telecommunication Services

Currently, all students and staff members in the school district have access to the Internet, either through a direct connection (as cited above in the Statement of Existing Conditions). LANs are in place on campus that houses 100 computers.

Inventory

The latest inventory of current technology available for student use in Iredell ISD as of November 2006 is given in the chart below. Only current, non-obsolete (Pentium speed or better; at least 128 MB RAM; network-capable) student computers are listed. The list does not include administrative computers or file servers.

Campus	Number of Students	Total Computers	Student to Computer Ratio
Campus	137	100	1.3 to 1
Grand Totals	137	100	1.3 to 1

Goals and Objectives:

Teaching and Learning

- ❖ Increase technology proficiencies of all students and assess and report the extent to which they meet those technology proficiencies in the Texas StaR Chart Campus submissions.
- ❖ Identify and promote curricula and teaching strategies that integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction, based on a review of relevant research and leading to improvements in student academic achievement.
- ❖ Integrate technology (including software and electronically delivered learning materials) into teaching and learning in all areas.
- ❖ Use student performance data and curriculum materials that are provided and managed electronically in instructional planning.
- ❖ Use distance learning for expanding curricular offerings. (Explore opportunities for the development and use of innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous courses and curricula through the use of technology, including distance learning technologies, particularly in areas that would not otherwise have access to such courses or curricula due to geographical distances or insufficient resources.)

- ❖ Provide on-demand access by staff and students to the best available electronic information resources in classrooms, libraries and other appropriate sites.
- ❖ Use distance learning and digital content services to provide educational services and information about education and best practices to parents and other community members.

Educator Preparation and Development

- ❖ Provide training in data examination and analysis through technology to support sound decision-making.
- ❖ Provide staff development for integrating Technology Applications into all other TEKS.
- ❖ Provide ongoing, sustained professional development on effectively integrating technology into teaching and learning, instructional management, and administration for all teachers, principals, administrators, and school library media personnel.
- ❖ Provide professional development for teachers, librarians, principals, and administrators that align with SBEC Technology Application standards and supports federal legislation.
- ❖ Design and implement educator development, on site and by distance learning distributed learning and through digital content services.
- ❖ Provide training and support of teacher-librarian collaboration and the use of technology tools.

Administration and Support Services

- ❖ Integrate planning for technology into all classrooms, libraries, campus and district planning. (TEC 11.252)
- ❖ Keep the community informed regarding technology.
- ❖ Provide students' parents, community members and staff members Internet access.
- ❖ Include at least one community member to serve on SBDM committee.
- ❖ Provide technology training facilities, distance learning and college classes for community members.
- ❖ Provide and update webpages for district information.
- ❖ Provide educational resources and weblinks for parents and community members on the district webpages.
- ❖ Provide parent and community access to district personnel through email.
- ❖ Integrate the examination and analysis of data to support sound decision-making focused on student success.
- ❖ Integrate technology into instructional management and administration.
- ❖ Establish policies to encourage expanded use of school facilities, including the library facility.

Infrastructure for Technology

- ❖ Meet the technology equipment target of a student-to-workstation ratio of 1:1.
- ❖ Meet the technology equipment target of a professional education staff-to-workstation ratio of 1:1. Provide a teacher workstation.

- ❖ Provide access to appropriately configured workstations to all students and staff in libraries, school offices, classrooms, and in other work areas, ensuring accessibility for disabled students and staff as required by ADA.
- ❖ Continue to provide high-speed access to the Internet for students and staff.
- ❖ Maintain or retain expertise for installing and supporting and appropriate technology infrastructure.
- ❖ Replace or reposition obsolescent technology and infrastructure on a scheduled basis.
- ❖ Provide and maintain an infrastructure for communications with parents and community members, including access to school news, educational resources, data and personnel.

Sustainability and Supporting Resources

Iredell ISD is committed to sustaining and improving the use of technology to improve the academic performance of all students. Beyond the state technology allotment, the district has contributed local funds in the past for technology enhancements and will continue to do so in the future. The technology staff is also active in working to ensure that all technology equipment functions well and to seek additionally funding sources for equipment, services, software, and other electronically delivered learning materials and print resources that will ensure successful and effective uses of technology.

Iredell ISD is also committed to continuing to increase the number of computer workstations and staff until the TEA target ratios are met. These workstations will be purchased out of local funds and will be purchased in mass quantities. This will help us to achieve cost savings due to volume bidding and discounts. The school district is also participating in the E-rate program and will apply for funds for the district.

Evaluation

Evaluation of the Iredell ISD Technology Plan will be a systemic ongoing process. The following methods will be used to determine the plan's effectiveness:

- ❖ Formal survey/needs assessment of the staff in regards to their use of technology in the classroom
- ❖ On-going informal evaluations done by the technology staff on campus.
- ❖ Number of students taking technology courses.
- ❖ Number of students obtaining jobs in technology fields.
- ❖ Number of staff members taking part in technology staff development
- ❖ Number and type of Internet projects participated in.
- ❖ Monitoring of Internet usage as to types of websites visited.
- ❖ Monitoring of district webpages.

Identified needs

Maintain current infrastructure level by upgrading or replacing obsolete individual stations.

Replace and update printers as needed.

Continue staff development to stay abreast of current technology trends in order to integrate technological advances into the classroom.

Continue to assess student achievement and adapt current teaching methods to increase academic performance.