

**ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS Technology Plan
2010 - 2011**

Stakeholders were asked to develop a comprehensive district technology plan that will help our students become technology literate and prepare them for future success.

Dr. Craig Rigell, Director of Schools
Mrs. Janey Morris, Sup. of Sp. Ed. & Federal Projects
Mrs. Amy Sewell, Parent
Mrs. Carol Ingram, Parent
Mrs. Deb Clendenen, School Secretary/Parent
Mrs. Ginger Robinson, Gifted Program/Parent
Mr. Josh Goodman, Teacher
Mrs. Tabatha Jones, Teacher/Parent

Mr. John Dyer, Technology Systems Supervisor
Mrs. Gale Cooley, Instructional Technology Coach
Mrs. Amy Sherlin, Teacher
Mrs. Betty Powers, Technology Assistant
Mr. Ed Constant, Technician
Mrs. Jessica Bowling, Teacher
Mrs. Lisa Littleton, Parent
Mrs. Tonya Hipps, Parent

GOAL: To provide and implement the use of high-quality technology to enhance the educational experience of all students in the Athens City School System

2010 - 2011

Objective:

1. Local area networks will continue to provide fast and efficient access to server-based software, shared files, and the Internet. Title II D and E-rate funds will continue to be used to supplement local/BEP funds in an effort to achieve the strategies developed for this objective.

Strategies:

- a. 100% of all classrooms at all schools will have a minimum of four networked, internet-accessible computers/ terminals for student use. All classroom computers will continue to be evaluated and upgraded/replaced as needed as funds are made available.
- b. All equipment will continue to be kept in a state of good repair and upgraded or replaced as needed. One district level IT technician will continue to be employed for every 500 computers. In addition to services provided by the system's IT technician(s), outside assistance will continue to be made available when necessary.
- c. The IT department will continue to maintain a database of all computers, including file servers. Using IT department records and observations, as well as teacher feedback, all equipment will continue to be evaluated annually and upgraded or replaced as needed to provide fast and efficient access to networked software, shared files and the internet. The on-line system for requesting technical assistance will continue to be implemented.
- d. All networking equipment, including switches and routers, will continue to be maintained to provide fast and efficient connections to the Internet.
- e. Network cabling will continue to be maintained and replaced as needed to ensure all network-delivered services are fast and efficient. Wireless access will be made available at 100 % of all classrooms. Fiber will continue to provide internet access at all sites, with bandwidth monitored regularly by the IT department. Upgrades will be implemented when deemed appropriate. Title II D and E-Rate funds will continue to be used to supplement local/BEP funds to provide internet access.

f. Networked academic software and its usage for remediation and acceleration will continue to be evaluated and updated/ replaced as needed. Network academic software purchases will be kept consistent between the two primary schools (City Park and Ingleside) and the two intermediate schools (North City and Westside), as well as in the transition between schools for grades 3 and 4 and grades 6 and 7 when appropriate.

g. Based upon previous year's evaluations, new technologies, including assistive technologies, both hardware and software, will be implemented when deemed appropriate. New technologies will continue to be evaluated and adequate training will be provided after purchases, as well as follow-up training as needed.

Objective:

2. Teachers will continue to become more proficient in the use and integration of technology. By the end of the 2010-2011 school year it is anticipated that no fewer than 70% of our staff will be effectively integrating technology into their daily curriculum. An end of year on-line survey (TESS) will be conducted to determine progress made. Title II D and E-rate funds will continue to be used to supplement local/BEP funds in an effort to achieve the strategies developed for this objective.

Strategies:

a. Evaluation by the IT Department of teacher equipment will continue on a regular basis, with upgrades and replacements provided as needed. Consideration will be given to providing teachers a choice between desktop and laptop models.

b. Teachers will continue to be provided necessary productivity software, which will be kept consistent throughout the school system. Training will be provided when initially implemented, with follow-up training as needed.

c. Presentation stations will be evaluated and replaced as needed with interactive whiteboards.

d. The equipment in the computer lab at all Athens City Schools will continue to be evaluated regularly and upgraded as needed. The Athens Jr. High lab will continue to be made available upon request for training/staff development and for parent involvement activities.

e. If the position of a full time technology coach is approved, one additional position will be filled each year to help with the needs in each building.

f. Based upon previous year's evaluations, new technologies, including assistive technologies, both hardware and software, will be implemented when deemed appropriate. New technologies will continue to be evaluated.

g. All instructional training provided to the teachers will be conducted by qualified professionals with the assistance of the IT department as needed or required. Training/ staff development will take place on regular staff in-service days, after school, in the summer, and during staff planning times upon request.

Objective:

3. Student academic achievement will continue to be enhanced through project-based learning and effective formative and summative assessment will be provided through integration of technology.

Strategies:

a. Athens City Schools will use the ISTE standards as well as work with the TN State Department to develop statewide technology curriculum standards.

b. Using the Tennessee State Curriculum Guidelines, participating second and third-grade teachers will identify needs and establish goals for second and third -grade students and develop strategies to meet those goals.

Objective:

4. Internet accessibility will continue to be made available to all students who have parent/guardian permission, as well as to all administrators, faculty and other staff.

Strategies:

- a. Fiber connections at all sites will continue to be maintained and upgraded when necessary as determined by professional technology staff.
- b. In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, firewalls/filters will be maintained at each site to reduce the risk of access to inappropriate information.
- c. All students will be required to have on file a signed copy of the system's AUP before being allowed any Internet access; all students will be supervised during Internet use.
- d. E-Mail accounts will be provided for administrators, faculty and other staff. No use of personal e-mail accounts will be allowed. We will begin to investigate and evaluate the possibility of adding student email accounts.
- e. All administrative computers will continue to be evaluated on a regular basis and upgraded/ replaced as necessary to provide consistent fast and efficient Internet access.
- f. All media center computers will continue to be evaluated on a regular basis and upgraded/ replaced as necessary to provide consistent fast and efficient Internet access.
- g. 100% of all classrooms will be equipped with a minimum of four computers with Internet access. Classroom computers will continue to be evaluated on a regular basis and upgraded/ replaced as needed.
- h. Training/staff development in Internet Use will continue to be provided, with the inclusion of Web 2.0 materials and new technologies as they are developed.

Objective:

5. All libraries will remain fully automated.

Strategies:

- a. Media Specialists' hardware for tracking books will be upgraded/replaced as needed to provide fast and efficient service.
- b. Circulation software will be upgraded on a regular basis as vendor upgrades are released.
- c. New media center technologies will be evaluated and implemented when deemed appropriate.

Objective:

6. The Athens City School System will continue to maintain a presence on the World Wide Web.

Strategies:

- a. The IT Department will continue to be responsible for maintaining the Athens City School System website with assistance and guidance from other departments as required or directed.
- b. IT staff will continue to develop and update the district pages for the website.
- c. Each individual school will continue to be responsible for developing and maintaining its own pages on the website.
- d. Student pictures will be published only in groups and with written parent/guardian permission. Permission forms will be provided by the technology office and signed by the Director of Schools. No student names will be published with pictures.

Objective:

7. Parent / Community involvement will be a regular part of the technology program.

Strategies:

- a. School newsletters will continue to include regular technology updates.
- b. PTA meetings will continue to include technology demonstrations by students and faculty.
- c. Local newspaper coverage of accomplishments, special events, etc. will continue to be used to keep the community informed.
- d. Athens City Schools will continue to use School Cast to provide direct communication between parents and schools.