

Strategic Plan Summary

Enhanced Technology

Ensure that all staff and students use technology appropriately in the acquisition and creation of knowledge.

Technology presents unique challenges to schools because it is constantly evolving. Our students, regardless of the career path they choose, must be equipped with essential skills as a fundamental part of their general education. Keeping current with developments in technology is not just about purchasing the latest hardware and software, but ensuring that our students are well-grounded in the appropriate uses of technology. The notion of “appropriate use” has many facets: Comprehensive technology education reflects instruction in such things as Internet safety; what constitutes unethical computer and Internet use; and how to determine whether on-line resources are sound and legitimate.

The Strategic Plan intends that Hastings students receive a quality education that includes both instruction in technology and instruction that models the effective use of technology. In order to accomplish this, we need to ensure that all of our students have access to the technology that is needed as part of their educational program. Ethical and appropriate use of technology must be taught and practiced throughout the District.

To support these efforts, staff, faculty and administrators will receive training to enable them to meet the standards necessary to utilize technology as an effective and integrated tool in instruction and programming. They will also be encouraged to explore innovative applications of technology, and to use technology to create efficiencies and make information more accessible.

Strategic Plan Outline

Enhanced Technology

Goal 7: Ensure that all staff and students use technology appropriately in the acquisition and creation of knowledge.

Strategy 1: Enhance learning opportunities by providing students, teachers, administrators and staff with appropriate access to multiple and varied technological tools.

7.1.1: Review and update the 3-year technology plan and establish a protocol for continuous assessment of district technological tools.

7.1.2: Extend the available hours and locations of technology during non-instructional time at Hillside and the Farragut Complex.

7.1.3: Make wireless network access ubiquitous at all District schools.

7.1.4: Expand access to technology in the District by providing one-to-one access to all high school students and certified staff and increasing access at the Middle and Elementary Schools.

Strategy 2: Implement a plan for teachers, administrators, staff and students for meeting District technology benchmarks and National Education Technology Standards (NETS).

7.2.1: Institute hiring and training criteria to enhance technology proficiency among faculty, staff and administrators.

7.2.2: Develop a new procedure for the identification, evaluation, and adoption of instructional strategies that are driven by the faculty and supported by the technology department.

7.2.3: Expand the Technology Department to increase technical and instructional ubiquitous support and services.

Strategy 3: Model, communicate, and practice the ethical and appropriate use of technology in the K-12 experience.

7.3.1: Revise the District Acceptable Technology Use Policy, curriculum assessments, Code of Conduct, and handbooks to require the practice of ethical and appropriate use of technology.

Strategy 4: Recognize and encourage innovative technology applications.

7.4.1: Identify early adopters and technology innovators among faculty, students, staff and publicize/utilize their innovations and skills in the schools and the community (e.g., students with digital video skills help with videotaping Village meetings).

7.4.2: Create an annual technology innovation project, contest or fair to inspire and reward new uses of technology.

7.4.3: Develop collaborative curriculum projects that utilize technology links to other communities, learning environments and technology experts (e.g., distance learning, virtual assembly, etc.).

Strategy 5: Improve the information and reporting systems in the District to reduce inefficiencies and promote more effective usage of the data warehouse.

7.5.1: Integrate current management systems to reduce inefficiencies, eliminate duplication of effort, and streamline data entry and retrieval.

7.5.2: Create and implement a long-term plan for the expansion of the data warehouse, improvement of its reporting capabilities, and establishment of a data access policy.