

# Long term Technology Plan

by Edna Orozco



The University of Texas at Brownsville,  
College of Education

EDTC 6342.61 Technology Leadership

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### **Introduction**

What is good learning? That may be a subjective question. But it's likely that many educators would give answers that fall in the same ballpark...

Traditionally, education has been impeded by the security and other potential dangers of employing social networking technologies. These concerns should not be ignored; however neither should these tools due to these concerns. Advances in these technologies continue to afford us new ways to manage the potential dangers. Simulations, digital gaming, and social networking technologies have all definitely suffered the same public relations problems that all new technologies do. However, there are countless examples of these technologies demonstrating their educational value to other industries, confirming the powerful learning opportunities and advantages they afford. It is our position that these technologies are safe, valuable tools schools must take seriously.

### **1. Working together for an ideal Vision & Mission in our district:**

#### **a) Vision:**

Math department will adopt and integrate technology-based instructional strategies for the students at the Progreso High school to achieve student's success in learning. "Where there is no vision, the people perish, King Solomon"

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### **b) Mission:**

“New Learning with New Technologies: Starting with the Math department at the Progreso High school, all math classes will receive a quality education aided by digital gaming, simulations, and social networking as part of the curriculum which will enable students to become successful in their learning skills and knowledge”.

### **2. Assessment:**

It is important to assess all four areas of the Texas Teacher Star Chart: Teaching and Learning; Educator Preparation and Development; Leadership, Administration and Instructional Support; and Infrastructure for Technology.

#### **a) Teaching and Learning**

Department heads from the high school will get together monthly to discuss the progress of introducing technology to the classrooms, and the progress of incorporating technology and curriculum to each content area. Each department will meet to discuss the challenges faced in the class, as well as suggestions in planning for the upcoming weeks, since lesson plans are due on Thursdays; it is going to be necessary to meet before that day, to create a lesson plan aligned with curriculum and helped by useful technology applications.

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### **b) Educator Preparation and Development**

The District will create a committee formed by administration personnel, teachers, teacher aids, and community members, to assist in determining professional development based on technology and curriculum.

### **c) Leadership, Administration and Instructional Support**

Administration is an important key to this process; they need to serve as role models for implementing technology in our classrooms, and district, and as a support system for teaching and learning through technology, they also need to be knowledgeable and skill in the use of these technologies, they need to encourage cooperative learning.

### **d) Infrastructure for Technology**

Teachers will present a project from students where they demonstrated the use of technology in their content area every time we have professional development. They also need to find resources that will help the district to improve the infrastructure of technology for example teacher grants for technology, participation in organizations, conferences about technology.

As a result of planning and working together in the district, students' development will be reflected by helping them to meet or exceed Texas Education Agency standards on TAKS / STAAR and prepare students for higher education and workforce readiness.

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### 3. Goals:

Where are we headed with the use digital games, simulations, and social networking technologies in educational practice? We don't need to wait for the distant future to understand if and how we can implement these technologies. Students are using these technologies now, therefore our goal is: "To start aligning our math curriculum to digital gaming, simulations and social network." In Progreso high school we started already integrating a new program in which technology and curriculum play an important role in learning. The Engineering Program integrates math and science-based by exposing students new technology and hands-on activities, but for those students not interested in engineering there are other options in which they will be exposed to technology, like the cosmetology program, the computer maintenance program.

#### a) Teaching and Learning

New classes have been integrated to the curriculum, the program started in the year 2010 with approximately 14 students in the program, currently we have about 150 students enrolled in the engineering program, mainly junior and senior students, our goal is to expand to all grade levels from 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade. The program started with two people in charge and currently we have 8 professionals working together on the engineering program. Looking at the Star Chart results on Figure 1 illustrates a lack in online learning at the district, it is definitely necessary to improve on this issue because results showed that there was an improvement the year 2009-2010 but then again a decrease on the following year. Hopefully with the integration of the new programs, curriculum will use more online learning.

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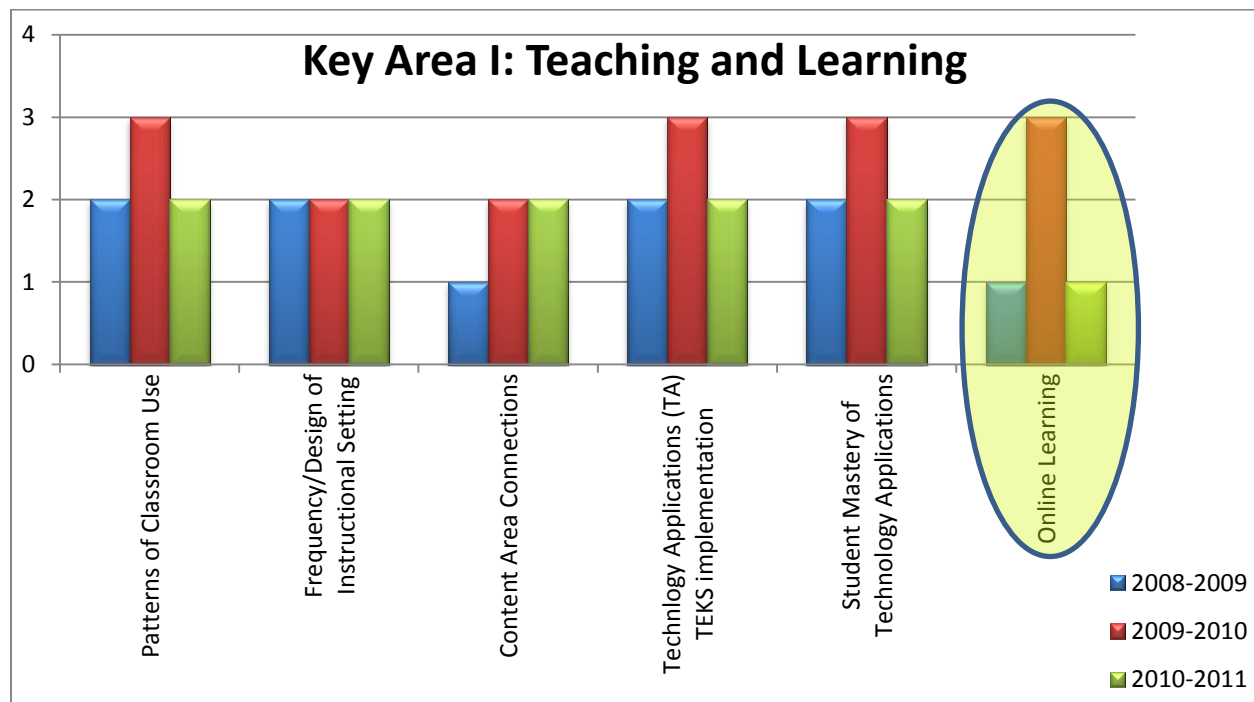


Figure 1: Star Chart Key Area 1

### b) Educator Preparation and Development

The main goal is exposed all students and teachers to hands-on activities and aligned our curriculum vertically and horizontally throughout the campus. We have been mentored by professors at the University of Texas Pan American [<sup>1</sup>], as well as South Texas College. Fortunately the partnership continues and allows us to continue growing as a department and school district. How do we see ourselves in 3 years? Our main goal is to get students to integrate technology and knowledge, currently we are working with the universities and we want to be able to get students college credit.

<sup>1</sup> UTPA Partners with Progreso ISD <http://www.utpa.edu/news/index.cfm?newsid=4211>

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Figure 2: On the left Progreso High School students build model airplanes that they will fly, on the right high school students working on the biomedical program as part of one of the classes they are taking under the school's pre-engineering program. UTPA professors helped the Progreso Independent School District create a pre-engineering program at the school. (Photo courtesy of Progreso ISD).

One of the issues we are facing is that not everybody is interested in engineering, therefore we are working on more elective courses added to the high school, purposely related to core areas, and definitely integrating technology in all our core areas is another important goal. Every classroom will have study islands for students to research, run simulations, and distance learning, among others. Hopefully these actions improve the professional development needed between educators at the district as shown in Figure 3, because the fact that Progreso is not only focusing on the core classes but also in other programs, stimulates teachers to learn different things and this motivation can be approach by requesting professional development.



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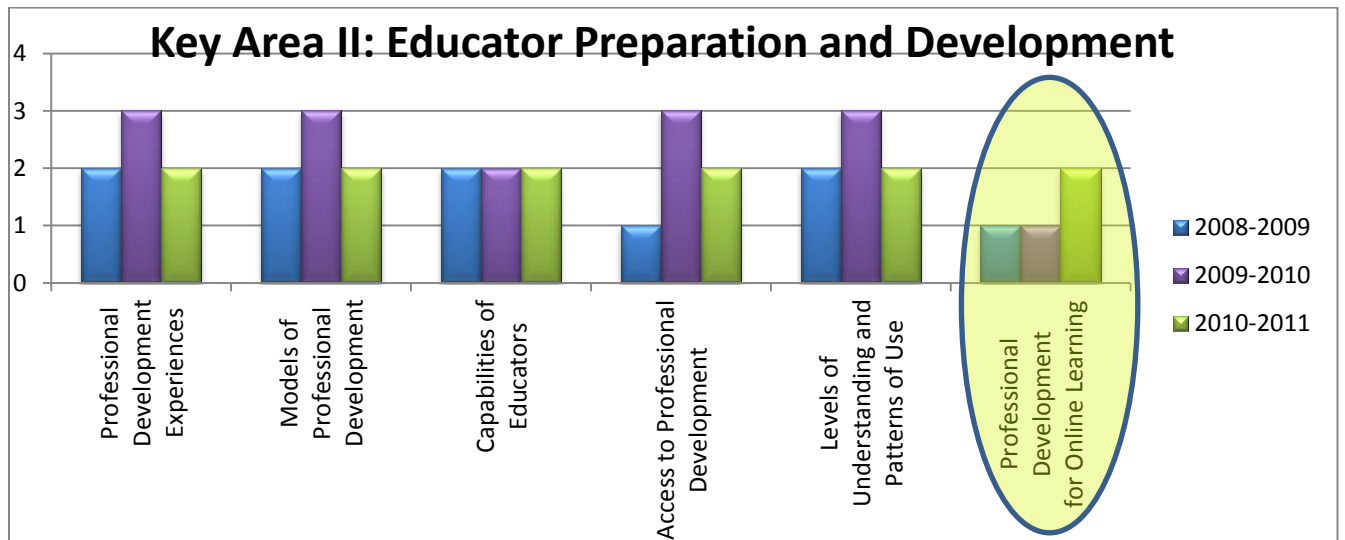


Figure 3: Key Area II of Star Chart

### c) Leadership, Administration and Instructional Support

The support from the Superintendent has been amazing, along with the support from the board members of the school, and administration personnel. It is important that those key people continue to get together and agreed to support these programs for the benefit of our students. As shown in Figure 4 there has been an improvement in leadership and support from the years 2009 to 2011, and this area has remained constant in the rest of the categories.

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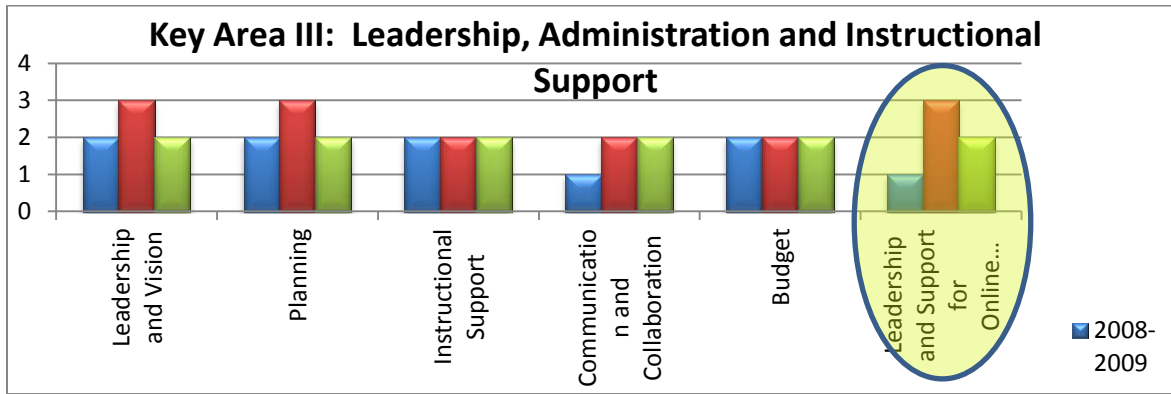


Figure 4: Key Area III Star Chart

### d) Infrastructure for Technology

Currently the engineering program counts with industrial machines and technology where instructors and students are able to work with by making knowledge relevant. There has been a big support towards this program at the high school in which technology is recognized to be important in today's education. Once they created this program school is now focusing in moving towards math, social studies, ELA, and science. Teachers from the high school understand that technology is a positive step towards our new era of educating students. School needs to find funding in order to be able to support all infrastructures we want to incorporate, as shown in Figure 5 Progreso's goal is moving forward.

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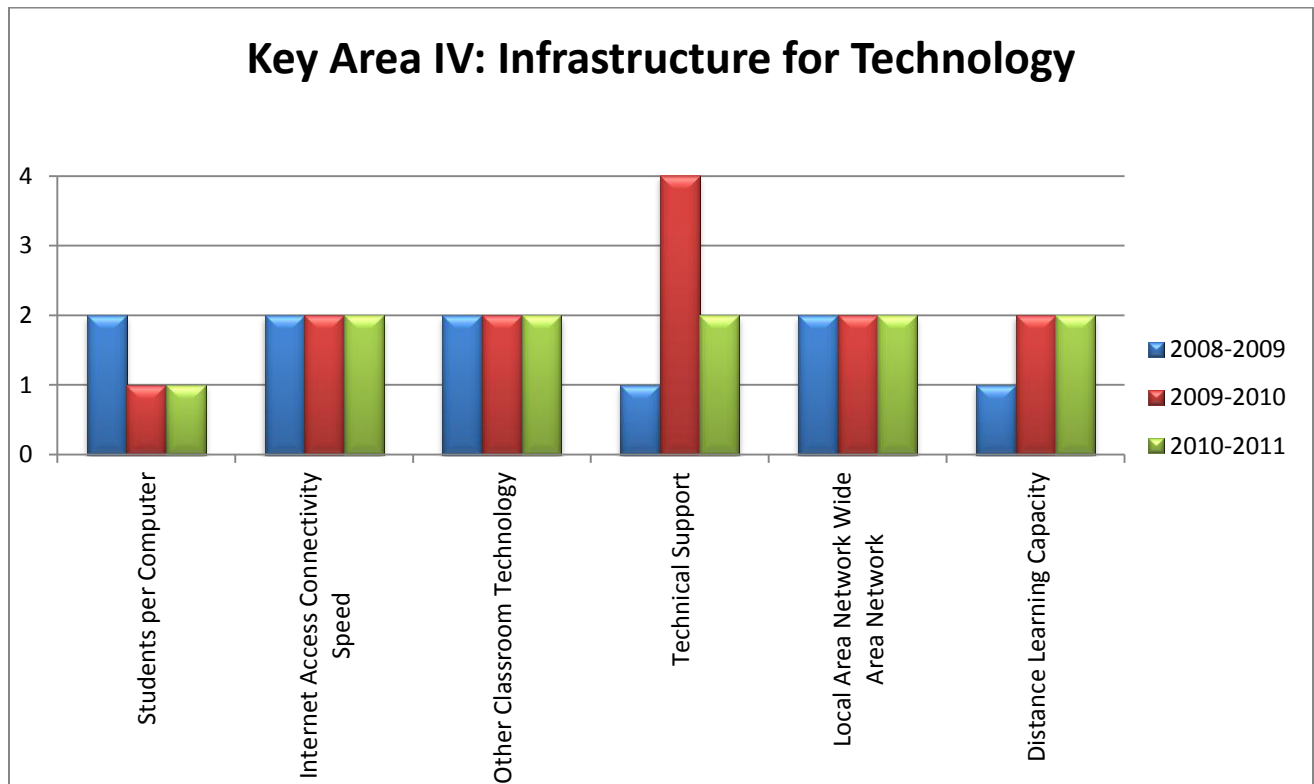


Figure 5: Key Area IV Star Chart

The support from administration towards these new programs requires infrastructure at the school, Progreso District is moving towards a campus with the latest technology available.

### Progreso High



Figure 6: Students from Progreso High school working with solar panels.

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### 4. Action Plan

In the meantime, since we currently do not count with technology in every single classroom, we can take advantage of those tools that are free. Let's move forward.

Creating effective learning environments with technology remains a challenge for teachers. Despite the tremendous push for educators to integrate technology into their classrooms, many have yet to do so and struggle to find consistent success with technology-based instruction. Since I am part of the engineering and math program I will focus in these two areas, mainly on the math department. Math Department will get together and will work on a plan where teachers will be introducing a new technology into the classroom in order to transform teaching and learning.

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**Table 1: Teaching & Learning**

	Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
<b><u>Digital Gaming</u></b>	Use of LURE OF THE LABYRINTH: LABYRINTH	Instructional year 2012-2013	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	This game is funded by the U.S. Department of Education with a primary goal of enhancing pre-algebra mathematics learning, and a secondary goal of improving literacy
<b><u>Simulation</u></b>	Use of MOLECULAR WORKBENCH	Instructional year 2012-2014	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	Provides interactive, visual simulations to aide in teaching simple and complex science concepts, such as dynamic molecular structures.
	Use of SIMCITY	Instructional year 2012-2015	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	The objective is to design and create a thriving, sustainable city
	STARLOGO	Instructional year 2012-2016	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	Software online for programming math & science scenarios.

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<b><u>Social Networking</u></b>	Use of NING	Instructional year 2012-2017	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	Hosted by the Oracle Education foundation, designed to be a password-protected, teacher-monitored,
	Use of DIIGO	Instructional year 2012-2018	Teacher	\$0	N/A	Walkthrough	This web tool 2.0 lets you use the internet as a personal notebook.

**I. Digital Gaming:** Digital games, whether computer-, game console-, or handheld-based, are characterized by rules, goals & objectives, outcomes & feedback, conflict/ competition/ challenge/ opposition, interaction, and representation of story, basically “Purposeful, goal-oriented, rule-based activity that the players perceive as fun” Civilization, WORLD OF WARCRAFT (WOW),

**LURE OF THE LABYRINTH: LABYRINTH** is funded by the U.S. Department of Education with a primary goal of enhancing pre-algebra mathematics learning, and a secondary goal of improving literacy. As a result of the player exploring this space, learning how to navigate it, and solving puzzles with mathematical reasoning, players can earn enough points to free their pet. These puzzles are the central mechanic of the game.

*(Connection to student learning)*

Ultimately, these puzzles were designed to help students embody the thinking, processes, and habits of mind of a scientist, mathematician, or engineer— which include:

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- probing (sometimes random, sometimes focused),
- observing one's environment in response to stimuli introduced,
- forming hypotheses, and
- Testing and altering single variables.

Link to educational relation:

<http://labyrinth.thinkport.org/www/educators/resources/standards.php>

## II. Simulation

As technology has improved, so does the quality of simulations developed for education.

As the math department we need to implement these technologies to our lessons, there are several programs developed that we can use, for example:

- **MOLECULAR WORKBENCH** provides interactive, visual simulations to aide in teaching simple and complex science concepts, such as dynamic molecular structures.

<http://mw.concord.org/modeler/showcase/index.html>

- **SIMCITY:** the objective is to design and create a thriving, sustainable city

[http://www.simcity.com/en\\_US](http://www.simcity.com/en_US)

- **STARLOGO:** The programming possibilities are seemingly endless, and numerous teachers in math and science have created an array of applications with it—including a model of a health epidemic to a simulation of the dynamics between fish and plankton.

<http://education.mit.edu/starlogo/>

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### III. Social Networking

- **NING**

This learning platform is more than just a fancy social web space. Hosted by the Oracle Education Foundation, this free service is designed to be a password-protected, teacher-monitored, safe web-space that is free from advertising.

<http://www.ning.com/>

- **DIIGO**

Diigo lets you treat the Internet like your own personal notebook that can be accessed by anyone you choose to have access to it, with a simple download; users can highlight parts of webpages, attach sticky notes to a webpage, and then share these annotations with others.

<http://www.thinkquest.org/en/>

As new technologies push instruction in the classroom in new ways, so does our ability as professional educators push the evolution of educational technologies. With the recent tide of Web 2.0 technologies (web services which center around user-provided content, like flicker, YouTube, or Facebook), one can only speculate where things go from here.



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**Table 2&3: Educator Preparation and Development & Leadership, Administration, and Instructional Support**

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	2/12/2013 9:00AM- 9:45AM 10:00AM- 10:45AM 1:00PM-1:45PM 2:00PM- 2:45PM 3:00PM-3:45PM	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Engineering, GEAR UP, <b>Title: STEM - Engineering tribute for Engineering Week Information technology</b> <i>Workshop ID: 37788 Workshop ID: 37789 Workshop ID: 37791 Workshop ID: 37792 Workshop ID: 37793</i>
Training	Dec 7/2012 9:00AM - 2:00PM Feb 15, 2013 9:00AM - 2:00PM May 17, 2013 9:00AM - 2:00PM	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Engineering, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: TSTEM Alliance Meeting</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38381 Workshop ID: 38384 Workshop ID: 38386</i>
Training	Dec 14/2012 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: STEM Education – bridging Science and Engineering</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38435</i>
Training	Dec 18/2012 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: STEM Education for the Holidays</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38443</i>

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	Jan 10/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Robotics for the Elementary School</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38445</i>
Training	Jan 11/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: iPad™ Technology for the Math and Science Classroom</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38446</i>
Training	Jan 16/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Robotics for Middle School</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38447</i>
Training	Jan 30/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instruction for Students with Diverse Needs, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Building Math for Middle School</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38448</i>

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	Dec 13/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$101	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Administration & Leadership, Advanced Academics, College/Career Readiness, Driver Education, Engineering, Mathematics, Other Professional Development, Public Relations, Science, Technology, <b>Title: STEM Fall Industry Tour</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38449</i>
Training	Feb 05/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM Feb 06/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM (2 day workshop)	Teacher & Administration	\$200	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Engineering is Elementary</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38450</i>
Training	Feb 07/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Engineering the Future</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38451</i>
Training	Feb 20/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Mathematics, Public Relations, Science, Technology, <b>Title: STEM Spring Industry Tour</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38452</i>

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	Feb 27/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM Feb 28/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM (2 day workshop)	Teacher & Administration	\$200	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Robotics for High School</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38453</i>
Training	Mar 19/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assessment, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Engineering, High School Redesign, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Learning Strategies, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: iPad™ Technology for STEM &amp; PBL</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38454</i>
Training	Mar 20/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology <b>Title: Texas Instruments™ N-spire™ Handheld Technology for STEM</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38455</i>
Training	Apr 17/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Texas Instruments™ Navigator™ for STEM</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38456</i>

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	Apr 30/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assessment, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Diversity and Special Needs Populations, Engineering, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Learning Strategies, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Gaming Design for All</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38457</i>
Training	May 1/2013 8:30AM-3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$200	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, Critical Thinking, Curriculum, Engineering, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: STEM Tools for Engineering Classrooms</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38459</i>
Training	NOW-December 7, 2012	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	<b>Subject(s): Technology,</b> <b>Title: ESC 01 Project Share Batch Uploads( self-paced) Project Share OPEN Enrollment</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38612</i>
Training	Dec 5/2012 9:00AM-12:00PM	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Technology, <b>Title: Technology Advisory Committee Meeting</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38835</i>
Training	Call to set up time Presenter: Claudia Gutierrez (956) 984-6226	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Mathematics, Technology, <b>Title: GEAR UP CORE Teacher Academy Algebra One using TI Nspire Technology MAKE UP</b> <i>Workshop ID: 38916</i>

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Training	Dec 01/2012 8:30AM- 3:30PM Nov 30, 2012 8:30AM- 3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Advanced Academics, Assistive Technology, College/Career Readiness, Engineering, Instructional Technology, Mathematics, Science, Technology, <b>Title: Physics TRC - Energy Conservation Workshop ID: 38918</b>
Training	Nov 28/2012 1:30PM - 3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$0	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Technology, <b>Title: Technology Conference 2013 Committee Meeting</b> <i>Workshop ID: 39076</i>
Training	Nov 29/2012 8:30AM- 3:30PM	Teacher & Administration	\$100	Region 1	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Subject(s): Engineering, Instructional Strategies, Mathematics, Migrant, Title: CTE and STEM Career Connections Workshop ID: 39121

All trainings offered by Region 1 have a Total Cost of \$2,001 for one person, if we have a total of 5 math teachers the cost for all of them would be \$10,005. Teachers and administration would have to discuss times and workshops to attend, an extra cost added to this money would be paying the substitute in charge of each class, but that will depend on the workshop and time because some workshops last for two days, and some others last 45 minutes. **Tables 2 and 3 have been joined because workshops apply to administrators and educators, and there is definitely a need of support for both parties to assist to these trainings.**

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**Table 4: Infrastructure for Technology**

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Mobi™ Mobile Interactive Whiteboards	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$449	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Mobi™ hand-held mobile interactive whiteboards have all the functionality of a fixed interactive whiteboard at a fraction of the cost. Unparalleled mobility within the classroom. Promotes student-centered, active learning. Provides seamless integration of content, instruction, and formative assessment.
CPS™ Student Response Systems	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$1,000	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Captures real-time assessment data to gauge student comprehension as you teach to immediately identify individual learning needs and alter instruction as needed.
White SMARTBoard	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$2,000	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	It can be used to interact and as a projector, in which teacher can run several applications at the same time.

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Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Document Camera	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$500	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	This tool replaces the outdated and limited transparency projector. Most models consist of a stand-mounted video camera with a projection lens, a lighted platform for the medium and a wall-mounted projector or television.
At least 5 computers for each classroom	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$1,500	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	Students will work on the computer island doing research, and sometimes simulating results from class
iPad	2012-2015	Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Technology Committee, Teachers	\$500	Federal Grant	Teacher Evaluation Admin. Walkthroughs	There are currently a lot of ways to integrate the iPad technology to Education, as well as lots of helpful applications for education some of them for free and others with reasonable prices,



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### **5. Implementation:**

Progreso High school started implementing engineering program in the year 2010; they are currently working on introducing technology in core areas and more hands on activities, and support to teachers in order for them to get trained in technology and curriculum. There are about 8 teachers attending to the MSTTPA and Master in Education and Technology offered at UT-Brownsville. The following suggestions are for teachers that currently have some technology in the classrooms, and to help them familiarize with technology.

- a) **Explore.** Spend time just playing with these technologies. Head out to your local electronics store and try out a popular video game. Create a FACEBOOK account or try surfing NING to see how other schools are using it. Many simulation tools, like Molecular Workbench and StarLogo TNG, are free downloads as well, since so many of these technologies are delivered via the Internet, they are easily accessible.
- b) **Partner with a colleague.** Teachers will meet within departments and with the department head, whether a long-time colleague and friend, or a new teacher on campus who teaches in a different department, great benefits can be had in all types of collaborations. Find ways to try things together or share notes on things you've done independently. Attend a session at a conference, look into tables 3 and 4 for specific times and dates of workshops.

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- c) **Find additional supports.** Express your interest to the Academic Technologist at the school or talk to those teachers working on the MSTTPA program and the Master on Technology and education. They will likely be able to put you in touch with several resources to support your work, and help you get started. Many resources exist via the Web.

### 6. Evaluation

As mentioned before it will be necessary to get the department heads together and consequently departments together. In those meetings they will work in the design of surveys, presentations and evaluations in order to demonstrate how the plan has worked, and on the administrative side their support will consist on continued walkthroughs and evaluations to improve the long term technology plan implemented at the school.

### 7. Administrative Review

Ms. Aguilar, administrator and director of the Early College at the Progreso High school:

“I am grateful to be part of the changes that are happening at Progreso ISD, because this will benefit our students in a long term, perhaps we do not see a huge improvement right now, but we will continue working hard to support not only students but teachers. As reading this technology plan I agree with the goals stated and I agree we need to work as a team to make this plan succeed.”

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### 8. References

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