Long- Range Technology Plan
For Progreso East Elementary

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Module 5: Developing a Long- Range Technology Plan

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Vision

Progreso East Elementary will continue to integrate technology into the classroom and incorporate new and innovative technologies that will prepare our 21st century learners for the 21st Century careers they will have to compete with globally. Teamwork is a collaborative effort by all stakeholders such as teachers, administrators, students, parents, and community leaders who will provide the support for our students' educational needs.

Mission

Student Tasks/Activities

Students will be engaged in tasks and activities using Web 2.0 tools, creating and uploading assignments and projects through the use of personal/classroom wikis, and involved in communicating in social networks such as Edmodo. This technology curriculum will involve the students in becoming creative and responsible for their own learning as they learn to problem solve and collaborate with peers for feedback and positive criticism. It will allow them to express themselves through writing as a means to communicate their ideas to others or to the intended audience.

Teacher Assessments for Student Learning

Teachers will assess student learning and performance through the use of online research and projects that the students will submit through the use of classroom wikis. This will better prepare the students for college by using e-textbooks, knowing how to navigate the

Internet and learning how to find and distinguish reliable and credible sources. Our job and responsibility is to prepare our students for the future.

Teachers New Role

Teachers would be taking on a new role as facilitators. Instead of the teachers doing all of the direct teaching, teachers will instruct students on what they need to do with their assignments. They will continue to monitor and guide the students as they learn how to use new technologies and digital tools. Teachers will still be responsible for instructional planning and grading. Teachers will have to collaborate with other teachers for new ideas and/or projects for the students.

Student Learning using Technology

Teachers will have to carefully plan assignments and create detailed lessons that will guide the students using step-by-step instructions. Teachers will also have to continue professional staff development to keep up with the new technologies and Web 2.0 tools that are continuously changing and improving. Students will learn how to do Web 2.0 projects such as: Wordle, Wallwisher, Blogger, Google Docs, Google PPT's, Slide Rocket, Twiddla, Stixy, Voice Thread, Vuvox, Spicy Nodes, Brainshark, Vimeo, Prezi, Yodio, Aviary, Glogster, Voki Avatars, and many more. The students will learn to use web-based cloud storages such as Slideshare.net, Box.net, Flickr, Photobucket, Google Surveys, Wiki spaces, You Tube, Screencast, and Capzles so they can store all of their projects online for future reference. They will learn to use digital tools such as Diigo, Jing, Screenr, Survey Daddy, Google Surveys, Symbaloo, Quibblo, Quizlet to enhance and incorporate with their online projects. They will learn to use social networks such as

Edmodo, Twitter, Weebly, as a means to communicate with their teachers and peers for collaboration and other educational purposes.

Innovative School- Weslaco- Ybarra Elementary

This year my daughter's 3rd grade teacher, Ms. Lopez has created an Edmodo account for her students and the parents to communicate any concerns or questions they may have. It is a great way to communicate with parents on any upcoming events or questions we may have on homework assignments or projects. She has shown them how to log in and assigned them to create and upload a picture for their profile. My daughter was given specific instructions on the purpose and the use of Edmodo. She understands that it is not to just type in hi, but to respond by forming a complete sentence or question that is school related. I am glad my daughter is getting the exposure of social networks at such an early age. In addition, she is also going to the Computer Lab at least once a week.

I. Assessment

It is important to assess the four key areas of technology planning that can be found in Texas STaR Chart website: http://starchart.epsilen.com/. According to the Texas Star Chart results, Progreso ISD is currently at a rating of a Developing Tech in Key Areas 1, 2, and 3 and an Early Tech in Key Area 4.

Assessment in Key Area 1: Teaching and Learning.

Teachers and administration will need to meet and collaborate with one another to discuss the progress of implementing the new technology plan for the campus. This includes the progress of introducing new technologies to the students and trying to

incorporate technologies into each of the content areas: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

According to Region 13 (2012), PDAS is currently in place as the State's approved instrument for appraising or evaluating teachers and identifying areas that would benefit from staff development. It consists of a 45-minute observation and a Teacher Self-Report form conducted by an administrator. PDAS uses eight domains reflecting the Proficiencies for Learner Centered Instruction in order to evaluate the effectiveness of teacher instruction in the classroom. Some of the areas that administrators are looking for is student centered learning, students are engaged, student work is visible, warm and inviting classroom environment, TEKS and objectives posted, lesson plans accessible, a teacher grade book, and the use of technology incorporated in all areas of the school curriculum. Throughout the school year, campus administration frequently conducts walkthroughs, observations, and evaluations for teachers.

Assessment in Key Area 2: Educator Preparation and Development

The District will create a Technology Committee that consists of administrators, teachers, teacher aides, community members, and parents that will make decisions for any new technology trainings, curriculum, or any new technology purchases.

The Texas STaR Chart results will help in completing the Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) in the area of technology to determine the needs for each campus.

Assessment in Key Area 3: Administration and Support Services

Administration plays an important role in implementing the Technology Plan, because they are the ones who are looking at the budget. They are responsible for purchasing new

technologies and have to allot for the expenses of professional development. They also have to ensure that the technology is being utilized, accounted for, and is used to maximize the instruction for the students.

Assessment in Key Area 4: Infrastructure for Technology

Teachers will collaborate with other teachers on how they are using technology in the classroom. Teachers can also present and share some of their student projects in order to gather and generate new ideas. They can also share their resources through the use of their teacher wikis as part of teacher collaboration. The infrastructure for technology can also be improved by having continuous technology trainings. They can even teach or help one another when they stumble upon a problem. Teamwork will result in better student performance that will be reflected in the state assessments such as the STARR tests.

There is a need to update the Long-Range Technology Plan. State and federal legislation is always changing as the need to higher our expectations in our national educational system. The schools' must comply with all rules and regulations if they want to continue federal funding.

The development of technology is continuously growing and modernizing in the areas of business, industry, public education, and higher education. When I registered my son last year for college, everything was via Internet meaning I had to complete all the applications over the web for admissions, housing, meal cards, financial aid /student loans, and payments were also collected using the university web-site. Now my son also does not have to purchase textbooks at a bookstore, rather he has to purchase them online

and receive a code to access his e-textbook. Times are changing and making things so much easier. The Internet is also growing rapidly in the business world. Transactions and communications can happen via telephone, emails, Internet, and web conferencing.

II. Goals

Our future holds a whole new world of technologies and living in the fast lane. Information can be quickly and easily accessible through the use of emails, online collaboration tools, and web conferencing. People are living in a generation of "now," where people no longer have to wait. If you want to find out how to do something, all you have to do is Google it or YouTube it. Our future is going to be more competitive and the next generation is going to have to keep up the world around us.

Our school in 3-5 years will be preparing for a state assessment on the Technology TEKS. Students will have to have a well-rounded education in all of the academic areas in order to graduate from high school and be ready to dive into college. There will be more expectations for the students as well as for the teachers to be knowledgeable about teaching and implementing new technologies.

Goal for Key Area 1: Teaching and Learning.

Administration at Progreso ISD is very supportive and encourages the use of technology. Our District recently hired a team of several engineers to implement an Engineering Program, which is a college-readiness curriculum for high school students that incorporate the use of technology in the areas of Math and Science. They have taken a step in the right direction toward the future of technology by bringing in an Engineering Program along with teachers with Master's degrees to teach the students in these areas.

Goal for Key Area 2: Educator Preparation and Development

The primary goal is to expose all teachers and students in teaching and learning technology using a hands-on approach. Technology must be introduced to the students as early as PK4 whereas the teachers will model the use of technologies and then have the students learn the basics of using technology through the use of educational games and programs.

Goal for Key Area 3: Administration and Support Services

Administration supports and encourages the use of new technologies. They have applied for technology grants and received several Smart Boards. The District has also updated from the use of overhead projects to Document cameras, which are amazing for all grade levels PK4-12th. Administration has been very supportive to teachers incorporating technologies in the classroom by purchasing equipment and subscriptions to programs such as Learning A-Z, Brain Pop, and United Streaming that teachers have requested or recommended for the student use in the classroom.

Goal for Key Area 4: Infrastructure for Technology

Teachers recently were surveyed about purchasing I-pads for each campus and about how many should be purchased and how they would be distributed amongst the campus. Teacher input is important. Some suggested that they be distributed to the upper grades, but their concern is that they are already accounted for state testing. The lower grades agreed that nowadays, the little ones grab their parents' phones and start playing games on them already and know how to navigate them. Some already are exposed at home

with I-pads and home computers as early as PK4. Technology programs and games are already designed for the little ones and they learn quickly. So how many will be purchased and who will be the I-pads be distributed to?

III. Action Plan & Funding of Plan

In our campus, everyone has at least a teacher desktop in the classroom for teacher and student use. The upper grades (4th and 3rd grade) started with the use of document cameras and projectors and every year the campus has worked down to purchasing them for 2nd-1st grade in having both a document camera and projector in their classroom to incorporate Learning A-Z, CSCOPE Power Point Presentations, Brain Pop for all content areas, and United Streaming. Next year they are looking at purchasing them for both Kinder and PK4. The District encourages the use of technology in the classroom. Many testing grade level teachers find themselves overwhelmed with state assessments and incorporating technology.

Action Plan for Key Area 1: Teaching and Learning

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost $	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Use of Web 2.0 tools	2 projects per semester (2013-2014)	Administration & Teachers MTT	$0	Local Technology Budget; Federal Budget	Teacher Lesson Plans; Walk-throughs; observations	A lot of Web 2.0 tools are free of charge
Classroom Wikis	Set up- 1st Six Weeks 1st Semester (2014-2015)	Administration & Teachers MTT	$799	Local Technology Budget; Federal Budget	Wiki Account- Invite Users	PBworks Campus Edition $799 1,000 users

Edmodo- Social Network	Set up- 1st Six Weeks 2nd Semester (2014-2015)	Administration & Teachers MTT	$0	Local Technology Budget; Federal Budget	Edmodo account- Invite users	Edmodo is a free social network

Action Plan for Key Area 2: Educator Preparation & Development

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost $	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Provide campus staff development for the new technologies available online: • Web 2.0 tools • Wikis • Edmodo	2013-2016	Campus Principal; MTT			Staff Development Sign in sheets & Evaluations and/or Surveys; PDAS evaluations	

Action Plan for Key Area 3: Administration and Support Services

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost $	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Every year the campus will update the technology plan in the CIP	2013-2016	Principals Teachers MTT	$0	Local; Campus	Campus Improvement Plan (CIP); Sign in Sheets	

Action Plan for Key Area 4: Infrastructure for Technology

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost $	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
Utilize subscriptions that the campus/ district purchased	2013-2016	Technology Dept.; MTT; Campus Principals	1000	Local; Grants; Federal; Tech Allotment	Lesson Plans; Purchase Orders	Learning A-Z, Tumbler, United Streaming

MTT responsible – Five sources of funds for Technology services: State Technology Allotment, Title II Part D (federal), e-rate (federal), Local, and other school Grants.

1. Implementation

Progreso ISD currently has eight teachers enrolled in the Master Technology Teacher Certificate Program (MTT) and/or the MSTTPA program which is the Master in Education and Technology Program offered at The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB). This District and these teachers have taken the first step toward achieving the goal of becoming educated and informed about what the future will hold in the area of technology. These teachers will then assist and help in training our teachers at each of the different campuses in order to implement and incorporate technology in the classroom using our state TEKS and district curriculum.

2. Evaluation

The evaluation of the technology plan will be an on-going process. Professional development will also be an on-going process as new technologies will be implemented and the campus will continue to seek trainings through their local Regional offices. The

Technology department will continue updating and maintaining use of current technology equipment and repair or replace old technology equipment. The Technology Inventory will keep track and account for all technology being used by each and every campus.

3. STaR Chart Correlation

The needs assessment is based on the results on the Texas STaR Chart. This information is taken from the teacher surveys that are completed each school year. It is important for the teachers to take their time as they answer each question. The campus will look at the STaR Chart Results and then update the Campus Improvement Plan in the area of Technology.

4. Administrative Review

The Campus Principal Edith Zuniga reviewed the Long-Range Technology Plan and stated that our district is in the right path of incorporating more technologies in the classroom. This school district has had many opportunities and grants offered in the areas of technology because of our low-economic, disadvantage school status. She is glad that many teachers at Progreso ISD were chosen for this teacher grant offered by UTB to further our knowledge in technology and bring back that training back into our campuses to share with our fellow co-workers as well as administrators for new and fresh ideas to implement more technology into the classrooms for student achievement.

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