

## **Long- Range Technology Plan**

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### **Module 5: Developing a Long- Range Technology Plan**

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The University of Texas at Brownsville, College of Education

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## **Long- Range Technology Plan**

### **I. Vision**

The long range technology plan's vision is to continuously integrate technology into the classroom by providing the tools and resources necessary to better prepare our 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. A collaborative support from administrators, teachers, parents, school board and members of the community is vital to ensure the success of our students in the future.

### **II. Mission**

Through the use of technology, teachers will engage students in tasks involving Web 2.0 tools and applications. By engaging the student in projects and problem based learning, students will solve problems in a meaningful way that will help them to be responsible for their own learning.

### **III. Assessment**

According to the most recent Texas Star Chart Results, that can be found at

<http://starchart.epsilen.com/>, our district is currently rated as Developing Tech in Key Areas I, II and III and Early Tech in Area IV.

#### **1. Key Area I: Teaching and Learning**

Administrators will have to meet with teachers to find a way to implement the use of technology for teaching and learning. One of the biggest issues in this area is that the campus lacks of computers for students' use, there is only one computer per classroom

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at the most, which is in most of the cases, for the teacher's use. Web 2.0 technologies have not been implemented because teachers lack training and computers as well.

### 2. Key Area II: Educator Preparation and Development

According to the district's calendar, there are only eight days per year scheduled to be staff development, during those days, only about eight hours will be dedicated for technology trainings which are done by local teachers.

### 3. Key Area III: Leadership, Administration and Instructional Support

There is evident lack of high quality leadership, administration and instructional support at our campus when talking about technology. Enough support is not being offered by administration, which lacks of initiative when implementing new technologies in the classroom. Technology support is not reliable and technology issues may take long time to be resolved.

### 4. Key Area IV: Infrastructure for Technology

Infrastructure is outdated at the district. There are not enough computers at the campus for students' use; several of them need to be replaced. The ratio of computers to students is 1:5 approximately. The bandwidth needs an urgent increase in capacity; sometimes even posting attendance may take several minutes. Web-browsing is almost impossible. The telephone –intercom system needs to be replaced as well, many of the telephones in the rooms do not work properly which makes hard for the teacher to call the office if there is the need to do so. Wireless internet should also be upgraded in order for the entire campus to have coverage.

#### **IV. Goals**

The long range technology plan will address the following goals:

1. Key Area I: Teaching and Learning
  - a. Technology will be integrated in every lesson and in every content area. Especially the use of free Web 2.0 technologies will be encouraged.
  - b. Administration will conduct walkthroughs to observe teachers are implementing the use of technology.
  - c. Facilitators will monitor core content teachers to ensure adequate use of technology in the classroom.
2. Key Area II: Educator Preparation and Development
  - a. All teachers will receive proper training at the beginning of the year in order to provide them with the knowledge needed to implement technology in the classrooms. Web 2.0 technologies will be introduced to enhance curriculum and instruction.
  - b. External trainers will be hired to conduct such training. The experts will introduce teachers to the latest technologies.
  - c. A budget will be allocated to have teachers attend national conferences about technology.

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3. Key Area III: Leadership, Administration and Instructional Support

- a. Tracking orders software should be bought in order to keep track of orders and problems are solved in the expected timeframe.
- b. A technology committee composed of technology personnel and teachers must be formed to analyze data and create technology plans.
- c. An all-inclusive training for technology department will take place. Training should include software and hardware latest news.

4. Key Area IV: Infrastructure for Technology

- a. A project to replace current internet supply must take place. Higher bandwidth should be purchase to accommodate current and future internet use.
- b. Telephone system will be replaced with one of the latest technologies.
- c. Wireless internet will be expanded to cover all areas of campus.
- d. Outdated computers will be replaced with new ones and there will be at least 4 computers per classroom.

V. Plan

Action	Timeline	Party Responsible	Cost	Funding Source	Evaluation	Other Notes
<b>Technology Integration in Everyday Lessons</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, teachers	\$5,000	Local	Admin walkthroughs, PDAs, lesson plans.	Many web 2.0 tools are free, but money will be allocated in case there is a need to buy software.
<b>Brain Pop</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, teachers	\$5,000	Local	Admin walkthroughs, PDAs, lesson plans.	Includes the unlimited use for the five campus at the district
<b>Wikis</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, teachers	\$800	Local	Wiki accounts, webpages	For 1000 accounts
<b>Edmodo and other Web 2.0 tools</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, teachers	\$0	Local	Edmodo accounts	Free Web 2.0 unlimited use

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<b>Staff Development based on Technology</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, Technology staff and committee	\$20,000	Local, State	Star Chart, Evaluations and surveys,	Teachers will be introduced to the latest technologies they can use
<b>External Trainings</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, Technology staff and committee	\$50,000	Local, State	Star Chart, Evaluations and surveys,	Teachers will be introduced to the latest technologies they can use
<b>National Conferences</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration MTT's, teachers	\$100,000	Local, State, Technology allotment	Star Chart	Teachers will research conferences they would like to attend and request to attend upon admin approval
<b>Work Order Software</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$25,000	Local, e-rate	Star Chart, Number of orders being completed	Software will keep track of orders and timelines
<b>Training for technology personnel</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$35,000	Local	Star Chart, Number of orders being completed	Training will prepare technicians to better serve the district.
<b>Technology Committee</b>	Year 2013-2014	Superintendent, Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$40,000	Local	Star Chart, Technology Plan	
<b>Increase of internet bandwidth</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$50,000	E-rate	Star Chart survey	
<b>Telephone system</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$50,000	E-rate	Star Chart survey	
<b>Wireless Internet</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$50,000	E-rate	Star Chart survey	
<b>Computer Upgrade</b>	Year 2013-2014	Administration, Technology staff and committee	\$50,000	E-rate	Star Chart survey	

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### **VI. Evaluation**

Technology committee will be responsible to oversee that the long range technology plan is taking place accordingly to the timeline. Revisions and modifications are to be done by the technology committee as well. It is important to keep track of all new software and hardware that has been purchased by creating an inventory. All outdated hardware that is not being used at campuses must be recovered and disposed accordingly. The Star chart survey at the end of the year will reflect any changes done during the school year and will also evaluate the effectiveness of the long range technology plan.

## References

Texas Education Agency Long Range Technology Plan. (2012). Retrieved from:  
[http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=5082&menu\\_id=2147483665](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=5082&menu_id=2147483665)

STaR Chart. (2012). Retrieved from: <http://starchart.epsilen.com>