Instruction

Technology and Instruction

The Board recognizes that our nation is moving from an industrial society to an informational society. An integral part of that society is what is now new technology. We believe that computers, network resources, video and other technological advances need to become part of the educational program for students in our schools and for adults in our community education programs.

Computing, network resources, and video technology can enhance the educational process. They are applicable across grade levels and can be used in every curriculum area. However, the study of technological advances and the various applications are only a part of the educational program. Technology is not an end in itself, but a means to an end. The focus must be on what is best for the student and how best to meet the students' educational needs. In doing so, technology will be evaluated to the extent of adoption into the curriculum.

The district will provide opportunities for students to go beyond the state of awareness of these technologies to a state of direct application. To accomplish this the Board is committed to provide in-service training for teachers and the necessary personnel and equipment within its available resources.

The development and updating of the technology plan will be carried out by the Board with the involvement of the administration, staff, community-parent advisory committees and students.

The (Board) recognizes that all students, by the end of grade 12, must be technologically literate and acquire that collection of skills, knowledge, values, and relationships that allows them to function as productive citizens in a global and digital society. Students must be able to apply technology related strategies to acquire content knowledge, collaborate with others, communicate ideas, solve problems and pursue personal interests.

Computers, network resources, and other technology are an integral part of the District's instructional programs and must be integrated into curricula at all grade levels. The Board is committed to providing the necessary equipment, personnel and staff development to accomplish these goals.

The Board fully embraces the program goals and instructional practices for information and technology literacy contained in the Connecticut Information and Technology Curriculum Framework and the Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety, and Media Literacy Guidelines and Recommended Actions.

Technology Literacy

It is the goal of this school system to teach all students to be technology literate.

Technology literacy is defined as that collection of skills, knowledge, values and relationships that allows a person to function comfortably as a productive citizen in a technology-orientated society.

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~~Achievement of the goal of technology literacy for all is expected to be accomplished in a planned and systematic program.~~

~~Continuous evaluation of progress toward this goal is to be conducted by the Superintendent and school district staff.~~

The program of instruction in technology literacy requires attention to the following components:

1. **Curriculum** - Objectives for instruction will be designed to promote sequential learning awareness, theory, and application of technology.

2. **Hardware** - Specifications for selection will be designed to ensure durable, functional and updated equipment.

3. **Software/Applications** - Programs for use in technology, whether commercial or locally developed, will be selected and shared within the school district to promote maximum learning.

4. **Network Resources** – Tools and content to facilitate instruction and learning. ~~Students and teachers will also need to evaluate content for bias and accuracy.~~

5. **Staff Development** – ~~Training will be afforded all employees involved in instruction of students to gain their own training in awareness, theory and applications of technology.~~ Employees shall be offered training in the effective use of digital tools and resources.

6. **Providing Resources and Funding** - Commitment of school district resources is required for the development of the technology literacy program. ~~It is expected that general funds will be committed to this program as well as special public and private funding.~~

(cf. 4131 Professional Development)

(cf. 6141.321 Acceptable Use of the Internet)

(cf. 6141.3291 District Assigned Device)