

Gateway Regional School District

Technology Plan 2018-2023

Benchmark Standards

1. [Commitment to a Clear Mission and Vision and Implementation Strategies](#)
2. [Technology Integration and Literacy](#)
3. [Technology Professional Development](#)
4. [Accessibility of Technology](#)
5. [E-Learning and Communications](#)

NOTE: GRSD has also adopted the following related goal in its 2015 Strategic Plan:

- **Meeting 21st Century Skills** (collaboration, information and media knowledge/skills, problem solving, using technology) <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>

Benchmark Standard 1:

Commitment to a Clear Mission and Vision and Implementation Strategies

Technology Mission Statement:

We believe that people are empowered by their independent use of technology and united by their opportunities to share resources and communicate in a global community.

The Gateway Regional School District is committed to the use of all available resources to provide quality instructional programs through which all students will develop their greatest potential, demonstrate mutual respect, work cooperatively to achieve clearly stated goals, value the learning process and prepare, in a safe and orderly environment, for a productive role in a democratic society.

Our mission is to provide children in the Gateway Regional School District with the knowledge, tools, and learning experiences, which enable them to use technology in a variety of ways in all curricular areas. It is our expectation that by implementing this plan, The Gateway Regional School District will become a regional and national leader in the effective integration of educational technology.

Technology Vision Statement:

“The Gateway Regional School District will provide an exemplary education that challenges all students in an instructional setting appropriate to their needs.”

To attain this vision the district is committed to the use of technology as a classroom tool for the access of information, production of quality products, communication, and organization of information in the context of the curriculum frameworks.

For the staff and students of the Gateway Regional School District, we envision technology as:

- Promoting lifelong learning in ways that optimize instruction.

- Supporting the educational process as a tool to access information, analyze and solve problems and communicate ideas.
- Being an integral part of the way we work, teach, and learn.
- Being approached in an ethical, responsible, and innovative manner.

We believe that technology can improve teaching and learning and we respect and rely upon our teaching and administrative staff as the keys to implementing of this plan. This belief is supported by a commitment to provide the teaching staff with numerous opportunities for professional and personal growth in return for their willingness to accept change, to risk, and to extend themselves both personally and professionally.

We believe that parents play an important role in their children's education and that to implement these goals will require parent support both within the classroom and at home.

District Goals for Technology Use:

Technology Focus Area 1 – *Student Learning*

Goal: The Gateway Regional School District will improve student achievement through the integration and implementation of technology into all areas of the curriculum at all levels.

Technology Focus Area 2 – *Teacher Preparation and Delivery of Instruction*

Goal: The Gateway Regional School District will provide ongoing professional development opportunities to assist teachers in delivering effective, technology-supported instruction to improve student learning.

Technology Focus Area 3 – *Data Management and Communications*

Goal: The Gateway Regional School District will use technology to improve administration, data management and communication throughout the school system as well as to improve communication between the school system and the community. This includes migrating systems (financial, Point of Sale in Cafeterias, employee and parent portals) to a cloud-based system.

Technology Focus Area 4 – *Access to Technology*

Goal: The Gateway Regional School District will provide adequate and equitable access to current instructional technology tools and resources for staff and students.

Focus Area 5 – *Technology Support*

Goal: The Gateway Regional School District will continue to provide timely, quality assistance and support that maintains the student and staff learning and work environments.

- The District has a Technology Committee is led by the Technology Coordinator. Members include teachers and administrators.
- The District has a CIPA compliant Acceptable Use Policy that is signed each year by faculty, staff and students. The signature process is tracked electronically to ensure that only individuals who have signed the policy have access to the computer resources at the Gateway Regional School District.
- The District has a separate technology budget in addition to revolving accounts.
- The District participates in the E-Rate program to help fund its telephone and Internet

connectivity services. As the items/services eligible for E-Rate funding change, the District applies for E-Rate funding when applicable.

- The District is migrating to a cloud-based financial system as well as an employee self-service portal

Benchmark Standard 2:

Technology Integration and Literacy

Teacher Integration:

- Support teachers who use technology on a daily basis for administrative, instructional and communication purposes. Ensure that 100% of teachers maintain an electronic presence. All teachers will report daily attendance via the SIS.
- Teachers will maintain student grades and assignments (at least weekly) on the SIS.
- Determine the number of teachers who integrate technology into the curriculum on a weekly basis to meet the needs of all learners.
- Support the technology needs of new teachers through the mentor program.
- Provide teacher-led training (Tech Committee) for staff to help teachers effectively use interactive technology tools.
- Continue expanding Chromebook one to one initiative
- The District conducts a yearly technology survey to determine the use of technology in the classroom.
- The District uses a Parent Portal in grades 3 through 12

Technology Literacy:

- The District Technology Coordinator will continue to align current curriculum documents with the MA Instructional Technology Standards to ensure that students are receiving the necessary instruction to meet the standards by 8th grade.
- Work with staff and consultants to provide internet safety and appropriate use protocols.

Staffing:

- The District superintendent serves as the tech director
- The District does not currently have a full-time instructional technology instructor.
- GRSD Technology Replacement Plan 2018-2023 ([Chromebooks](#), [laptop replacement budget](#), [projectors](#))
- The District currently employs a full-time data manager.
- The District currently employs a full-time network technician
- The District currently employs a full-time technology coordinator.

Benchmark Standard 3:

Technology Professional Development

- Based upon the District developed Teacher Technology Assessment provide short courses and online professional development opportunities for students and staff.
- Maintain a list of curriculum support resources on the District website.
- Develop a short course for new teachers to introduce them to the technology resources available at GRSD.
- Provide links to training resources on SIS.
- Support teachers in their personal professional development plans.
- Continue to increase the level of teacher proficiency in technology integration and presentation techniques to meet the needs of all learners.

Benchmark Standard 4:

Accessibility of Technology

- The District currently maintains a 1 to 1 student to computer ratio.
- The District utilizes graphing calculators and probes (such as temperature and motion) to enhance the educational experience.
- The District will continue to provide a level of interactive projection in all classrooms.
- The District purchases all laptop units in the District and is on a 5-year replacement cycle.
- The District provides wireless access in all buildings.
- Wireless access will be evaluated routinely and updated as needed.
- The District offers a low-cost insurance program for laptops.
- The district provides after-school hour Internet access at the Middle and High School complex.
- The District will provide POS functions to cafeteria staff throughout the district including access to online student lunch balances to parents.

Benchmark Standard 5:

E-Learning and Communications

- The District currently has students enrolled in online courses to supplement the local course offerings.
- The District will develop an official electronic document retention policy and will set up the archival process.
- The District maintains an up-to-date website that includes information for parents and community members.
- The District will use "School Messenger" an automated phone, text message and email communication system.
- The District currently provides connections for access to web-based and/or interactive video learning on the local, state and national level.
- When possible the District will migrate functions to a cloud-based system.