



Beekmantown Central School District

37 Eagle Way, West Chazy, NY 12992

Smart School Investment Plan

Approved by BCSD Board of Education - March 8, 2016

Revised by BOE on November 14, 2017

PLAN OVERVIEW:

In January 2014, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo called for New York State to invest \$2 billion in its schools through a Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). Voters approved the Smart School Bond Act in November 2014 and as a result the Beekmantown Central School District (BCSD) was allocated to receive \$1,534,655. In alignment with the Beekmantown CSD Technology Plan for 2015-2018 this Investment Plan is designed to:

- Upgrade/Expand wired network infrastructure
- Upgrade/Expand wireless network infrastructure
- Replace outdated security cameras and recorders
- Provide for end user instructional devices throughout district

Working in collaboration with District leadership, school building administrators, teachers and input from parents our technology plan survey provided the overarching goals for technology in instruction for the Beekmantown Central School District. The investment in Instructional Technology is in alignment with the goals expressed in our NYSED approved Technology Plan Survey.

JUSTIFICATION OF NEED:

Our technology plan identifies gaps in infrastructure that need to be addressed in order for the expansion of instructional technology to occur. While the entirety of the network infrastructure is still quite new, it is prudent for the district to plan for its augmentation in support of our ongoing digital literacy initiative and its accompanying 1:1 device deployment and sustainability. This is necessary in order to accommodate the rapid growth of instructional technology needs in the classroom. In conjunction with the infrastructure, adding additional end user devices will enhance and expand the offering of instructional technology based on the needs of the students for classroom instruction districtwide.

PRECONDITIONS:

As per NYSED Smart Schools Bond Guidance a precondition to utilize the incoming funding is that the district has adequate internet access of at least 100 Mbps per 1,000 students to supply for the increased number of devices in the classrooms. Beekmantown Central School District meets this requirement. This Smart Schools Investment Plan is in direct alignment with our NYSED approved Technology Plan Survey 2015-2018 Vision and Goals for Technology for Instruction.

PURCHASE PLAN:

The submission of the Smart School Investment Plan relates to investing in three key areas: School Connectivity, Classroom Technology and High Tech Security Features. Under the umbrella of School Connectivity, the district intends to procure additional wireless access points to build additional capacity within district classrooms to enhance support of wireless student devices. These wireless access points will be Cisco 802.11ac or equivalent units. Additionally, the district would plan on procuring replacement network switches, Cisco Power Over Ethernet (POE) switches to both support the addition of a larger number of wireless access points as well as to allow for the retirement of any wired switches that are deemed end-of-life. Other network infrastructure devices will be evaluated and procured to provide optimal network performance for all end users.

Within the capacity of each year's specified allocation, the District intends to purchase Acer 11" Chromebooks (or a comparable devices after approval by NYSED and the Smart Schools Review Board). The Acer Chromebook 11 is the district's current device of choice for a number of reasons. Not only does it have more than ample onboard storage (16 GB) with plenty of memory (4GB), it also comes standard with an HD webcam, 802.11ac WiFi and two USB ports built-in, and a stated 10 hour battery life, perfect for allowing a student to get through an entire school day on a single charge.

The district's purchase plan also provides for planned augmentation and replacement of its video surveillance system to keep pace with changes in coverage as well as in technology. This will enhance reliability and will also allow greater flexibility for camera placement and easier access to the cameras from remote locations for authorized staff and law enforcement should the need arise.

PLAN GOALS:

The purchase of additional Chromebooks will allow the district to significantly increase student access to technology, online access, and collaborative student centered learning opportunities. By embedding technology into the delivery of instruction the District can continue to provide equitable access to technology tools to prepare all learners to be college and career ready. The District continues to develop and integrate K-12 students' technical competencies and learning strategies that seamlessly integrate ISTE Technology Strategies, National Common Core Standards for K12 and College and Career Readiness.

This year, the State Education Department has asked districts to volunteer to participate in mandated field testing of the math and ELA state tests online beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. Consequently, the District needs to work toward becoming compliant with incoming computer based testing (CBT). The District's overall expenditure plan will help us to meet this mandate.

The purchase of the upgrades to the wired and wireless network will ensure a robust platform to permit the execution of the above stated goals. With a heightened reliance on the district's network in support of the district's Digital Literacy Initiative it is imperative that such a network provide a stable and robust foundation upon which these activities are conducted. By proactively planning for such augmentation and replacement, the district's end users are assured that that foundation will continue to be a solid one.

The district recognizes its responsibility to provide a safe environment for all of our students. As such, it is our goal to do so through a comprehensive district safety plan. The Smart Schools Bond Act helps make a portion of that goal easier to accomplish by modernizing the video surveillance system that is in place on our campuses. Because it will be an all digital, IP-based system it will allow the district to maximize our investment by leveraging our existing infrastructure to support it.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS:

TABLE 1: SSBA Allowable Expenditures

SSBA Allocation: \$1,534,655 by Budget Category

SSBA BUDGET CATEGORY ALLOCATIONS

- School Connectivity: **\$175,000**
- Connectivity Projects for Communities: **\$0**
- Classroom Technology **\$ 975,000 revised to \$1,200,000**
- PreKindergarten Classroom: **\$0**
- Replace Transportable Classrooms: **\$0**
- HighTech Security Features **\$384,655 revised to \$159,655**
- **Unallocated Funds \$0**

Table 1	School Connectivity	Community Connectivity	Classroom Technology	PreK Classrooms	Replace Mobile Classrooms	High Tech Security Features
Year 1			\$100,000			
Year 2	\$25,000		\$100,000			
Year 3			\$100,000			
Year 4	\$25,000		\$100,000			
Year 5			\$100,000			\$59,655
Year 6	\$25,000		\$100,000			
Year 7			\$100,000			
Year 8	\$25,000		\$100,000			
Year 9			\$100,000			\$100,000
Year 10	\$25,000		\$100,000			
Year 11			\$100,000			
Year 12	\$50,000		\$100,000			
Totals	\$175,000		\$1,200,000			\$159,655

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

The District recognizes the importance of ongoing and sustained professional development for staff and students. As such, the district has provided for the hiring, via the regular budget and grant funds, three full-time Technology Integration Specialists. The primary purpose of their employment is to provide assistance and training to all district staff in the integration of technology to support student achievement. This includes planning and implementing professional development and workshops for individuals, small groups, and large groups. These employees also regularly collaborate in the evaluation, selection and implementation of instructional technology materials, software and related services. These specialists work collaboratively, in person and remotely with teachers in and out of the classroom, employing new pedagogy and strategies such as the SAMR Model (Substitute Augment, Modify and Redesign) a technology in education framework to help teachers integrate technology into the curriculum. These efforts will ensure all our teachers, school administrators and staff will be empowered to best utilize these new technologies for instructional purposes.

SUSTAINABILITY:

The District intends to integrate the Smart Schools Bond purchases into the existing district's equipment replacement cycle in order to augment the regular budget. Each year the district allocates funds for the normal repair and/or replacement cost of a percentage of the total learning devices in the district. In addition, the district and the Board of Education make every effort to provide sustainability of the investment in technology for instruction including installment purchase programs through the Northeastern Regional Information Center which provides financing for instructional technology equipment and infrastructure through a multiple year purchase agreement.

TIMELINE:

Once this investment plan is approved by the State, equipment will be purchased in accordance with the District's purchasing policy. The district will include this new equipment into its existing inventory database (TIPWebIT) and monitor it to ensure equipment is securely maintained and supported at its designated locations. This document has been posted to the District's website as required by the Smart School Bond Implementation Guidance by the New York State Education Department in order to invite public input prior to the adoption of this plan by the Beekmantown Central School District Board of Education. The district will take the opportunity to make revisions to its submissions to the State Education Department Smart Schools Bond Act Program for our SSBA Allocation and Projects as we continue to monitor and adjust to the unfolding technology landscape and as best practices are updated. Public input to this Smart Schools Investment Plan can be submitted to Gary Lambert, Director of 21st Century Learning, lambert.gary@bcsdk12.org.