

**District Five
Technology Plan**

**In Progress Review
An Update to the School Board**

September 22, 2014

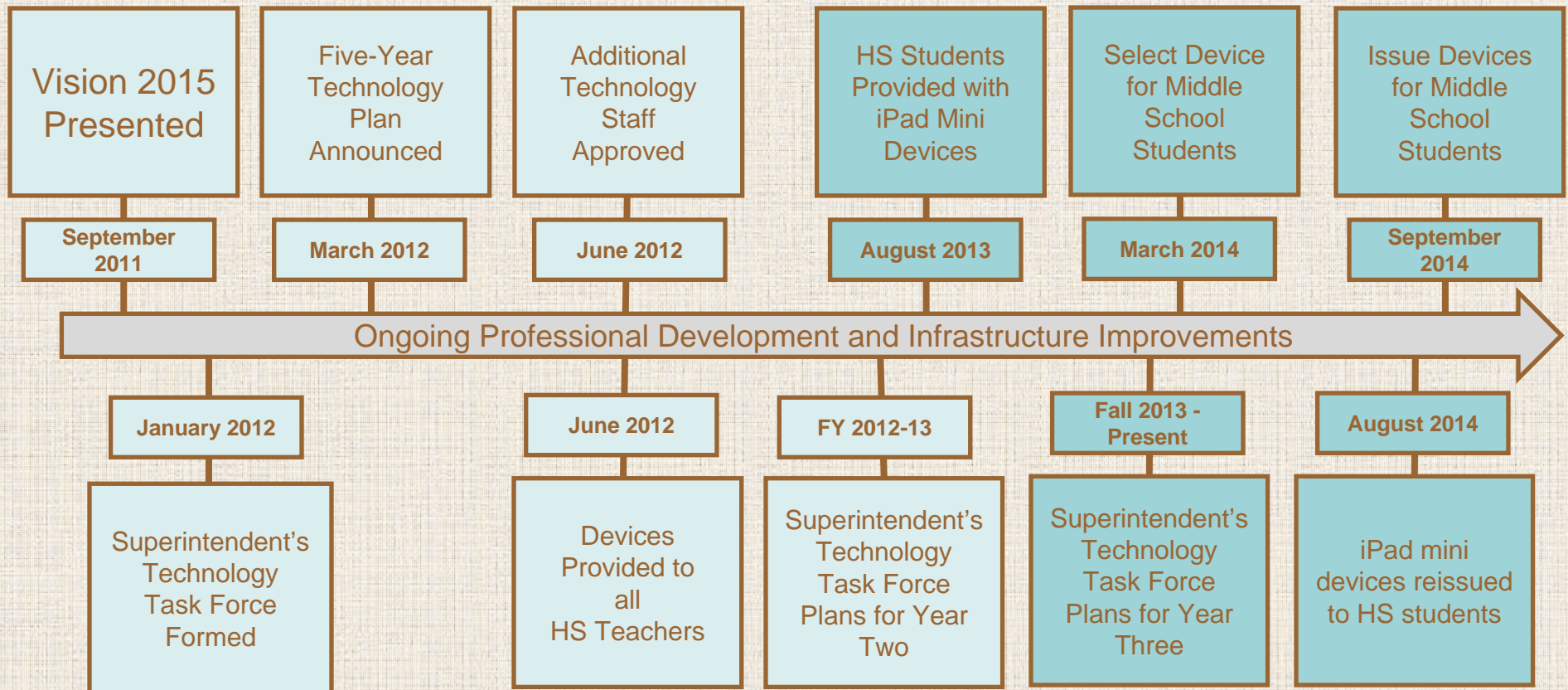
“Where do we want to be in three years?”

Lexington-Richland Five will not only continue to be recognized as a “World Class” school district here in the Midlands and in South Carolina, but will also be recognized as a “World Class” school district all across our nation and around the world.

“World Class”

...being a system where teachers have the setting and resources they need to do their best work and students have the setting and instruction they need to perform at their optimum levels and to compete globally.

Looking Back ...



21st Century Skills

If today's students want to compete in this global society, they must be:



communicators

creators

critical thinkers

collaborators

Every student must be able to:

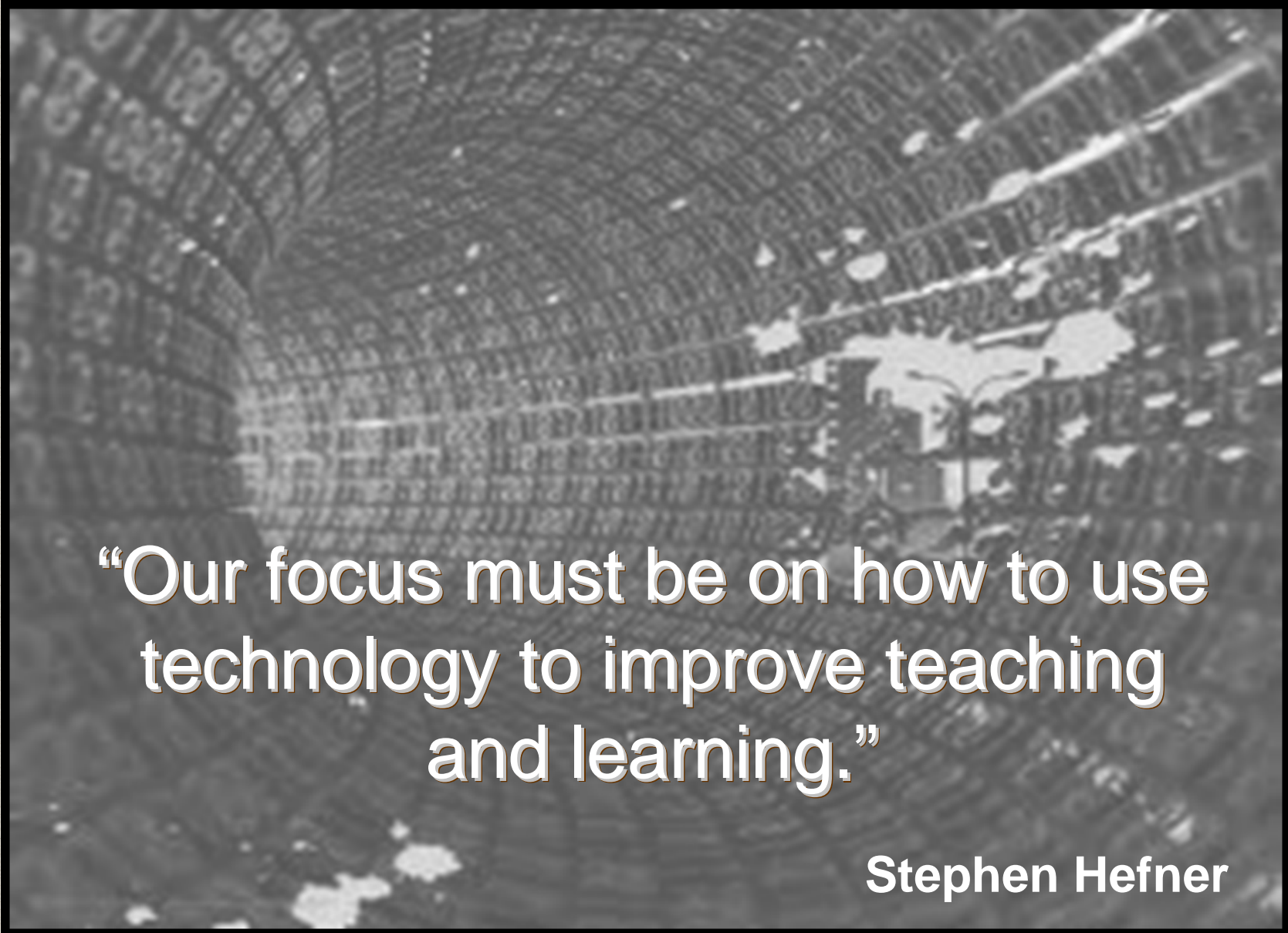
- **Download** instructional material
- **Research** and discern reliable sources of information
- **Upload** their work into a digital environment
- **Post** and respond to on-line academic discussion threads
- **Participate** in real-time on-line academic discussions
- **Manage** and organize their time and academic work in a digital environment



Technology is a tool ...

“It's not the tools that you have faith in - tools are just tools. They work, or they don't work. It's people you have faith in or not.”

Steve Jobs



“Our focus must be on how to use technology to improve teaching and learning.”

Stephen Hefner

The Destination

District Five will be a place that has a robust technology infrastructure, where all teachers have the tools they need to provide the very best instruction and all students have the tools they need to maximize their learning.

Blended Environment



An adaptable environment which serves the unique needs of all teachers and students.

Device Adaptable Technology System (DATS)

Technical Actions

- **Continuously enhance the District's technology infrastructure**
 - **Increase and enhance our wireless infrastructure**
 - **Increase network capacity for faster service and future requirements**
 - **Increase bandwidth (annually)**
 - **Increase storage capacity (as needed)**
 - **Provide compatible software platforms for various devices**
 - **Provide district-wide, ongoing staff development**
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Technical Actions

- **Collected, upgraded and redistributed iPad minis for all high school students in 2014**
 - **Provide all middle school students with devices in 2014**
 - **Support the special technology requests across the district**
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Technical Actions

- **Hire and train technicians to support our technology effort**
 - **Distribute technicians so that they can provide responsive and effective support to schools**
 - **Continue high quality routine support to elementary schools while implementing major upgrades in secondary schools**
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Technical Challenges

- **Staying abreast of the ever changing technology that is available for educational purposes**
 - **Planning for and integrating new technology – never ending cycle**
 - **Wireless coverage –**
 - **Finding and fixing dead spots in our wireless infrastructure**
 - **Increasing the wireless coverage area**
 - **Making upgrades / enhancements to the numerous technology devices and platforms across the District**
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Technical Challenges

- **Maintaining operating standards for staff and students**
 - **Reviewing requests by staff for use of specific apps and access to specific websites**
 - **Ensuring staff members do not upload applications and programs that are not supported by our technology infrastructure**
 - **Responding to “work arounds” found or created by “tech savvy” students**
 - **Determining the best use of limited resources**
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Technical Next Steps

- **Complete issuing devices to all Middle School students (this week)**
 - **Make sure all our special needs students have technology support consistent with our general education students**
 - **Bring together an Elementary Technology Task Force to help shape and balance our technology support to elementary schools**
 - **Continue necessary steps to build the Device Adaptable Technology System (DATS)**
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Instructional Actions

- **Created iFive vetting committee to evaluate and select appropriate apps and resources**
- **Initiated a “measuring success” committee to evaluate the instructional impact of devices on achievement**
- **Surveyed, designed and led professional development for individuals as well as large and small groups based upon needs**

Instructional Actions

- **Organized and led orientation sessions for students, families and staff**
- **Revised observation tool to provide specific feedback to each teacher re: technology integration**
- **Hiring of TIS (Technology Integration Specialist) to enable direct support to our schools**

Instructional Challenges

- **Ever-changing apps and available tools – difficult to stay abreast and properly train faculty/staff as needed**
- **Designing a committee that truly reflects our teachers range of knowledge, comfort and experience**
- **Measuring growth of teachers' skill set**
- **Reaching all families**

Instructional Next Steps

- **Network with other districts to broaden our perspective**
- **Implement measuring success to evaluate our first stage of implementation**

Discussion