

Educational Technology Plan

Educational Technology Mission Statement:

The Lehigh Area School District is committed to effectively utilizing technologies to prepare students for graduation, with knowledge, skills and the necessary attitudes to lead productive lives. As educators, we must equip ourselves with tools and knowledge in order to develop our students for college and career readiness. This plan will provide direction for the integration of technology into our curriculum and educational goals. Each year, this plan must be reviewed in the context of emerging technologies and developing curriculum to meet those goals. With the advances in technology impacting the way we obtain, process, evaluate and use information, it is our district's goal to view technology as a tool of education.

Technology and Standards

Curriculum and Instruction

- Aim to individualize instruction using technology that allows students to develop skills using customized tools either on a student-to-student basis or instruction for student groups.
- The district's use of technology by staff and students will serve as a part of a comprehensive and sustained effort to support rigorous academic standards maintained by students.
- By offering personalized learning experiences with the use of technology, students will learn in more productive, creative and meaningful ways while maintaining a safe and respectful environment.
- Students will be challenged by both complex concepts and content and open up additional opportunities globally that will lead to a deeper understanding of an extended peer group.
- Technology tools will help students be more prepared to identify key ideas and analyze details, to craft and structure thoughts and view, to integrate knowledge and skills, and to communicate respectfully and appropriately in preparation for their future college or career endeavors.

Professional Development Objectives:

The Lehigh Area School District realizes that Professional Development is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Varied, ongoing and sustainable staff development is critical in meeting the needs of all our district's learners.

The professional staff, along with guidance, will:

- Expand educators' content knowledge and the skills necessary to provide rigorous, developmentally appropriate instruction and assess student progress
- Obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the diverse needs of all students
- Gain the necessary skills to engage and collaborate with parents, families, and community members as active partners in students' education
- Determine professional development learning needs and priorities based on student monitoring and progress as well as to sustain professional growth

Assistive Technology

The Lehigh Area School District has several resources available to students with disabilities and English Language Learners which help to close the gap and increase the possibilities of participating in general education classes. Our special education staff utilizes technology to assess students' individual strengths and weaknesses while providing assistive tools to meet individual needs. Technology at Lehigh Area School District is customizable and is used to address the various needs of students with disabilities.

To ensure equitable access, the technology tools will:

- Enhance differential instruction by being customizable and well suited to various learning styles. This will allow for staff to create, deliver and manage instruction by offering a more personalized learning opportunity.
- Technology will allow our students to expand their learning inside and outside the classroom by utilizing online tools and activities that are relevant to College and Career readiness. This will allow our students to expand from traditional learning to a structure of anytime anywhere learning by bridging the gap between classroom and home learning. New and emerging technology will keep students engaged after school hours and during flipped classrooms, blended classrooms, online coursework, distance learning, summer programs, and afterschool programs.
- Technology and 1:1 devices will contribute to the reduction of various learning gaps and increase the potential of students to participate in general education classes. Online tools will allow staff to adapt curriculum to many learning styles and levels with a pacing level suitable to the individual student's needs.

To assist English Language Learning, technology will:

- Increase the relationships and connections with the district's English Language Learners and multilingual learners.
- Facilitate classroom projects with community involvement, organize units, lessons and learning tasks to accommodate learning styles and language proficiencies.
- Enable students to use electronic communication and increase language and writing skills
- Enhance student reading strategies and support language acquisition

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The Lehigh Area School District recognizes the need to evaluate and monitor progress yearly. The district will continually seek ongoing input, feedback, and assistance from administration, staff, students and the community in order to evaluate the effectiveness of instructional technology to improve teaching and learning.

- The technology department will review the district technology plan on a yearly basis to assess the progress on individual actions and rewrite the plan based on the need.

- At the end of each year prior to rewriting the technology plan, the committee will review the feedback from administration, staff, students and the community to assess the effectiveness of the plan.
- Annual surveys will be offered to staff asking about the use of technology in their classrooms, their wants and needs, and interest in professional development. The surveys will also assess the staff knowledge in the use of online tools and technology.
- The technology department will track the usage of various online tools and assess the continued need.
- Administrators will monitor the implementation of the Technology Plan and the objectives outlined in the plan, via communication with staff and at various department meetings, to review and evaluate progress.
- Administrators will meet regularly to discuss technology within the district and various initiatives, as they arise.
- The technology department will regularly report on the progress of the technology plan. Goals not accomplished within the timelines outlined will be reassessed and considered as a part of the next year's budget and goals.

Student Educational Technology Tools:

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| ● Acadience | ● Kami |
| ● Adobe | ● Learning A-Z |
| ● BrainPop | ● Mystery Science |
| ● Canvas | ● Nearpod |
| ● Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDTs) through PDE | ● OverDrive |
| ● DeltaMath | ● PBS Learning |
| ● Dojo Classroom | ● Pearson Mastering Biology |
| ● Exact Path | ● POWERLibrary |
| ● Follett Destiny | ● Progress Learning |
| ● Generation Genius | ● Project Lead the Way |
| ● Google Workspace for Education | ● Quizizz |
| ● Grammar Flip | ● Read Live Naturally |
| ● I Know It Math | ● Read Theory |
| ● ISafe | ● Remind for Classrooms |
| ● IXL | ● Rocket Math |
| | ● SeeSaw |
| | ● Study Island |

Action Step	Description	Responsible Staff	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated Year of Completion	Anticipated Cost
Digital citizenship instruction	Embed digital citizenship into each grade level using common sense, media, resources, curriculum and assessments. Provide a safe environment for using computers and the Internet, each student and staff member signs the Acceptable Use Policy which outlines the terms and conditions for the use of devices maintained by the district.	Classroom Teachers	August	Ongoing Process	\$700 for iSafe
Device replacement	Replace antiquated Chromebooks (approximately 300) after 5-year cycle Replace antiquated iPads (approximately 175) after 6-year cycle	Technology department	July, 2025 July, 2025, annually for 3 years then again in July, 2031	Ongoing	\$100,000 \$60,000
Professional Development	Provide professional development opportunities to staff to keep them abreast of how to best implement various technology programs that are available throughout the district.	Technology department, including technology team leaders	August	Ongoing process	\$4000
Cybersecurity	Continue to enhance district-wide cybersecurity practices through training within the technology department as well as among all staff as well as the implementation of multi-factor authentication.	Technology department and all staff	December (MFA)	Ongoing	\$2500