

Technology Update

May 8th, 2025

Martin Turney, Chief of Finance and Operations

Rich Mellish, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning Services

Diana Eggers, Director of Educational Technology

Purpose

- Provide an update on the work of the Technology Advisory Committee, including network capacity improvements
- Share feedback and action steps regarding the student 1:1 laptop initiative
- Present overview of Artificial Intelligence (AI) related regulation, training opportunities, and resource development
- Preview upcoming training, levy preparation, organizational updates, and consultant recommendations

Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)

The Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) provides recommendations and guidance on the goals, outcomes, indicators and strategies of our technology plan.

1. Technology access
2. Technology for learning and career readiness
3. Personal safety, citizenship and critical thinking.
4. Engagement and innovation

The committee is comprised of individuals representing a variety of roles:

- 24 students
- 12 teachers/principals
- 17 technology industry professionals
- 27 community members and parents/guardians

We ask members to serve as

An advisor: provide a perspective from a particular school, role, or program area to inform the districts implementation of the technology plan

A collaborator: Recognize the perspectives of those from other schools, roles or experiences.

A communicator: Serve as the eyes and ears for our effectiveness in implementation, relating suggestions, concerns and commendations



Technology Advisory Committee

Goal	Highlights	Suggested Priority Actions
Technology Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Network capacity improvements• Improvements to student 1:1 experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd grade 1:1• Family single sign-on, better/fewer family tools• Canvas consistency - ongoing work
Technology for learning and career readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Variety in CTE course offerings that include a tech focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility and proficiency both for teachers and students• Student ease of technology in completing course work – all students are able to access coursework without barriers.
Personal safety, citizenship and critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi-faceted approach to monitoring student tech use (Gaggle, Securly classroom / Home)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student agency with technology.• Family-school partnership.
Engagement and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progressive attitude towards AI (not fear based)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a comprehensive AI implementation plan

Network Capacity Improvements

- All three high schools have had bandwidth upgrades completed
 - Improved connectivity issues
- K20 upgrade pending their resolution of technical issues
 - Working to double main internet bandwidth
- Testing more modern and secure way to access wifi in the district

Student Laptop Allocation / 1:1

Feedback / Actions

- **Need for secure browser, standard format still critical (teachers)**
Continue to support all students must have ISD Laptop at teacher direction
- **Laptop quality improving, still break down over time or not as good as personal laptops in some cases (students)**
Increasing communication about replacing poorly functioning laptops
- **2nd grade need to shift from 1:2 to 1:1 (teachers)**
Increased available check-out laptop carts for additional 1:1 usage

AI Update

Regulation Updates

- [Staff and Student Responsible Use Procedure and Agreements](#) to include Artificial Intelligence

Professional Development

- AI three-part series for principals and district leaders
- AI trainings for teachers – optional tech training
- Colleague AI training for all certificated staff (August & October 2025)
- ASU-GSV AI Show and Summit; attended by Secondary Ed Tech TOSAs, HS Principals, and District Leaders, and Board members
- AI Early Adopter Conversation and Lunch; hosted by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Center for Reinventing Public Education

Resource Development

- Teacher AI toolkit
- Student AI toolkit
- AI and Academic Integrity Lesson (secondary)

AI Update Con't.

Pilots

- *Merlyn Origin: Generative AI teacher tool and voice activated remote to access classroom technology, integrated ChatBot using an education-specific LLM in a 'walled-garden'*
 - *K-12 Librarians*
- *Colleague AI: lesson planning, formative assessment and AI-assisted grading, professional learning, and other teacher tasks*
 - *Teacher Tool; 31 secondary teachers, 16 elementary teachers*
- *Colleague AI Classroom: personal learning companion, offering instant tutoring, personalized learning content and activities, and collaboration space*
 - *Teacher and Student*
- *Amira: personal reading fluency tutor*
 - *Special Education teachers and students*
- *Journify: IEP writing/monitoring assistant*
 - *Special Education teachers*
- *Co-Pilot Studio*
 - *on hold until CITO is on board*

Security

External Penetration Testing Conducted

- Identified known vulnerability and action was taken
 - Obsolete app server was decommissioned
- Three other minor items noted and will be evaluated for remediation

Training

Updating Annual and Ongoing Training

- Provide personnel who have access to personal identifiable information (PII) guidance to identify and handle PII in a manner that protects the privacy of students and staff.
- Safeguarding to avoid breaches of PII, preserve financial resources, and comply with the law.

Technology Levy

- Preparing for 2026 Technology Levy
 - Covers calendar years 2027 to 2030
- Includes equipment (e.g. 1:1 laptops), applications/software, professional development, and support

Technology Audit Recommendations

- Strategic IT Governance & Organizational Structure
- Data Management & Governance
- Application & Asset Oversight
- Security & Compliance
- Operational Tools & User Enablement

Organizational Updates

- Chief Information and Technology Officer
 - Unified technology under centralized leadership
- Director of IT Infrastructure
 - Transition planning
 - Process documentation
- Business Intelligence Unit
 - Use of open budgeted data analyst position
 - Reconfiguring existing structure to focus on data architecture and analytics