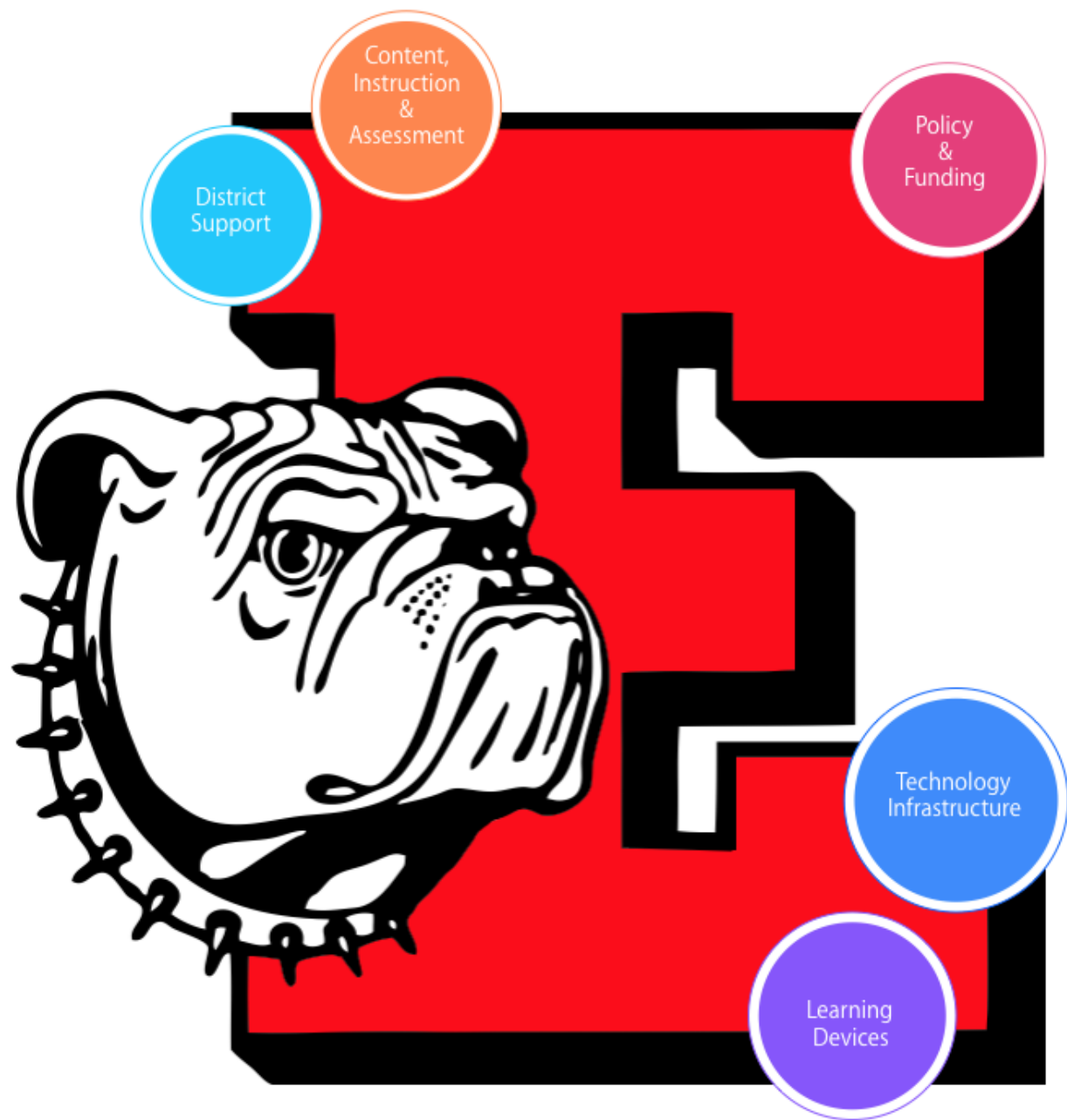


OUR VISION for 21st CENTURY LEARNING

Easton Area School District



This project was started in October, 2017 and revised yearly...
moving us from **GOOD** to **GREAT**

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Introduction

This 21st Century Learning Plan has been created as part of our commitment to personalized digital learning in grades K - 12 in the Easton Area School District. To prepare our students to be successful in careers, in college, and as productive citizens, we need to ensure that our students have access to the digital resources they need to succeed.

Cost has always been a factor in our decisions, however, new technologies offer new opportunities, and with a 21st Century Learning Plan in place, we hope to provide some recommendations for action to support our K-12 schools so that digital learning devices remain available to our students.

In Easton, we are using innovative approaches to teaching and learning with digital technologies. Students in grades K - 12 are using a variety of G Suite for Education apps and other cloud technology to prepare them for the digital world in which they live. Teachers are personalizing education with digital resources such as Read&Write, Seesaw, Schoology and more.

With a focus on moving toward personalized learning, this 21st Century Learning Plan has successfully addressed the issue of putting devices in the hands of every student. Our focus changes now, to what we can do to improve student learning and student learner agency. Professional development for staff is necessary so that teachers can explore and learn. Our team of Techsperts require time and training to stay current with new trends. Remote teachers need tools (stylus, Logitech crayons, whiteboard apps.) Apps need to be vetted properly and implemented with teacher PD. Students without home internet need access.

Framework For Success: Achieving Student Outcomes Through Equity

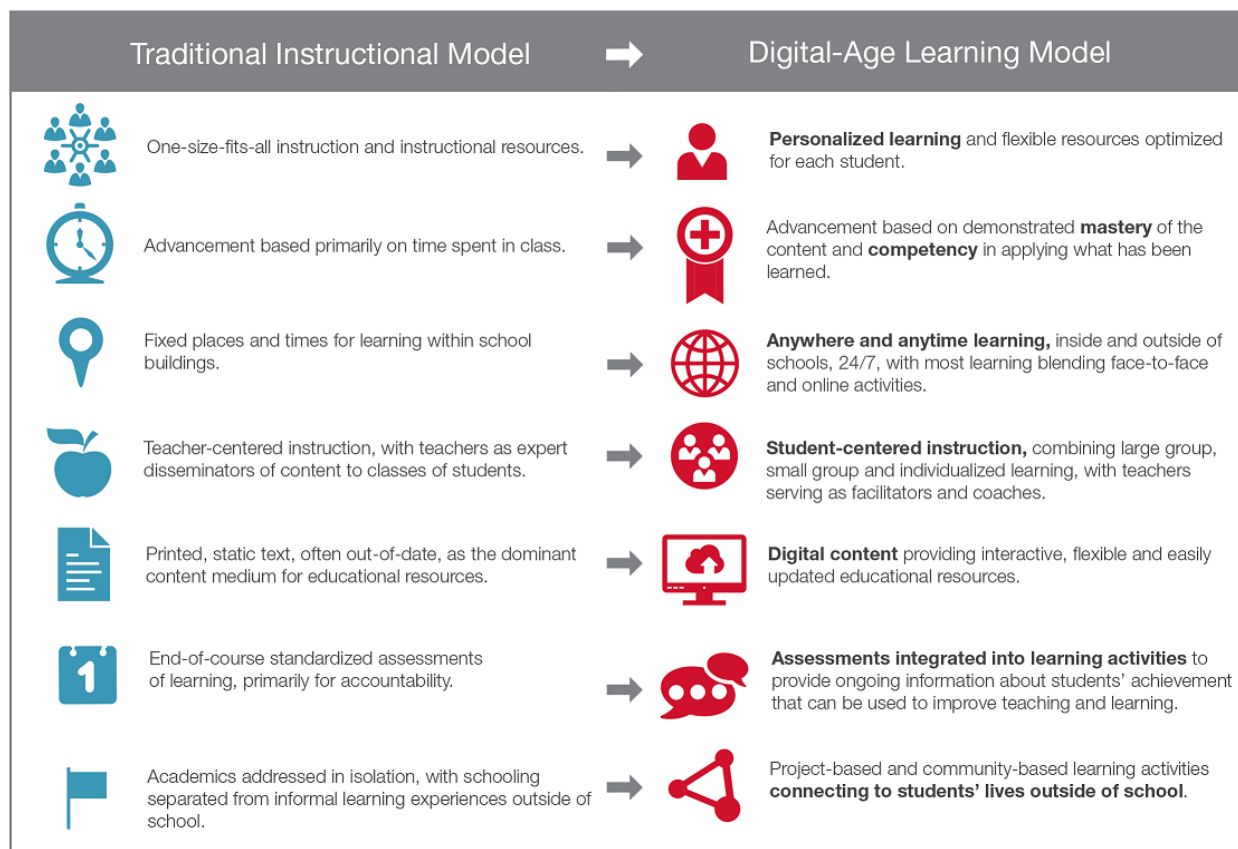
The Easton Area School District has placed a great deal of emphasis upon providing equitable opportunities and learning experiences for all students. All of these programs utilize digital components to provide instruction, personalize the learning experience, administer assessments, and collect data. Providing increased access to digital devices and digital content allows teachers to provide more relevant instruction to students.

Our Transition

The transition to a digital-age learning model requires us to examine the following:



Our focus on transitioning from a traditional instructional model to a digital-age learning model is dependent upon buy-in and support within our district from all stakeholders from the Board of Education to the students. In order to best achieve student learning outcomes and to personalize learning, the administrative team must work in coordination with the technology department team to support efforts in planning and implementing digital learning initiatives that address the various components listed above: Leadership, Professional Learning, Digital Resources, Data and Assessments, Privacy and Security, and Devices and Infrastructure.



An essential component to ensure the success of the district's plan is leadership. It is a priority to identify, train, and support teacher leaders within our schools; the teachers must have a proven record of utilizing technology to enhance instruction and reach or exceed student learning outcomes. At the high school, Techsperts or teachers who have demonstrated an emphasis on education technology and are Google and/or Apple Certified have been utilized to support their colleagues. A cohort of teachers at EAMS and EAHS have participated in professional development and coaching from the IU20 and Apple Professional Learning in order to personalize student learning through the implementation of hybrid learning. At the elementary level, a team of Techsperts in each school help support their colleagues. Schoology STARS have been identified in each building as "Schoology Training and Resource Staff" to assist with our Schoology implementation.

The district has prioritized professional development opportunities for the teaching staff on how to integrate technology to successfully meet the learning goals of students. Some of these trainings include:

- Differentiated Instruction
- Google Workspace
- Schoology
- Eduplanet 21

- Edgenuity for Easton Cyber Academy teachers
- Hybrid learning and station rotation model
- My Math and Wonders series
- Pennsylvania Department of Education SAS Portal
- Personalized Learning Academy
- Read to Lead
- [Strands of Effective Instruction](#)
- [Remote Learning site](#)
- Apple Professional Learning
- Renaissance University (STAR)
- SAMR model

As the district increases the ability to provide content and instruction in a digital format, there is an opportunity to evaluate what is currently working and what is not, as well as to seek new options to improve upon areas that are no longer effective. Currently, the district utilizes a number of free or open source resources in addition to digital content and resources that have been included in various textbook or curricular purchases. The comparison between the traditional and digital-age learning model on the previous page demonstrates how the district can effectively implement change when there is increased access to digital devices or optimally a device for every student. Additionally, through the digital-age learning model, students will acquire skills that will prepare them for their prospective career and college choices. These skills, known as the 4 C's, include: creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. To this end, we have developed a Professional Learning website as a one-stop resource for our teachers to keep them informed on current pedagogies, practices and more. In addition, professional development courses will be created within our Schoology platform.



Creativity:
Trying new
approaches to get
things done
equals innovation
& invention



Critical Thinking:
Looking at
problems in a new
way, linking
learning across
subjects &
disciplines



Communication:
Sharing thoughts,
questions, ideas,
and solutions



Collaboration:
Working
together to
reach a goal –
putting talent,
expertise, and
smarts to work

Currently, the district utilizes a number of online and other digital resources. Some of them include:

- Bookmark Catalog
- Flocabulary/NearPod
- Clever
- Seesaw
- PDE SAS
- Newsela
- Discovery Education
- Read Naturally
- USA Test Prep
- Wonders Series (Reading and Math)
- [District Approved App & Website List](#)

Teachers are able to assess student comprehension through a variety of online assessments; the teachers and administration utilize the data from these assessments to further inform instruction and to truly personalize the learning experience and goals that are created for each student.

Online assessments that the district currently utilize include:

- First in Math
- Read 180
- STAR 360
- System 44
- USA Test Prep
- WIDA

The focus on digital instruction requires a commitment to maintaining the number of devices to support various district initiatives. In order to do so, it is necessary to dedicate personnel to these programs. The district's current model has two Supervisors of Educational Technology to support the district and would need to be improved upon as the planned timeline advances with added Educational Technology positions at each level from Elementary to High School.

In order for the district to meet all of its curricular goals, it is necessary to have a robust infrastructure and a technology support staff that can maintain network needs as well as manage clients and repair devices. The Framework for Success and district programs and initiatives focus on effective teaching and learning that integrates technology; a commitment to ensuring that these programs are supported is essential. Simply providing devices to students will not be sufficient to increase student engagement and learning.

We can leverage what we have, including expertise and resources, while building upon it to make the Easton Area School District a leader in technology innovation. We can

build upon relationships already established with other districts in our Intermediate Unit to learn and move forward.

Timelines and the 21st Century Learning Plan

The long term goals over the next five years are dependent upon a district-wide commitment to adopting the digital-age learning model as a priority, and having a well-established timeline in place for equipment upgrades, which includes 1:1 devices for all students.

By 2025, it is necessary to have:

- Ed Tech Coaches at each level who are leaders in our schools who have had the opportunity for professional learning to support staff with digital learning initiatives;
- Teachers in our classrooms who have had professional development to support their ability to apply digital-age approaches, tools and resources to support student learning;
- Classrooms K-12 that are outfitted with the necessary tools that support effective instruction, synchronous or asynchronous;
- Media centers at the secondary level for distance learning, blended learning opportunities, and technology support services in each school;
- Locations and relevant tools to create Maker Spaces at all levels for the integration of STEAM learning opportunities
- Personalized approaches that are enhanced by technology that provide improved educational experiences;
- Continued focus on data-driven standards-aligned digital resources K-12;
- Digital tools that support collaboration, communication, problem solving and creativity;
- A robust network and infrastructure that supports digital learning activities;
- Data collection to produce a continuous improvement process that ensures our digital learning approaches and resources remain effective and current.
- Maintain 1:1 device program in grades K through 12

Our 21st Century Learning Plan supports those goals and recommendations:

EASTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT: DIGITAL LEARNING PLAN	
1. DIGITAL LEARNING DEVICES	
Mobile Devices - 4 year lease cycle 2021-2022 - EAHS - 1:1 iPads for students and teaching staff 2022-2023 - Elementary - 1:1 iPads for students K-5 and teaching staff 2023-2024 - EAMS - 1:1 iPads for students and teaching staff 2024-2025 - District-wide - Laptops for staff	
Desktop/Laptop Computers - 6 year replacement cycle 2021-2022 - EAHS Tech Ed labs / evaluate new SSD for current desktop vs. new desktop based on progress of PLTW to become more platform independent 2022-2023 - EAHS - Business Labs & TV Studio	
Interactive Projectors - 2023-2024 - Paxinosa, Tracy 2024-2025 - Forks, March, Shawnee 2026-2027 - Cheston Palmer - to be done with new construction. EAMS - projectors installed in 2020 have a 10-year expected life-span EAHS - Summer 2023 install	
Logitech Crayons (stylus) - provide to teaching staff during pandemic as tools to enhance teaching and learning for remote and hybrid learning models (CARES Act/Northampton County) 2020 - K-12 Teaching Staff 2021 - ESSER funds (Request for grade level class sets in K-5)	
iPad Stands 2020 - 6 through 12 Teaching Staff	
Update Peripherals as Needed Headsets Speakers Bluetooth speakers Bluetooth microphones Qball Keyboards (class sets for 7-12 ELA staff, 30 for each elementary library)	
2. TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE	
Wireless Access Points - 2021-2022 - EAHS, Ed Center 2022-2023 - EAMS 2023-2024 - Forks, Paxinosa, Tracy 2024-2025 - March, Shawnee 2025-2026 - Cheston, Palmer	
Network Switching - replace as new technology standards emerge Core Switches 2023-2024 - District-wide	

Edge Switches**2021-2022** - Ed Center, Bus Garage, Maintenance, EAHS**2022-2023** - EAMS**2023-2024** - Forks, Paxinosa, Tracy**2024-2025** - March, Shawnee**2025-2026** - Cheston, Palmer**3. DISTRICT SUPPORT**

Provide for ongoing professional development and training for Supervisors of Education Technology, District Techsperts and IT staff to ensure the success of district initiatives

Develop and implement professional development for teachers and building administrators that is effective and ongoing and promotes district initiatives

Expand the Educational Technology and IT Departments in stages to support the Digital Learning Plan and district learning initiatives:

2021 Supervisor of Education Technology for EAMS**2021 Technician Level 1 to support additional classroom AV needs****2022 Ed Tech Coaches at the Elementary level (2)****2023 Ed Tech Coaches at the Middle School (2) and High School (2)****4. CONTENT, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT**

Guide and support administration by sharing new practices and ideas and expanding upon initiatives

Ensure adherence to the district's Framework for Success; align content, materials, resources, etc. to various district initiatives, including the 21st Century Learning Plan

Support and encourage sharing and collaboration amongst teaching staff within and across buildings

Provide resources and tools that enable educators to use student data to improve achievement

Provide support and time for teachers to incorporate digital learning models

Provide support and training for Admin Professionals, Para Professionals on GSuite, eSpace, PowerSchool, Skyward

5. POLICY AND FUNDING

Establish a budget that supports the district's initiative over time

Work with Curriculum and Instruction Team to rethink district resources

Update and review District policies

Continue to provide optional insurance plan for devices to families/students

Establish an Education Technology budget

Continue to apply for funding through the federal Erate program to support infrastructure, internet, and WAN growth.

Budget Considerations

The district's **21st Century Learning Plan** will require creative thinking in the reallocation of district funding. The district's current lease situation has allowed for the purchase of mobile devices over a four year cycle. As the district increases the role of online learning, there must be coordination among departments to support and sustain these efforts.

Our optional insurance program provides available funds for repairs and replacements of student devices. This plan could be expanded to staff as a way of offsetting any costs that could be incurred during the four year lease of their laptop.