



Three-Year Technology Plan

FY 2025–2028

Information Services – Instructional Technology – Technology Service

FCS Technology...Exceptional Service, Innovation, and Excellence

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1. Vision, Mission & Beliefs

FCS Vision

A safe, connected, and thriving community for All

FCS Mission Statement

To provide an unparalleled education for all to succeed

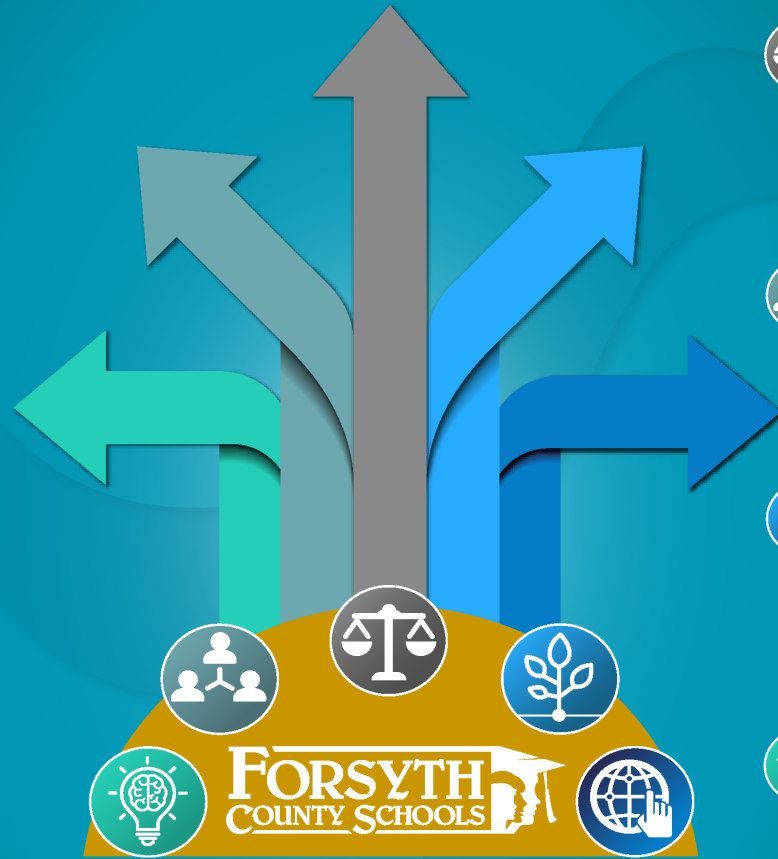
FCS Beliefs

- Respect and empathy are vital to building trust
- All students and staff must be connected and supported
- All students and staff must have a strong sense of purpose
- All students and staff must be challenged to think critically and creatively
- Family and community engagement are essential to continuous improvement

2. Strategic Alignment

District Strategic Plan:

1. Goal Area #1: The Learner Experience
 - Increase student achievement and growth
 - Increase student engagement
 - Develop and sustain consistent assessment and grading practice
2. Goal Area #2: Staff Recruitment and Development
 - Acquire and retain excellent staff
 - Build and develop individual staff capacity
3. Goal Area #3: Social and Emotional Health
 - Foster healthy digital interactions
 - Expand access to mental health resources and strategies
 - Promote respect, wellness, and balance for staff and students
4. Goal Area #4: Culture, Climate, and Community
 - Increase meaningful home, school, and community relationships
 - Work collaboratively with all people to promote inclusivity, school pride, and belonging
5. Goal Area #5: Operational Excellence
 - Plan and adapt for growth
 - Manage financial resources
 - Plan and allocate resources



LEARNER PROFILE



EXHIBIT STRONG PERSONAL QUALITIES

- ▶ Display integrity, perseverance, and drive to achieve personal goals
- ▶ Accept responsibility for personal actions
- ▶ Advocate for self, others, and the community
- ▶ Maintain wellness and balance in life



INTERACT EFFECTIVELY

- ▶ Communicate responsibility through reading, writing, listening, and speaking
- ▶ Work collaboratively with others
- ▶ Cultivate and maintain positive relationships



PURSUE CONTINUOUS LEARNING

- ▶ Master and apply academics for college and career success
- ▶ Make connections to discover new knowledge and ideas
- ▶ Develop talents, interests, and passions
- ▶ Use technology effectively to access information and to display learning



UTILIZE CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING

- ▶ Define problems and create solutions
- ▶ Apply knowledge and skills to real-world situations
- ▶ Embrace innovation to adapt to an ever-changing world



ENGAGE AND CONTRIBUTE

- ▶ Connect to be a world-wise person
- ▶ Develop relationships across boundaries and cultures
- ▶ Interact in a multilingual community
- ▶ Demonstrate civility and respect differences in others

3. What We Value

Forsyth County Schools will leverage technology to support the Learner Profile and all system level initiatives. Technology will be utilized by students and adults to produce quality work; to create an environment of excellence; to create a school district that is safe, caring, and responsive to stakeholders needs; and to create an environment that meets the challenges of a modern society. The school district will display a belief that technology is imperative to the work of students and adults and will provide the resources necessary for an effective and efficient operation to achieve results.

As indicated in the strategic plan, technology should be used to increase student learning. Forsyth County Schools sees the development of the following five areas as being critical to the realization of the vision and mission, and to support the strategic plan and the learner profile. All five items outlined below will be in support of the Teaching & Learning department to leverage technology with teachers and students:

4. Technology Integration Priorities

4.1 Ease of Access

Forsyth County Schools has worked with Classlink to incorporate a one-stop-shop environment that makes accessible all the digital resources of the district. This provides 24/7 access to all digital resources through an easy-to-navigate, single sign-on portal to streamline access for students and staff.

4.2 Personalized and Differentiated Instruction

Forsyth County Schools will provide teachers with formative assessment tools which will foster personalized and differentiated instruction for students, teachers, and administrators. Formative assessment tools will be embedded in the district's learning management system and available through the virtual learning commons. These tools will be linked to a variety of instructional resources through the district's learning management system so that the instructional and professional development needs of the district can be customized for each learner and provided in a timely manner.

4.3 Fostering the “Six C’s”

Forsyth County Schools will provide digital resources and professional development which promote character, citizenship, critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity and innovation to meet the challenges of a modern society.

4.4 Relevant and Innovative Professional Development

Forsyth County Schools will develop and use a wide variety of digital tools in instructional techniques to provide professional development that fosters the effective integration of technology into the classroom while expanding the boundaries of the classroom to more

closely align with 21st century norms and expectations of instruction. Professional development will be delivered in a way that produces immediate results and use in the classroom. FCS will utilize on-demand and in-person strategies to meet the needs of all teachers and staff members.

4.5 Transformational Model of Blended Learning

It is imperative that the students of Forsyth County Schools achieve fluency in a variety of instructional contexts. These contexts range from a fully “brick and mortar” experience to a completely virtual experience, as well as a hybrid approach. The Technology Department will support all avenues of instruction to ensure the students of FCS have the most equitable access to the learning experience.

5. Current Technology Reality

Forsyth County Schools Technology Services Department plans, implements, and supports all the school district’s technology initiatives and infrastructure. Careful collaboration with all stakeholders helps ensure that district technology needs are met in the most effective and efficient manner and that Forsyth remains a leader in leveraging technology to enhance teaching and learning.

Technology Services is committed to providing teachers and students with the best technology available. We see ourselves as an integral part of the learning process, and it is our pleasure to serve the teachers, students, and staff in Forsyth County. We believe technology in schools increases student productivity in and outside the classroom, encourages individual leadership in learning, expands access to learning resources, and helps develop digital citizenship within a structured environment.

As leaders in technology, we must always look at how we can improve our relationship with our stakeholders and provide them with exceptional service and new ways to challenge the norms of what is possible.

Technology Services supports:

- 60,000+ Chromebooks for Students
- 6,000+ Laptops for Staff
- 500+ Physical and Virtual Servers
- 6,000+ Wireless Access Points
- 125,000+ Unique Wireless Clients per Day
- 1,950+ Network Switches
- 2 Enterprise-grade Firewalls capable of processing up to 200 Gbps throughput
- 1 Petabyte of raw mass storage
- 20 Hyper-converged nodes operating in a stretched cluster

6. Technology Services & Organizational Structure

The district's Technology Department is broken into three areas overseen by the Chief Technology and Information Officer: Information Systems, Educational Technology and Media, and Technology Services.

Information Systems

Director of Information Systems, Student Registration (7), Transition Services (3), Information Systems (9), Application Integration Specialist.

Educational Technology

Director of Educational Technology & Media, Coordinator of Educational Technology, ETC on Special Assignment (2), Media Specialist on Special Assignment, Application Support Specialists

Technology Services

Director of Technology Services, Support Assistant, Department Bookkeeper, Network/Systems/Cyber Operations (10), Technical Support (21), Warehouse & Logistics (3), and Cabling / Communications (4).

7. Digital Tools & Instructional Platforms

Software

Teachers have a wide variety of software applications ... The Microsoft Office Professional suite is installed on every desktop and laptop. Also, Office 365 and Google Apps for Education are available to students and teachers.

Digital Content and Learning Tools

Various software applications are available to students and parents. As a starting point, all digital platforms are accessible via Classlink, the district's single sign-on solution.

Teachers and administrators have access to the student information system, Infinite Campus ... Teachers maintain courses within Canvas ... SchoolCity is a web-based student assessment engine ...

Assignments and assessments within both Canvas and SchoolCity can be automatically transferred to a teacher's gradebook ... in accordance with 1EdTech's OneRoster grade passback specifications.

Forsyth County Schools also provides a host of digital resources to students and teachers, including Diffit and Brisk, MyVideoSpot, Soundzabound, Wixie, and various research tools. All web-based resources provided by the district are accessible within ClassLink using OAuth, LTI, ADFS/SAML and password vaulting.

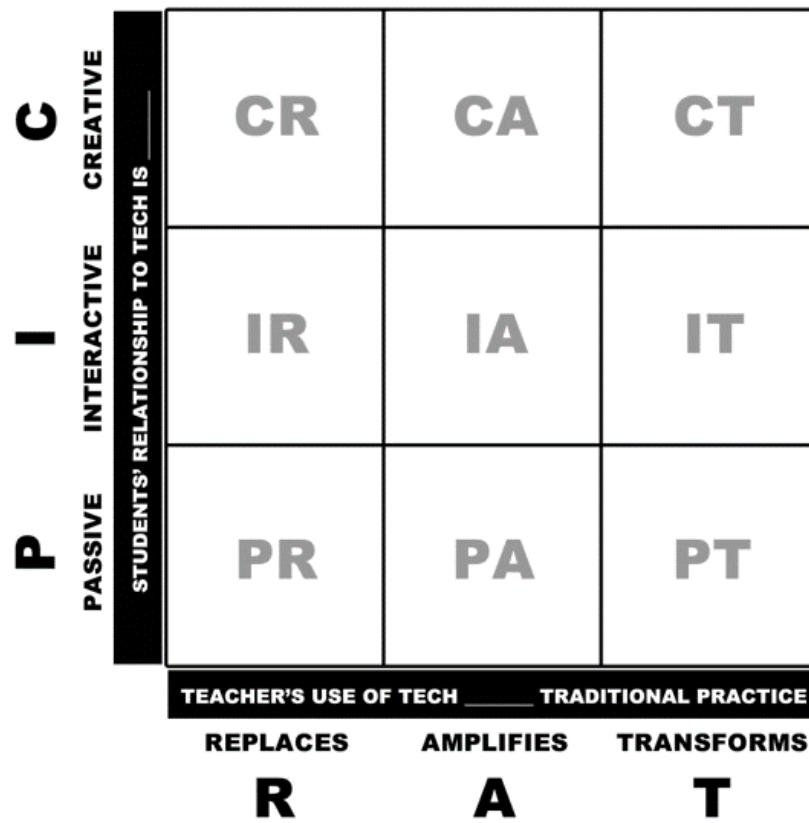
8. School-Based Technology Use & Support

Each school houses an Educational Technology support team which includes an Educational Technology Coach (ETC) and a Media Specialist (MS) or Media Paraprofessional ... They oversee the use of instructional equipment ... and support network resources such as streaming video.

Every Elementary classroom in the district has ten Chromebooks ... For the 2025-26 school year, the district implemented a 1:1 Chromebook model at all middle and high schools. Each classroom, K-12, is outfitted with an interactive panel with built-in sound and Windows PC.

Observations are conducted to determine the level of technology integration occurring at each school. Observers use the PICRAT model (Kimmons, 2016) to describe what is occurring in the classroom. These observations assist school-based ETCs and administrators in making better decisions concerning professional development to ensure that teachers are creating 21st century classrooms.

The PICRAT model is a framework used to reflect on how technology affects student learning in the classroom. It looks at whether students are Passive, Interactive, or Creative with technology and whether the teacher is using tech to Replace, Amplify, or Transform instruction. Together, it helps educators move beyond using technology just for substitution and toward more engaging, student-centered learning experiences.



9. Parent, Home, & Community Connections

Parents can view grades, attendance, homework assignments, progress reports ... via the Internet through Parent Portal in Infinite Campus. Families without a computer at home may access most resources through mobile devices or public library computers.

FCS participates in T-Mobile's Project 10 Million ... district-provided hotspots with CIPA content filtering. Elementary students without a computer at home receive a Chromebook. District resources are accessible through Classlink; Office 365 and Google Apps are available anytime/anywhere.

FCS subscribes to TalkingPoints for two-way multilingual home-school communication, enabling messaging across 150+ languages via text, app, or web with automatic translation.

10. Professional Development

Forsyth County Schools adheres to a job embedded approach for high quality professional learning, implemented on district wide Early Release Days ... The Department of Educational Technology leads professional learning in ISTE Standards for Technology Coaches, instructional coaching practices, and intentional integration of educational technology.

Identification of Classroom Implementation

Forsyth County Schools use the ISTE Standards for Technology Coaches (ISTE Standards-C) ... providing standards, attributes, and exemplars for Change Agency, Connected Learning, Collaborative Practice, Learning Designer, Professional Learning Facilitator, Data Drive Decision Maker, and Digital Citizen Advocate.

11. Digital Citizenship & Internet Safety

Background Information

In 2008, Congress passed the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act ... the FCC defined what a schools' CIPA policy must include, including educating minors about appropriate online behavior, social networking, chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Procedure for Local Schools

Beginning in 2018, the district moved to a comprehensive Digital Citizenship Curriculum. Each school updates its Digital Citizenship implementation plan each year and submits it by September 30 to the Office of Educational Technology. FCS uses Neptune Navigate for grades K-12 with differentiated curriculum, plus parent education and reporting dashboards. Topics include Responsible Use, Cyberbullying, Digital Footprint, Digital World Basics and Social Media, Media Literacy, Social Media, Privacy and Cyber Awareness, and Tech Laws and Age Appropriateness.

Procedure for the Department of Educational Technology

The Director of Educational Technology maintains archives of all submitted plans and reports status to the Chief Technology and Information Officer, while providing resources to schools.

12. New Technologies & Initiatives

Artificial Intelligence

Forsyth County Schools is committed to empowering students and educators to use artificial intelligence thoughtfully, ethically, and responsibly to enhance learning, creativity, and critical thinking ... emphasizing academic integrity, transparency, data privacy, and critical evaluation of AI-generated content, with a human-first mindset and strong family engagement.

13. Technology Refresh Cycle

R – Refresh Year / (# of #) – Lifecycle Year

School / Departmental Technology Items	Refresh Funding	2025 2026	2026 2027	2027 2028	2028 2029	2029 2030
Student Chromebooks 45,000	SPLOST	6 of 7	7 of 7	R	1 of 6	1 of 6
Staff Notebook Computers 4,500	SPLOST	2 of 6	3 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	R
MS/HS CTAE Labs 2,380	Operational	3 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	6 of 6	R
General Purpose Desktops (C/O, Media, Labs...) 3,750	Operational	2 of 6	3 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	6 of 6
MS Chromebooks 15,000	SPLOST	R	2 of 6	3 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6
Mac labs Phase 1	Operational	4 of 7	5 of 7	6 of 7	7 of 7	R
Mac labs Phase 2	Operational	R	1 of 7	2 of 7	3 of 7	4 of 7
Printers	Operational	2 of 8	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8
Interactive Panels	SPLOST	8 of 10	9 of 10	10 of 10	R	1 of 10

Network Technology Items	Funding	2025 2026	2026 2027	2027 2028	2028 2029	2029 2030
Palo Alto Firewall x2	SPLOST	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8	7 of 8
Extreme Network Switches	SPLOST	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8	7 of 8
Load Balancer	SPLOST	4 of 6	5 of 6	6 of 6	R	1 of 6
Extreme Wireless Access Points	SPLOST	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8	7 of 8
Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS)	SPLOST	8 of 10	9 of 10	10 of 10	R	1 of 10
Production Servers Nutanix	SPLOST	2 of 8	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8
Data Center UPS	SPLOST	9 of 10	10 of 10	R	2 of 10	3 of 10
Extreme Core Switches	SPLOST	3 of 8	4 of 8	5 of 8	6 of 8	7 of 8

14. Long-Range Planning & Coordination

Forsyth County Schools has guided its work via a strategic plan process since 1995. Technology planning has been an integral part of strategic improvement in the district throughout that time. Collaboration takes place regularly between the technology department and system-level teams (professional development, curriculum, media, Title 1, special education, and ESOL) to coordinate implementation of strategic and technology initiatives.