John Q. Adams Elementary School

Technology Plan 2005-2007

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Technology Plan for John Q. Adams Elementary School

Located in the southeast area of Dallas known as Pleasant Grove, John Q. Adams

Elementary serves approximately 1,100 predominantly minority students, in grades pre-

kindergarten through six. Faculty and staff consist of eighty-five administrative, professional,

para-professional and support personnel. The campus is linked with the community through

Parenting and ESL classes, a volunteer tutoring program sponsored by the Salvation Army, and

an active after-school program for students.

Mission/Vision Statement

John Q. Adams shares the mission of the Dallas Independent School District: to prepare

all students to graduate with the knowledge and skills to become productive and responsible

citizens. To attain these goals, students today must be actively engaged and responsible for their

own learning. Students must be involved in strategic problem-solving activities, based on

authentic, challenging, and multidisciplinary tasks. Instructional resources and materials are

intended to deliver, support, enrich, and assist in implementing the District's educational

program and should stimulate growth in factual knowledge as well as develop skills in critical

analysis. The Library Media Center should be at the center of student engagement and should

provide the means for students, as well as faculty and staff members, to interact with their peers,

engage in Socratic dialogue, participate in problem solving, and produce products demonstrating

the synthesis and evaluation of information.

History of Technology Utilization

Because John Q. Adams is being considered for nomination as an historical monument,

little renovation to the building has been allowed, severely limiting access to technology for staff

and students alike. In the past, it has been stated that technology at Adams equals electricity, and

even that is not always reliable. Money has not been spent on increasing technology, and much

of the high-tech equipment in the building has been acquired as a result of teachers attending

workshops and classes that award computers and peripherals for attendance. Teachers have

received laptop computers for their personal use after demonstrating a basic level of computer

proficiency.

<div align="center">Current Status of Technology Utilization</div>

Only the library, one lab consisting of 30 computers, and the wing of the building which

houses Pre-K through second grades have access to the Internet, leaving approximately thirty

classrooms without connectivity. No students (or teachers) in grades three through six have

access to the Internet in their classrooms. All students in grades kindergarten through six

circulate through the computer lab on a rotating basis, for one 45-minute period each week. The

computers in the lab operate with Windows 98, an operating system that will only be supported

by District Technology Services for two more years. In the library, two computers are available

for student use. These computers, also operating with Windows 98, were purchased by Library

Media Services to be utilized for searching the Online Public Access Catalog, accessing district

purchased databases, and searching the Internet. Two computers in the library operate with

Windows XP, and are limited to the librarian's use for circulation, resource and material sharing,

and administrative duties. Teachers are required to use online lesson planning and sharing, and

more than one-half of them have no access to the Internet outside of the computer lab, which is

always filled with students. The other alternative is the library, which is limited to two computers

for teachers' use. Although all of the teachers have laptops, they have few locations available for

their use. There is only one network drop available in the library for use with laptops, and it must

be shared with the existing two desktop computers. Additionally, only one networked printer is available for teacher or student use.

<div align="center">Goals</div>

A three-year implementation plan utilizing emerging technology is recommended.

Goal 1: To increase the number of computers, peripherals, data ports, and databases available for use in the library:

- In 2005, purchase 4 computers, 1 data projector and digital camera; procure 1 online database; install necessary electrical wiring and data drops for 8 computers; add a hub for teachers' laptop use; purchase tables and security devices for installation of computers.

- In 2006, add an additional 4 computers to replace those with Windows 98 operating system currently in library; renew existing database subscription, and add an additional database; purchase needed tables and security devices.

- In 2007, upgrade computers as necessary and add computers, according to availability of funding; continue databases; replace peripherals with most current technology.

Goal 2: To insure that all students and staff members have equal access to current information, free from physical and intellectual barriers.

- Access to electronics communications systems, including the internet, will be available to students and staff members for instructional and administrative purposes in accordance with administrative guidelines, set by Board Policy CQ (Local), and the DISD Acceptable Use Policy.

- Through careful physical arrangement of the resources and materials in the library media center, provide a barrier free facility for individuals, small groups, and classes in a safe, secure, and age appropriate arrangement.

- Provide access to sufficient current and relevant electronic resources, while recognizing and respecting learning differences, and the ethnically and culturally diverse interests of all patrons.

Goal 3: To promote critical thinking and problem solving by integrating information literacy into the curriculum.

- Provide instruction to stimulate interest in reading, viewing, and using information and ideas.

- Collaborate with educators to plan, design, teach, and evaluate information literacy experiences to meet the needs of all students.

- Utilize The Big6 research model, in combination with the Internet and online databases to promote a problem-solving approach and to help students determine their own research needs and strategies.

Goal 4: To design professional development for the overall school community.

- Make the library available throughout the instructional day, as well as before and after school, to allow staff access to library resources, online gradebook and lesson planning tools, and for personal enjoyment.

- Provide training in the use of digital cameras and data projectors for classroom use.

- Present demonstrations on the utilization of The Big6 and Super3 research models for professional staff as well as parents and other community members.

- In conjunction with the teacher technologist and the campus instructional leadership team, provide classes on information literacy for parents.

Funding

The Library Media Center does not have monies budgeted for computer hardware and peripheral equipment. The budget does allow for the purchase of databases, software, and some supplies. The computers currently in place were purchased through grant awards at the Central Library Media Service level. DISD has a plan to replace existing technology on a rotating cycle, but replacement fails to keep pace with demand. John Q. Adams does not have a corporate sponsor and has not received any large in-kind contributions. Individuals or groups may seek approved grant awards to increase funds available at the local campus.

Plan Administration

The Library Media Specialist, in collaboration with Library Media Services Technology Department, will purchase hardware, software, peripherals, and furniture for the duration of the project. The Principal and Office Manager will assist in securing work orders for the electrical and data port modifications to the existing facility.

Development/Training

Development and training will be a crucial piece in this project: training for faculty and staff, students, and community members who wish to benefit from the increased availability of technology in the library. Students and staff will receive training in the age appropriate Big6 or Super3 models of research and inquiry, in the use of digital cameras and data projectors, and in efficient and effective use of the Internet. Classes may be held in Webquest development and in the use of computer applications for productivity and lesson plan enhancement. The library is staffed by one librarian who will be responsible for training and implementation, with the possible exception of some voluntary collegial training.

Support Structure/Tech Support

The librarian will offer technical support to users of the various elements of the technology plan, including browsing, using applications, and producing multimedia presentations. Hardware and desktop support will be provided by the Technology Department of the Dallas Independent School District.

Americans with Disabilities Acts (ADA) Compliance

The Library Media Center at John Q. Adams currently meets ADA requirements for facilities. Equal access will remain a high priority, including the elimination of both physical and intellectual barriers to use of the resources available in the center.

Performance Measures

The impact of the technology plan will be measured by the ultimate objective of the program: student achievement. The Media Center exists to support student learning of the mandated state curriculum, as measured by student performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Logramos, and the RPTE. Informal measures such as increased use of the library outside of the regular instructional day, increased parental participation in students' research projects, and an increase in the use of multimedia presentations and products by faculty and staff members will also demonstrate the successful implementation of the Technology Plan.

References

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