

# **DANIEL ‘CHAPPIE’ JAMES LEARNING CENTER**

## **EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLAN 2004 – 2007**



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## **Introduction**

The primary focus of this plan is to provide a foundation for the advancement of technology for the Daniel ‘Chappie’ James Learning Center Technology Education Department. Currently the Technology Education Department consists of one PC learning lab, one Macintosh learning lab, and an assortment of computers, printers and televisions in the classrooms. The Technology Department staff consists of one full-time computer technologist who teaches classes and also maintains the building’s hardware. Our goal is to focus on resource advancement, enhancement of learning experience for students and teachers, and community involvement.

## **Mission/Vision statement**

Daniel ‘Chappie’ James Learning Center staff is dedicated to the belief that each of our students can and will be successful in a global society. It is our mission to achieve this goal by providing salient educational opportunities, emphasizing social, emotional, and academic achievement, and promoting meaningful parental and community involvement.

In keeping with that goal and with the Technology Plan of the Dallas Independent School District (D.I.S.D.), the Technology Education Department at Daniel ‘Chappie’ James seeks to restructure the current technology program to increase the access of computers in the learning environment. The integration of technology as an instruction tool in the classrooms is necessary to aid our students in becoming knowledgeable, independent, and self-directed learners. Moreover, technology will be utilized to help teachers aid in learning, share information, and to communicate with the school community.

Technology will be used as a tool to support the daily curriculum instruction. In addition, it is our vision to utilize technology to enhance several extended learning programs. These include the after-school, Saturday School, and summer school programs that are designed to reinforce basic skills and increase critical thinking skills.

## **Demographics**

Daniel ‘Chappie’ James Learning Center is an elementary campus in the Dallas Independent School District. It is located south of downtown Dallas in a community that is well over 100 years old. The school currently houses approximately 275 ethnic minority students in fourth through sixth grades. The ethnic breakdown of the students in the school is 84 percent African American and 16 percent Hispanic. Ninety-two percent of the enrollment is eligible for free/reduced lunch.

The staff consists of a Principal, Assistant Principal, Dean of Instruction, and 35 full-time instructors including Fine Arts and Recreative Arts teachers. We are also served by a full-time nurse, media specialist, Talented and Gifted teacher, computer teacher, reading demonstration and math demonstration teacher. Sixty-two percent of the highly qualified staff has their Bachelor’s degree and 38 percent has obtained their Master’s degree. The average years of teacher experience is nine years.

There are several active community advisory groups working with the school to improve its overall success. The Community Advisory Committee, the Site-Based Decision Making Committee, and the Eagles P.T.A., participate in annual surveys to provide continuous feedback on the school and its community.

## **History of technology utilization**

The equipment in the PC lab consists of twenty-two Compaq computers purchased nearly six years ago. All computers are connected to the Internet and networked to one black laser printer and/or one color laser printer located in the lab. The Macintosh lab consists of fifteen G3 and ten G4 computers. This lab was established approximately seven years ago. Computers in this lab are also networked to two black laser printers located in the lab. This past year we have experienced the loss of some of the Internet and network connections. The district's Technology Assistance Center (TAC) will no longer service or replace these machines.

Classroom computers are in a wide variety consisting of Apple LCII's, Macintosh 5200 and 5400s, Compaq and Dell Desktops, and some teacher-issued district laptops. Many are outdated and are no longer being serviced or maintained by the district's TAC department. A variety of inkjet printers are randomly placed within the classrooms. Internet connections are restricted to two drops per classroom. A limited number of classrooms have computer/television connections for presentation of learning materials. The campus also has two In-focus machines available.

## **Current status of technology utilization**

The level of technology access learners currently have is insufficient to meet current learning objectives and goals established by the district and the school.

Computer Competency is an elective that is included in our Fine Arts schedule rotation. Computers in the PC Learning Lab are utilized daily for one class period for each grade level. Each semester, twenty students are scheduled per grade level for a 45 minute, twice-weekly block of technology instruction (only 40 students per grade level receive technology instruction

each semester). Instruction is aligned with the district's technology standards and is delivered by the Computer Technologist. During the remainder of the day, teachers may schedule class instruction, projects or research in the learning lab.

Computers in the Macintosh lab are rarely utilized. Internet access is limited and the software available on these computers is outdated. Science teachers utilize this lab for typing content for Science Fair projects. On occasion, math teachers schedule students in this lab to utilize software available for drill and practice activities.

Classroom computers are used primarily for teacher productivity (i.e. lesson plans, grade books, and letters to parents). Internet access to some classrooms has been disabled due to misuse by staff members. Computers are occasionally utilized by students for drill and practice activities or as rewards/incentives in the classroom.

## **Goals**

The following goals have been identified for the Daniel 'Chappie' James Technology Department:

- ✓ Create mini-labs of 4 computers and 1 printer in each classroom
- ✓ Replace/upgrade outdated computers in the learning labs
- ✓ Purchase multi-media equipment for classroom learning
- ✓ Purchase/upgrade software and licenses
- ✓ Purchase furniture for learning labs and classrooms
- ✓ Acquire necessary hardware and software for networking equipment
- ✓ Increase professional development and instruction
- ✓ Increase student access and utilization of technology
- ✓ Provide basic technology training for parents

## **Implementation plan (Timeframe)**

- 2004 - 2005    Purchase four station mini-labs for each classroom  
                  Provide increased Internet access to each classroom  
                  Purchase multi-media equipment for each classroom  
                  Purchase furniture for classroom mini-labs  
                  Provide professional development and instruction  
                  Provide basic technology training for parents
- 2005 - 2006    Replace/upgrade outdated computers and wiring in the learning labs  
                  Purchase/upgrade software and licenses  
                  Purchase furniture for learning labs  
                  Provide continued professional development and instruction  
                  Provide continued parent training
- 2006 - 2007    Purchase additional software, licenses and multimedia components  
                  Provide continued professional development and instruction  
                  Provide continued parent training

## **Hardware**

### **Classrooms**

- ✓ Four computers in every classroom (88 total)
- ✓ One computer for every teacher (35 total)
- ✓ TV for every classroom, with a VCR and a PC to TV converter (22 total)
- ✓ One network laser printer for each grade level (3 total)

### **Technology lab**

- ✓ Twenty-five computers for PC Learning Lab
- ✓ Twenty-five computers for Macintosh Learning Lab
- ✓ Network laser printer for each lab

## **Software**

### **Classrooms**

- ✓ Microsoft Office Professional
- ✓ Norton Antivirus
- ✓ Internet Explorer
- ✓ Kidspiration
- ✓ Kidpix
- ✓ Inspiration
- ✓ Deepfreeze
- ✓ Content specific software

### **Technology lab**

- ✓ Microsoft Office Professional
- ✓ Norton Antivirus
- ✓ Internet Explorer
- ✓ Mavis Beacon Typing Tutor
- ✓ Kidspiration
- ✓ Kidpix
- ✓ Inspiration
- ✓ Deepfreeze



## **Facilities**

The current facilities are acceptable for the implementation of this plan. Electrical and data wiring is up to standard in both learning labs, however, additional data wiring is needed for the classrooms. New furniture is being requested for both of the technology learning labs. In addition, computer tables that can accommodate lockdown devices and chairs are required for the classroom mini-labs.

## **Staffing**

The Daniel ‘Chappie’ James Learning Center Technology Department staff currently consists of one full-time computer technologist who teaches classes and also maintains the building’s hardware. An additional computer technologist is requested to assist with troubleshooting, support and staff training. This staff member would also be available to provide demonstration lessons using technology and provide support for integration strategies to teachers in the classroom.

## **Funding**

### **Available funds**

Title I and other discretionary funds are available to purchase computers for mini-labs in each classroom. Since the given technology will be used to promote math standards, a portion of the Math Improvement funds can be allocated each year to assist in the purchase of multimedia components and software. Electrical and data wiring upgrades will be completed through the D.I.S.D. Bond Program.

### **Potential funding sources**

Eagles P.T.A. will contribute \$ 5,000 to the purchase of software and licenses during the first year of the technology plan implementation. Additional funding may be available in subsequent years. The Technology Department will actively pursue grant funding as a source of financial assistance in meeting of our technology goals.

### **In-kind contributions**

Hunt Oil Corporation, our building adopters, will contribute \$ 1,000 to the purchase of software and licenses. This support may be available each year of the Technology Plan. Additional contributions will be solicited from corporate sponsors.

## **Plan Administration/Management**

The plan administration will be the primary responsibility of the current computer technologist. The DISD's Instructional Technology Department (IT) will provide assistance and direction throughout the implementation of the entire plan. Monthly meetings with administrators, the Technology teacher(s), and IT will provide assurance that plan goals are on schedule and being addressed.

## **Staff Development/Training**

The following professional development will be necessary to ensure the success of our technology plan:

- ✓ Basic and extended computer skills
- ✓ Integration training across grade levels and content areas
- ✓ Basic troubleshooting techniques
- ✓ Communication methods
- ✓ Netiquette and acceptable practices when utilizing technology

Additional professional development will be scheduled based on feedback from teachers and annual surveys.

## **Support Structure**

The following support structure will be used:

- ✓ Create student tech teams to provide basic support
- ✓ Provide teacher training on basic troubleshooting techniques

- ✓ Computer technologists will conduct advanced troubleshooting
- ✓ District's TAC team will be utilized for more complex problems

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance**

This technology plan will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Facilities will meet the guidelines outlined in the act. Additional accommodations will be made as needed.

## **Performance Measures**

All aspects of the plan will be evaluated formally each year to verify that the plan is meeting the needs of the school community. An assessment tool will be developed to evaluate the success of this technology plan. Indicators that may be useful in measuring the effectiveness of the plan include:

- ✓ Student and teacher surveys
- ✓ Student performance and output
- ✓ Staff member participation in professional development
- ✓ Integration of training into the classroom
- ✓ Monitoring and documentation of parent training
- ✓ Yearly inventory of hardware and software
- ✓ Maintenance of technology

A report will be given to the administrative team and to the District's Instructional Technology Department after each formal evaluation occurs.

## References

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