Atlanta Elementary School

Campus Technology Plan
2008-2010

Susan Tidwell
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Introduction

The Atlanta Elementary School Technology Plan is designed to better equip the school to meet the needs of its students both in the present and in the future. Spanning the period from 2007 through 2010, the current plan charts a course of improvement for the school.   The Technology Plan addresses the needs of the school and the expectations of the community. It presents the mission of the district and includes goals, objectives, and strategies for achievement. The plan is reviewed and evaluated annually and amended to reflect priorities and needs.

Atlanta ISD is an ethnically diverse public school district located in rural Cass County 25 miles south of Texarkana on US Highway 59. All four campuses in AISD are currently eligible and serve as Title 1 schools with student populations over the 40% economically disadvantaged rating. Approximately 60% of the students at Atlanta Elementary School are on free or reduced lunches. Atlanta Elementary School serves grades three through five with an enrollment of 460 students. The instructional staff includes one principal, a counselor, 32 instructors, a math specialist, a reading specialist, a media specialist, a technology aide, and 9 paraprofessionals. Several advisory committees comprised of school personnel, parents, and community members exist.

This plan is based on information drawn from many sources including a survey of current hardware and educational media, a survey of teachers and administrators, the Campus Improvement Council, and the District Technology Planning Committee which consists of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members.

Mission Statement

Atlanta Elementary School is committed to the general philosophy that education should provide high quality learning experiences for every student with the realization that today's student lives in a society demanding knowledge and skills related to the use of computers and other technologies. The curriculum is in a state of continuous study and revision and is readily adaptable to meet the changing needs of children. Methods of instruction reflect recognition of individual differences among students. Overall, the school's efforts are directed to the end that each student will become a productive member of our global society capable of making positive contributions to our world.

History of Technology Utilization

Atlanta Elementary School was built in 1991. The computer lab was equipped with fifty IBM Win3 computers with intranet capabilities. Jostens software was accessible in the lab, and one additional computer was located in the principal's office with dial up internet access. Within the next four years, each classroom was equipped with a computer. Available software was Jostens, Accelerated Reader, and Pegasus mail. Over the past twelve years, technology has been a priority within the district, and many advances have been made. Teacher training has been ongoing as specific needs arise and new technologies are introduced.

Current Status

Currently, each classroom is equipped with three Windows XP computers with Internet accessibility. In addition, the Learning Resource Center houses seven computers for student and teacher Internet based research, the computer lab has 50 computers accessed to network printers available for students to use individually or for scheduled classroom instruction, the music lab has seven computers, the math lab has seven computers, and the CEI lab houses eight computers. All computers are connected to the Internet through a T-1 line. All staff computers have access to networked printers (color and black/white). Each regular education classroom, two science labs, and the Learning Resource Center are equipped with a mounted digital projector. Two science labs and four math classrooms are equipped with Lumens document cameras. There are 11 laptop computers, two document cameras, 12 televisions with VHS/DVD players, four CPS systems, and six data projectors available for teacher checkout.

Technology Application TEKS are currently being addressed in core curriculum classrooms through a combination of methods. Reading and math classes have 30 minutes each of weekly scheduled lab times which are used for assignments that align to the Technology Application TEKS. Science and social studies teachers sign up for lab time as needed. In addition to the classroom instructor, a full-time technology aide is in the lab to assist with instruction and troubleshooting.

Plan Goals
  ➢ Enhance teaching and learning through effective integration of technology in order to maintain a high quality educational system
  ➢ Encourage educator preparation and development in the use of current and emerging technologies
  ➢ Review and update the district's technology plan annually to ensure clear goals and strategies and to revise needs
  ➢ Identify the strategies that will help students use advanced technology to improve the academic development of critical thinking skills that are essential for academic success and success in the workplace
  ➢ Ongoing staff development in the integration of technology into the curriculum for teachers, principals, administrators, and media personnel to further the effective use of technology in the classroom or media center
  ➢ Increase student access and utilization of technology
  ➢ Replace aging equipment
  ➢ Purchase and/or upgrade software
  ➢ Purchase additional computers for classrooms

Implementation Plan

The following three year implementation plan utilizing emerging technology is recommended:

2007-2008
- Update all computers to Office 2007
- Replace seven outdated computers in the LRC
- Purchase Smart Board for teacher checkout
- Purchase eight additional document cameras for science classes
- Provide professional development and technology training as needed
- Purchase an additional laptop for teacher checkout
- Purchase ImageBlender software

2008-2009
- Add one computer to each regular education classroom (total of 24)
- Provide professional development and technology training as needed
- Purchase an additional laptop for teacher checkout
- Purchase data projectors to be mounted in eight additional rooms (music room, gym, art room, three content mastery centers, and math lab)

2009-2010
- Replace student computers in lab (total of 50)
- Provide professional development and technology training as needed
- Upgrade Print Shop network in the computer lab
- Purchase data projector, speakers, and throw lens for the cafetorium

Hardware

- 172 IBM XP computers
- 7 Network printers
- 2 Scanners
- 28 Data projectors
- 8 Document cameras
- 4 CPS systems
- 12 Televisions with VHS/DVD players
- 2 Digital cameras
- 1 Video camera

Software

- Print Shop
- Microsoft Office 2007
- Classworks
- Edmark
- HeartBeeps
- Hyper Studio
- Study Island
- Typing to Learn
- Reading Blaster
- Math Blaster
- Image Maker
- Wild West Math
- Kid Pix
- Destiny

Renew licenses on current software:
- AR Math
- AR Reading
- STAR Math
- STAR Reading
- World Book Multimedia
- BrainPop

The following software is provided by the district:
- United Streaming
- TX Grade
- EBSCO databases

Facilities Requirements

The current facilities are acceptable for the implementation of this plan. Additional data projectors to be installed in classrooms will require wiring and drops.

Funding

The Learning Resource Center has money budgeted for computer hardware and instructional media equipment. The LRC budget also allows for the purchase of software and databases. In addition, the annual technology budget and Title 1 monies are appropriated for the purchase of technology. The Educator Preparation and Development Budget is a designated fund used for professional development and technology training. Atlanta Elementary School is fortunate to have an active group of community volunteers who help with fundraising. The proceeds from the fundraisers and book fairs are used to help purchase computers and software.

Plan Administration/Management/Support

Atlanta ISD employs a Director of Technology who oversees all technology for the district and who is responsible for monitoring the progress of the plan's implementation. Two district technicians are available to assist in the implementation of the plan and troubleshooting. A media specialist and a campus technology aide are available on-site to assist teachers and students with any technology issues that may arise.

Staff Development/Training

As new technology is acquired for the campus, staff development and training will be offered in order to insure that all staff has the knowledge to model and teach current technologies. This training is available through Region VIII, district staff development, or training provided with the purchase of equipment or software. Staff members are encouraged to assist with technology training in their areas of expertise.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

This technology plan and Atlanta Elementary School are in full compliance with ADA. Additional accommodations will be made as needed.

Performance Measures

The effectiveness of this plan will be evaluated annually through the following means:
- ➢ Needs assessment – student and teacher surveys
- ➢ Student performance - test scores
- ➢ Campus and District Site Based Committees
- ➢ Integration of training into classroom
- ➢ District Technology Committee