St Catherine of Siena Catholic School Technology Plan

Our Mission

The mission of the technology plan is to integrate technology into daily classroom activities to enhance the delivery of the core curriculum. Through these learning experiences, students will be provided with opportunities to become discerning, creative and ethical problem solvers informed by a strong understanding of their faith and guided by Gospel values. The use of technology to support all aspects of the school's work including communication and administration will be considered in creating a fluent and technology enhanced environment implemented through the involvement of the St. Catherine of Siena School community and all of its constituent groups.

Our Vision of Educational Technology

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School strongly believes that the full integration of technology into the core curriculum will educate and empower students to become life-long learners who are ethical, responsible and confident leaders in the community at large. A fully electronic and digital environment will unite students, teachers and families by creating an atmosphere that brings the world into the classroom. Exposure to technology will produce self-directed and principled citizens who are prepared to meet the challenges of an electronic global society. Towards this end, we envision a school community where:

Technology will support our goal of educating the whole child in preparation for higher education and for life.

- Make efficient use of dependable and appropriate technology
- Be ubiquitous within our school environment
- Provide access to technology that is safe and secure
- Meet or exceed appropriate state or national guidelines
- Support, primarily, the academic success of curriculum goals

Students will be life-long learners who are responsible citizens and productive members of society.

- Fluently use technology tools.
- Are higher order thinkers and problem solvers.
- Optimize educational opportunities
- Engage in experiences transformed through technology
- Connect with challenging, student centered learning

Teachers will combine current resources and strategies with new technology and techniques.

- Be proficient in appropriate technology
- Daily classroom activities will be inclusive of integrated technology
- Be trained, equipped and supported
- Employ an interdisciplinary approach

Administration will utilize technology in support of increased communication with students, teachers, parents, school stakeholders, the parish and the global community.

- Provide a secure and efficient infrastructure with technical support and training
- Provide an administrative system that brings added value to students teachers and parents as well as documentation for student record keeping
- Provide automation which allows for greater time and resources that is dedicated to accomplishing educational goals

Parents will benefit from a technologically immersed community, made possible by increased communication, access and connection to students, teachers, and administration as well as to other schools, parishes and the global community at large.

- Be effortlessly connected to viable resources and information
- Support the technology goals of St. Catherine of Siena School
- Be supported by the technology and technology goals of St. Catherine of Siena School

Goals and Objectives of Our Technology Plan

Administration-Centered Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Provide an infrastructure that accommodates current need, anticipates future growth and facilitates flexibility and adaptability.

- Replace exterior Cat5 cable with exterior grade cabling
- Provide wireless connectivity throughout all buildings
- Replace existing server with a server with larger and faster capability that offers security and backup services
- Upgrade existing switches and patch panels to accommodate current capacity plus 100%, and will facilitate future upgrade of backbone to fiber optic.

Goal 2: Provide current, reliable desktop technology for administration and support staff.

- Provide teachers and support staff with desktop computers with personal laser printers and access to color, high speed and high volume laser printer in a centralized area.
- Provide hardware and peripherals as needed to access student information system when applicable

Goal 3: Provide adequate support and maintenance of all school technology to insure currency and reliability.

- Maintain school technology on a rotating 3-year replacement schedule
- Obtain extended support subscriptions or contracts to minimize internal support needs and maximize available time and efforts of available support staff.
- Establish a yearly technology grants that includes money for both hardware and training.
- Allow staff time away from other duties to encourage innovation and experimentation for potential projects to be implemented school wide. (Ex. Attendance at workshops, in-services and technology conferences)
- Forge partnerships with local industry and business for training, maintenance and support.
- Budget for replacement of parts and peripherals

Goal 4: Maintain school records on Student Information System that will accurately and efficiently provide academic information.

- Continue to build upon use of Admin+ administrative program and upgrade software as provided by Rediker, Inc.
- Initiate use of current modules such as extended database and immunization records

- Continue to online grading modules that provide current progress of students.

Goal 5: Provide computer based management of library holdings.

- Continue to build upon the capabilities of Destiny Library
- Maintain membership in Accelerated Reader Enterprise

Goal 6: Utilize email system to communicate with students, teachers, parents and other members of the school community.

- Develop and maintain mass email list to facilitate email communication
- Migrate school newsletter to email format
- Migrate other applicable communication such as student progress reports, registration documents, etc, to email format.

Goal 7: Establish and direct a technology committee.

- Maintain representation on committee by teachers, administrators, parents and board members of St. Catherine of Siena School.
- Develop a committee mandate
- Develop committee responsibilities, policies and procedures including a periodic evaluation of technology, selection and implementation of technology, oversight of grants and other software proposals.

Teacher-centered Goals and Objectives

Goal 8: Provide flexible and current instructional technology to teachers that is adaptive and enhances traditional learning tools and utilizes new and emerging teaching tools.

- Standardize all classrooms with the following hardware:
  - Teacher desktop with CD-RW or DVD-R and USB access
  - Space efficient flat panel LCD monitor
  - Wireless mouse and keyboard
  - Document camera
  - Ceiling mounted short throw data projector
  - Interactive white board
  - Minimum of 16 linear ft of standard dry erase board/projection surface
  - VCR/DVD combo player
  - Student response system
  - Audio/visual capabilities including webcam, wireless microphone and speaker system

Goal 9: Enable educators to learn to use technology tools effortlessly, creatively and effectively to engage students, enhance learning and automate tasks.

- Learn to use automated administrative tasks, maintain records, monitor student performance and communicate when needed to parents or colleagues.

- Learn to use technology to tailor learning to the needs of individual students.

Goal 10: Provide professional development that is effective, efficient and easily accessible.

- Matches the knowledge and skill level of each educator's needs
- Is readily available when needed.
- Is delivered in formats that are accessible

Goal 11: Use student information system to automate administrative responsibilities.

- Maintain two-way attendance reports
- Interface electronic grading system with student information system so that grade reports can be created internally
- Maintain enrollment and registration information on student information system

Goal 12: Use productivity software tools to enhance the teaching/learning experience

- Develop lesson plans that incorporate multi-genre assignments that engage and challenge students
- Integrate productivity software such as MSWord, Excel, PowerPoint, etc. into classroom planning and instruction
- Use Smart classroom resources to involve students in interactive learning

Goal 13: Use learning software to support active learning and the development of higher academic achievement through individualized instruction.

- Maintain Accelerated Reader Enterprise program to develop and enhance reading proficiency
- Implement Math software (Accelerated Math or equal) to develop and enhance math skills
- Implement Vocabulary software (Accelerated Vocabulary or equal) to develop and improve verbal skills
- Implement a developmentally appropriate computer based Spanish program
- Update the current Keyboarding program

Goal 14: Use learning software to support active learning and the development of real world skills by introducing a variety of software.

- Allow teachers to select content specific software for their classroom
- Integrate simulation, problem solving or gaming software to support curriculum goals.

Goal 15: Integrate World Wide Web capabilities into classroom teaching and learning.

- Integrate web-based research into assignments and classroom activities
- Search web for technology best practices to introduce new teaching / learning ideas into curriculum
- Establish connections to other school communities as well as Catholic communities and world communities

Goal 16: Promote teacher communication with parents and outreach to students use of computer-supported communication tools.

- Use email to communicate with students, administrators, parents and other members of the St. Catherine of Siena School community
- Maintain classroom web pages integrated through Edline interface
- Maintain classroom policies, assignment notebooks and calendars through Edline interface
- Use Edline's Interactive Classroom module to create threaded discussions and interactive assignments via the Internet
- Communicate attendance and grade records on a weekly basis using Edline interface.

Student-centered Goals and Objectives

Goal 17: Provide flexible, adaptive and current student technology that facilitates student-centered and collaborative learning.

- Provide laptops in every classroom for student use to maximize flexibility and available classroom space.
- Work to achieve a 1:1 computer to student ratio in grades 3-8 and a 3:1 ratio in grades K - 2, including lab and classroom computers

Goal 18: Enable students to learn to use technology tools as a seamless part of their academic achievement.

- Students will use computer support communication tools, including email, web classroom pages and web assignment notebooks
- Use library management system to checkout/in books
- Use a variety of learning software to enhance academic achievement
- Use productivity tools to develop and complete classroom assignments
- Use Internet / web browsers to extend learning opportunities
- Use Edline interface to maintain personal awareness of their own level of success
- Use Edline interactive classroom to participate in online discussion threads or interactive assignments
- Use Edline classroom web pages to maintain awareness of class assignments, events and due dates

Community-centered Goals and Objectives

Goal 19: Enhance communication within the St. Catherine of Siena community by using computer-supported communication tools.

- Communicate with students, teachers, administrators parents and school community through email
- Maintain a school website
- Maintain a school calendar that is web-based and updated on an as needed basis
- Provide training opportunities for parents and community members
- Use acceptable social media to inform community of events, accomplishments, or other recognition of public interest

Goal 20: Use technology to provide information regarding prospective students.

- Provide prospective families with enrollment, tuition and registration information on the school website
- Provide a link for communication between perspective families and St. Catherine of Siena School