

Acquisition of and Updating Technology

Technology significantly impacts classroom instruction and the operation of school districts. Primary attention shall be given to the integration of technology into the curriculum and instructional practices. The plan must also relate to the importance of technology in the administration of the schools, including the management of the school's facilities and resources. Moreover, in the selection of new resources, the district must review not only new and desirable technologies, but should also assess existing technologies to determine how they can be integrated with the new technologies. The sophistication of integrated systems can be one of the major strengths of technology for schools.

Students must be technologically literate and acquire skills and knowledge that allow them to function comfortably as productive citizens in a technologically oriented society. Hardware purchase and replacement is one of the components requiring attention in the instructional program promoting technology literacy and the use of technology in district operations.

Specifications for hardware selection shall be designed to ensure durable, functional and updated equipment. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall work with staff to develop a long-range plan appropriate for instructional technology for kindergarten through grade eight and for technology usage in the management of the school's facilities and resources.

The Board recognizes the need for the ongoing upgrading of technological resources within the district, and shall implement a plan and a budgeting process that ensures the regular replacement of aging equipment and software. The plan shall be considered as a part of the annual budgeting process by the board.

Administrative Guidelines for Technology Purchases

District computer equipment shall be depreciated over not longer than a five (5) year schedule. Each year, the district shall consider replacing at least one-fifth of its computer hardware by installing new equipment in critical areas requiring current hardware, and moving older equipment to other applications in the district as appropriate. Additional funds may be allocated to expand computer resources in accord with pilot studies.

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