Randolph County School System   
Office of Technology Services

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2025-2028

Technology Plan

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Executive Summary

**Introduction**

The Randolph County School System Technology Department is dedicated to enhancing the learning experience by infusing technology into the instructional process and to provide the technological support needed for all stakeholders to achieve maximum success. Infusing technology into the instructional process throughout the curriculum will enable relevant and individualized learning as well as teach adaptable skills to students so they may succeed in future endeavors.

From the beginning of the remodeling process of the current Randolph Clay Middle/High School to the migration back to the New Randolph County K12 facility, the Technology Department has administered questionnaires, as well as hosted round table discussions and focus groups with various stakeholders to discuss the next steps for supporting the technological needs and infrastructure of the district during these times of change and leading us into the next 3 years of occupying the new facility. The Technology Department/Committee used this feedback along with educational technology research, standards, and best practices to expand the current shared vision for technology use in the district and to map a course of action from the occupying the newly renovated K12 School through the next 3-year period. An analysis and evaluation of the district’s current technology infrastructure, data center, and security systems will provide a positive starting point for achieving the district’s shared vision. However, certain identified gaps will need to be addressed.

These gaps/concerns were organized into five areas: Professional Development, Network Infrastructure, Refresh Administrative, Teacher and Student Devices, Enhance Digital Learning by App/Software Upgrades, upgrade Security Systems. In this technology plan, the department/committee has developed clear, concise, and aggressive goals to address each area of concern.

**Stakeholder Identification**

A comprehensive group of stakeholders provided insight and guidance used to develop this technology plan.

* **The Randolph County Business Community** – These organizations or individuals serve in advisory capacities to align school to work standards. Members of our business community are included in various decisions.
* **Chamber of Commerce** – This organization serves in advisory capacities to align school to work standards.
* **Bainbridge College** – This institution provides technology demonstrations and assistance, curriculum articulation, and “Move On When Ready”.
* **Andrew College** – This college provides technology demonstrations and assistance as well as free access to Internet in certain locations in the college area.
* **Randolph County Local Library** – This library provides resources for students after school hours.
* **School Governance Teams** - Parents, teachers, and business representatives monitor the progress of the schools and will make recommendations.
* **Teachers and Administrators** – Insight from teachers and administrators is collected representing the various grade levels and different academic areas and administrative regions.
* **Students –** Input from students was received via student surveys and focus group interviews.
* **Parents –** Parents provide the needed prospective from the community.

**Vision**

The integration of collaboration, computer- assisted instruction, and good teaching can become tools in the service of rich curricula, enhanced pedagogies, more effective organizational structures in schools, stronger links between schools and society and the empowerment of disenfranchised learners. Technology-enhanced instruction, more technology resources, trained teachers, and classroom access to instructional software and Internet resources will allow teachers to more effectively integrate instructional methods that promote inquiry and comprehension as well as oral and written communication skills. Teachers can present information in ways that are most effective in facilitating a deeper understanding of content. The elements of a 21st century educational program will help produce students who are literate in technology as well as all forms of communication skills and who are able to selectively retrieve, analyze, and use material to apply higher order work.

In Randolph County, we know that vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes time. But vision with action can change the world. Randolph County’s school improvement process is helping to prepare students to be life-long learners in a 21st century classroom.

Current Reality



**Overview of our Technology Infrastructure**

Fiber-Optic Network

The district leases two fiber-optic segments. One segment connects the Randolph County K12 facility on GA Hwy 266 to the Randolph County JB Smith Complex on School Drive and the second segment connects the Randolph County JB Smith Complex to the Randolph County Board Offices on Highland Avenue. These two segments are 10 Gigabit lines.

Point of Demarcation

The Internet for the system is supplied to the Randolph County K12 facility. Windstream supplies the Randolph County School District with 2 circuits.

Main Distribution Facility (MDF)

Each campus has an MDF that is located in a strategic location. Each MDF contains the switch structure to provide each campus with an adequate central network framework center.

Intermediate Distribution Facility (IDF)

Each campus has multiple IDF’s that supply a network connection to the various data drops located throughout each campus. Each IDF is equipped with Ruckus or Alcatel POE or POE+ switches.

Network Connectivity

The Randolph County School System has both wired ethernet and wireless network connectivity. Each school has a 10 Gig connection between the MDF and the IDF’s. There is a 1 Gig wire ethernet connection between each IDF and the network device. Each school has Wi-Fi 6 wireless networking with total coverage in each building.

Internet



The Internet is supplied by Windstream though the Georgia Board of Regents PeachNet initiative. The Randolph County School System has been allocated 400 Mb of data bandwidth per school for a total of 1.2 Gbs. The Randolph County School System also has an administrative circuit supplied by Windstream.

Web Filtering and Internet Protection

The Randolph County School System uses a web filtering solution to block inappropriate and potentially harmful content. The system uses a firewall to control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on applied rules set for securing data and other sensitive information from malware attacks and hackers (Fortigate, Blocksi, and Google). These web filtering and firewall solutions ensure compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

Communications Infrastructure

The district’s data infrastructure provides telephone VoIP access to personnel in each school, board office and transportation center. This encompasses over 81 telephones and voice mailboxes,

The communications infrastructure also includes managing the district’s website and using a content management system to standardize and manage school websites. The district also leverages digital communications tools such as social media applications and a mass notification system based on email, phone, and text protocols. Verizon One provides the service.

Workstations, Devices, and Peripherals

At this time the workstations, laptops, and interactive panels, have not been refreshed at a pace comparable to the 5-year replacement cycle. The Randolph County School System has been trying to keep dated devices in working order until the kindergarten through twelfth grades can migrate to the new K12 Facility. At that point the Randolph County School System will begin to refresh devices as needed.

To ensure equitable access, the district is continually increasing the computer/device to student ratio. Currently, there is a one-to-one ratio of devices to students (1:1). This ratio considers Chromebooks and iPads as instructional devices and reflects student enrollment and state approved inventory as of August 1, 2025. All identified instructional classrooms have also been equipped with an interactive whiteboard or interactive flat panel technology.

Technology Support

The Randolph County School System has implemented a help ticketing system that is available to all staff and students through the schools and district webpages. Upon analysis, the ticket or request is routed to proper technology support personnel.

Virtual Learning Environment

The district’s virtual learning environment is grounded in Google. With Google Classroom being categorized as a Learning Management system, the Randolph County School System has incorporated Google Apps for Education and Google Classroom as its course and content management system, communication and collaboration tools, as well as an assessment and assignment tool. In addition, the Randolph County School System uses Microsoft 365 and Google Apps for Education as it’s cloud-based productivity tools. The district’s Student Information is also integral parts of the virtual learning environment.

Digital Learning Initiative

In response to the present and uncertain future of educating our students the Randolph County School System is continuously revamping our Digital Learning Initiatives. Each school will be responsible for creating a revised Digital Instructional Technology Plan that will guide the school into the future.

**Gap Analysis**

As the Randolph County Technology Committee analyzed stakeholder feedback, reviewed existing technology inventories, and present conditions five areas of concern emerged.

Professional Development (regarding technology use)

* There needs to be a focus on relevant and timely professional development/training of technology tools used during instruction.
* Mentoring and coaching staff need to provide increased individualized assistance for staff.
* Self-assessment and monitoring need to be implemented to address growth at all performance levels.
* Exemplars on effective technology integration need to be made available to all teachers.
* Digital leadership must be addressed to prepare school administrators to lead in this technology-rich environment.

Network Infrastructure

* Network security needs to be reviewed.
* The district must update switch and access points at JB Smith Complex and Board Office complex to provide stable wireless networking environment.
* Analyze physical LAN environment and provide updates according access and bandwidth demands.

Refresh student and teacher devices

* Analyze student mobile device condition and refresh as needed.
* Analyze teacher mobile device condition and refresh as needed.
* Analyze teacher instructional device(s) conditions and refresh as needed.
* Analyze administration device condition and refresh as needed.

Enhance Digital Learning and Community Awareness

Even though the use of remote learning is not employed on a wide scale at this point we still need to make sure the capabilities are up to date. We will continue to evaluate the following:

* Equitable access to technology for all students.
* Anytime and anywhere access to the virtual learning environment.
* Students need relevant exposure and training for using technology for organization, research, collaboration, and digital citizenship and literacy.
* Students need flexible opportunities to take virtual courses that support their personalized learning goals.
* The community needs to be made aware of the educational changes that are taking precedence now.
* Parents needs to understand how to use technology tools to assist child(ren) and monitor progress.
* The district needs to work with community to identify partnerships to extend safe learning environments for students.
* Software and applications will continue to be analyzed and monitored for effectiveness in educating our students.

Data Center

* Our data center severs and core switches are currently up to date.
* The backup system is adequate to service the data center devices.
* Antivirus and malware solutions are updated to correspond to modern threats. However, a Managed Detection and Response (MDR) and an End point Detection Response (EDR) system should be implemented.
* The system will need to replace UPS battery systems throughout the district (Head Start, Elementary, Middle and High Schools and Board Office)

System Wide Physical Security

We need to update various security shortcomings throughout the Randolph County School District.

* Complete the Centegix crisis alert and lock down system installation.
* Complete the Intrusion Alarm system.
* Complete the Video Surveillance/Camera system.

Goals and Strategies

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal 1: Continue to engage in relevant professional development.** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Provide timely professional development of technology tools into instruction. | Professional development should be complete by the end of the 2nd Nine Weeks.  Ongoing as needed for changes | Surveys provide information on the use of Google tools, communications, and all supplemental curriculum resources. Observations |  | Curriculum Coaches, Assistant Principals, Principals, Instructional Technologist, Director of Technology |
| Mentoring and coaching staff need to be provided to increase individualized assistance for staff. | Complete by the end of the 2nd Nine Weeks.  Ongoing as needed for changes | Focus groups and interviews. Teacher surveys and observations. |  | Curriculum Coaches, Assistant Principals, Principals, Instructional Technologist, Director of Technology |
| Self-assessment and monitoring need to be implemented to address growth at all performance levels | Complete by the end of the 2nd Nine Weeks.  Ongoing as needed for changes | Teachers will complete a reflection instrument each nine weeks. |  | Curriculum Coaches, Assistant Principals, Principals, Instructional Technologist, Director of Technology |
| Exemplars on effective technology integration need to be made available to all teachers. | Complete by the end of the 2nd Nine Weeks.  Ongoing as needed for changes | Instructional Technologist  Director of Technology |  | Instructional Technologist  Director of Technology |
| **Goal 2: Update Network Infrastructure** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Network security will be reviewed | Review every Semester.  Explore new firewall summer 2026 | FortiGate summary reports and logs, Blocksi reports and log. | Erate | Director of Technology |
| The district must reinstall switches and access points to provide a stable wireless networking environment | Prior to 2025 school year. | Implementation and testing  Ongoing | Labor installation cost to be determined | Director of Technology |
| Analyze physical LAN environment and update according to bandwidth needed. | Prior to 2025 the school year beginning.  Prior to 2026 school year beginning.  Prior to 2027 school year beginning. | Existing LAN topology and FortiGate network traffic reports.  Ruckus reports |  | Director of Technology |
| **Goal 3: Refresh student and teacher devices.** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Analyze student mobile device condition and replace as needed | End of 2025 school year  End of 2026 school year  End of 2027 school year | Physical Inventory of devices | Chromebooks  $300/device  Title 1, grant, Esplost, or Local | Director of Technology  Instructional Technologist |
| Analyze teacher mobile device condition and replace as needed. | End of 2025 school year  End of 2026 school year  End of 2027 school year | Physical Inventory of devices | Chromebook  $300/device  Cares, Esplost, or Local | Director of Technology  Instructional Technologist |
| Analyze teacher instructional device(s) conditions.  (Interactive Display) | End of 2025 school year  End of 2026 school year End of 2027 school year | Physical Inventory of devices | ClearTouch  $4800/with PC  Cares, Esplost, or Local | Director of Technology  Instructional Technologist |
| Analyze administration device condition. | End of 2025 school year  End of 2026 school year  End of 2027 school year | Physical Inventory of devices | Cares, Esplost, or Local  $1300/device | Director of Technology |
| **Goal 4: Enhance digital learning to reflect the needs of the student, teacher, and community during the current educational environment.** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Equitable access to technology for all students. | All students will have a Chromebook access to learning content. | Device checkout reports from inventory software. | As needed from Title I, SpED, or other grant. | Dir or Technology, School level inventory personnel. |
| Students need relevant exposure and training for using technology for organization, research, collaboration, and digital citizenship and literacy. | Students will continue to receive ongoing training in using technology for organization, research, collaboration, and digital citizenship and literacy. | Student participation levels, understanding, and grades, |  | Teachers  Instructional Technologist |
| Parents needs to understand how to use technology tools to assist child(ren) and monitor progress. | Training presented on school websites, Internet resources, and student Google Classroom posting. | Surveys, Individual responses |  | Principals, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Teachers, etc. |
| **Goal 5: Update data center and communications** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Replace aging switches | Prior to the 2025-2026 school year an audit needs to be conducted at the New Board offices and the JB Smith Complex. | System installed and tested for functionality | $24,000 | Director of Technology |
| Evaluate the migration of our PowerSchool Server to online hosted environment vs Infinite Campus | Prior to the beginning of the 2026 school year. | Talk with various school systems and demo the different functionality between the two. | $6000 first year and then $4000 per year after. | SIS Director  Director of Technology |
| Replace our current content filter/firewall. | Prior to the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. | Based on functionality and ongoing subscription prices. | 90% covered by E-Rate | Director of Technology |
| Install new EDR and/or MDR solution | During the 2025-2026 school year | System installed and tested for functionality | $12,000/year | Director of Technology |
| Install antivirus on all Windows devices. (ESET) | Prior to the 2021 school year | System installed and tested for functionality | $4000/year. | Director of Technology |
| **Goal 5: Update data center and communications** | | | | |
| **Strategies** | **Benchmarks** | **Evaluation Plan** | **Budget** | **Responsibility List** |
| Complete Centegix at the K12 Facility | Should be complete before October 31, 2025 | Ongoing installation process monitored by James Cobb to the point of complete functionality. | $94,000  Security Grants/Other | Director of Technology  James Cobb |
| Complete K12 Camera Install | Should be completed before October 31, 2025 | Ongoing installation process monitored by James Cobb to the point of complete functionality. |  | Director of Technology  James Cobb |
| Intrusion Alarm | Should be completed before October 31, 2025 | Ongoing installation process monitored by James Cobb to the point of complete functionality. |  | Director of Technology  James Cobb |

Major Projects (Next 3 Years) to be considered

**2025-2026**

* Replace all back up battery systems (E-Rate)
* Research and evaluate ERM/EDR software (Security Grant)
* Evaluate the need to change fiber segments (E-rate)
* Evaluate the need to change firewall (E-Rate)

**2026-2027**

* Implementation of EDM/EDR software (Security Grant)
* Installation of Firewall (E-rate)

**2027-2928**

* Evaluate network infrastructure including wired and wireless devices
* Evaluate virtual server environment

Technology Committee

**Members**

James Cobb, Director of Technology

Laura Perkins, District Effectiveness Coordinator

Zelda White-Davis, High School Principal

Elizabeth Knighton, Middle School Principal

Heather Melton, Elementary School Principal

Shawna Stanfield, Elementary School Coach

Allyson Stapleton, Elementary School Teacher

Ms. Murphy, Middle School Teacher

Nates Davis, Middle School Teacher

Brittney Gilbert, High School Teacher/CTAE Supervisor

Dr. Tosha Middlebrooks, Director of Special Education

**Administration**

Dr. Tangela Madge, Superintendent

Dr. Donna Drakeford, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Tosha Middlebrooks, Director of Special Education

**Community/Business Partners**

Microtechnology Consultants

Howard Technologies

EdTech12