

Randolph County School System Office of Technology Services



2025-2028 Technology Plan

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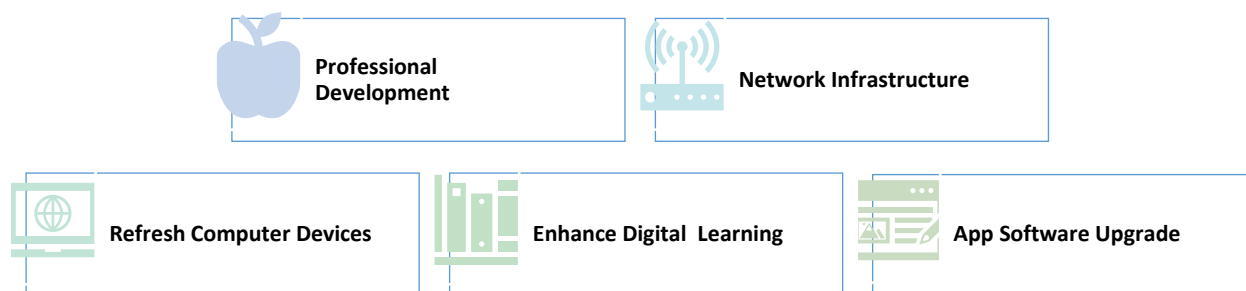
Executive Summary

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 district construction phases to the occupation of the new facility that are approaching in the coming months. An analysis and evaluation of the district's current technology infrastructure and data center against the district's shared vision identified gaps that will certainly impede progress.

These gaps or concerns were organized into five areas: Professional Development, Network Infrastructure, Refresh Administration, Teacher and Student Devices, Enhance Digital Learning, and App/Software Upgrades. 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 its 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 Remote/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.

Data Center

- Our data center is 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.
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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 2 nd 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 2 nd 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 2 nd 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 2 nd 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, Blocks i 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	Training presented on school websites,	Surveys, Individual responses		Principals, Superintendent,

technology tools to assist child(ren) and monitor progress.	Internet resources, and student Google Classroom posting.			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

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