Three-Year Technology Plan
July 2017 – June 2020

Superintendent
Dr. Shawn Haralson

Grow your mind.
Grow your life.

Success Begins at Ben Hill County Schools

509 West Palm Street   Fitzgerald, GA 31750   (229) 409-5500

Ben Hill County Schools

Three- Year Technology Plan

Introduction

Introduction

Ben Hill County Schools Profile

Ben Hill County is located in a rural area in South Georgia about 20 miles from Interstate 75, and is home for nearly 8,700 residents. The town of Fitzgerald was developed during the early 1900's from Wilcox and Irwin counties. The sense of unity between Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County is evident through the teamwork displayed within the city and county. Together they cooperatively deliver services to children and families in the community.

Ben Hill County School System has become a symbol of quality education throughout the area. The system continues to prepare for future generations based on the traditions and values that have provided such a strong foundation. Dedicated teaching professionals combined with emerging computer technologies are creating a higher level of excellence at all grade levels. Ben Hill County consists of five schools:

- Ben Hill Pre-K (BHPK), a preschool facility serving 4 year olds
- Ben Hill Primary (BHPS), serving K-2nd grade
- Ben Hill Elementary School (BHES), serving grades 3rd-5th
- Ben Hill Middle School (BHMS), serving grades 6th-8th
- Fitzgerald High School (FHS) serves grades 9-12

The school system serves around 3,306 students. With an operating budget of 25 million, a seven member elected Board of Education, the superintendent and the entire system realize the importance of designing top quality educational programs. The staff of over 300 certified educators is committed to excellence in serving a population in which over 82% of the students are enrolled in free and reduced meal program.

Each school has collaboratively developed a School Improvement Plan which focuses on improving the academic achievement of all students. The involvement of faculty, parents and the community enables each school to focus on strategies specific to the needs of the school. Ben Hill County School System strives to offer technology to enhance the curriculum and provide students and teachers with exceptional digital resources to achieve excellence.

I. *Vision for Technology Use*

a. District Mission/ Vision and Access

The mission of Ben Hill County School System is "Empowering all students for success." with our motto being "Grow your mind. Grow your life." Our vision statement is "One community committed to students success every day."   Our system technology plan is designed to support the mission and vision of our school district and empower students, teachers, and schools with leading-edge digital learning environments.

Ben Hill County School System is committed to using technology in any effective manner to enhance the quality of teaching and engage students in activities which positively impact the learning process. We visualize an educational environment which offers the latest emerging technologies and the opportunity for teachers and students to gain knowledge utilizing the resources available in a digital environment. Our goal is to challenge students to perform their best and develop the skills needed to adapt to an ever changing society. We strive to offer students the tools necessary to excel in all areas of academics.

II. *Current Reality*

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Ben-Hill Pre-K (approximately 169 students)

Current Environment:

Desktop	61
Laptop	4
Printer	7
Promethean Panel	11
Scanner	1
Tablet	49
Wireless AP	8

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Ben Hill Primary School (approximately 711 students)

Current Environment:

Desktop	313
Laptop	54
Printer	16
Projector	64
Promethean Board	56
Tablet	420
Wireless AP	55

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Ben Hill Elementary School (approximately 779 students)

Current Environment

Desktop	274
Laptop	274
Printer	63
Projector	54
Promethian Board	59
Tablet	175
Wireless AP	60

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Ben Hill Middle School, Grade 6-8 (approximately 673 students)

Current Environment

Desktop	380
Laptop	505
Macbook	2
Printer	22
Projector	25
Promethean panel	24
Tablet	3
Wireless AP	69

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Fitzgerald High School, Grades 9-12 (approximately 799 students)

Current Environment:

Desktop	417
Laptop	322
Printer	57
Projector	30
Promethean panel	26
Tablet	35
Wireless AP	81

III. *Goals*

Technology Goals:

I. **Provide technology for increased collaboration and communication between students and teachers.**
   - Establish a refresh cycle of 20 percent each year to ensure student devices are no more than five years old.
     - Funding source: federal, state, local
     - Target date: July 2017
   - Increase student device fleet to 1:1 ratio to facilitate institutionalized digital learning.
     - Funding source: federal, state, local
     - Target date: July 2020
   - Implement the Office 365 platform for students, faculty, and staff as the primary communication medium.
     - Funding source: no cost
     - Target date: July 2017
   - Provide the Microsoft Office productivity suite for up to 5 personal devices.
     - Funding source: no cost
     - Target date: July 2017

II. **Provide infrastructure and connectivity required to maximize access to online resources.**
   - Supplement state-provided internet bandwidth with additional circuit for internet bandwidth load-balancing.
     - Funding source: federal, local
     - Target date: annual, ongoing
   - Upgrade internal school wired networks to 10 gigabits per second for prevention of local network bottlenecks.
     - Funding source: federal, local
     - Target date: December 2018
   - Increase wireless access points in classroom to 1:1 ratio to support mobile student device usage.
     - Funding source: federal, local
     - Target date: December 2018
   - Transition from local user account services to cloud-based user account services for anywhere access to user resources.
     - Funding source: federal, local
     - Target date: July 2019
   - Implement cloud-based management of user and device security policies and applications.
     - Funding source: federal, local
     - Target date: July 2019
   - Integrate the Infinite Campus student information system with Office 365 to automate and standardize user and group creation.
     - Funding source:
     - Target date: July 2019

III. **Provide training and system support to students and teachers in order to ensure efficient use of technology resources.**
   - Maintain defined service levels to ensure timely response to service requests.
     - Funding source: local
     - Target date: continuous, ongoing
   - Build training schedule based on needs assessment and deliver training on instructional technology resources.
     - Funding source:
     - Target date: annual, ongoing

IV. **Leverage technology to engage parents, community and other stakeholders in student success.**
- o Provide new, centrally-located meeting room for community involvement, engagement, and feedback.
  - ▪ Funding source: local
  - ▪ Target date: January 2018
- o Partner with Footsteps2Brilliance to create a turnkey, county-wide literacy solution for pre-K through 3rd grade.
  - ▪ Funding source: federal
  - ▪ Target date: December 2018

V. **Implement technology solutions to enable teachers and administration to evaluate and track student progress.**
- o Deploy required client software and provide support for Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), a progress monitor that reveals student growth over time.
  - ▪ Funding source:
  - ▪ Target date: January 2017, ongoing
- o Deploy required client software and provide support for i-Ready, an adaptive diagnostic tool that identifies student needs.
  - ▪ Funding source:
  - ▪ Target date: January 2017, ongoing

IV. *Resources*

Resources for achieving technology goals:

- ➤ **ELOST:** The system will provide an annual amount for the refresh of aging and obsolete systems to ensure that students and staff will not be hindered by older, possibly non-compliant devices and software products. Annual expenditures are estimated to currently be in the amounts of $200,000 to $400,000 annually for the three year period.
- ➤ **Title Ia:** Title Ia will annually budget an amount to supplement the resources of the system in enhancing access to devices and operating systems for all students. Budgeted amounts will vary from year to year based on availability of funds.
- ➤ **Title VIb:** Title VIb, Rural and Low Income Schools will provide an annual budget that will vary from year to year as a source of funding to purchase hardware in support of low wealth systems.
- ➤ **GOSA Grants:** The state GOSA grant program will be used annually to purchase student devices otherwise unavailable to the system.
- ➤ **Perkins Grants:** Federal Perkins grants will be used to supplement and refresh those vocational systems as indicated or necessary.
- ➤ **Other grants:** The system will continue to seek and apply for other grants to supplement the purchase and implementation of technology solutions for the system.

V. *Charting for Success*

Goals	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Provide technology for increased collaboration and communication between students and teachers.	**GOSA - $150,462.38 324 laptops BHMS** Title I - $30,797.00 **113 laptops BHES** Title I - $49,871.00 **99 laptops FHS** ELOST - $200,000 **45 Promethean Boards BHES**		
Provide infrastructure and connectivity required to maximize access to online resources.			
Provide training and system support to students and teachers in order to ensure efficient use of technology resources.	Title I - $1,171.00 **mobile projector / ipad BOE training** Title I - $7,227.76 **PL Promethean FHS**		
Leverage technology to engage parents, community and other stakeholders in student success.	Title I - $23,898.00 **Parent Involvement Room PreK sound system, speakers, screens & projectors**		
Implement technology solutions to enable teachers and administration to evaluate and track student progress.			

VI. *Staff / Committees*

Members of BHCS District Technology Committee are listed below:

Thomas Rachels, Chief Operating Officer, Central Office
Terri Smith, Instructional Technology Coordinator, Technology Dept.
Matt Smith, VARtek Technology Director
Stephen Harden, Director of Title Ia, Central Office
Wanda Kimbrell, Executive Director of Special Education and Pupil Services, Central Office
Dr. Lisa Stone, Director of Title IIa, Central Office
Dawn Clements, Principal, Fitzgerald High School
Ben Webb, Principal, Ben Hill Primary School
Lisa Bell, Media Specialist, Ben Hill Middle School
Rob Garber, Technology Teacher, Ben Hill Middle School
Thomas Sharp, Assistant Principal, Ben Hill Primary School
Wanda Watson, Media Specialist, Ben Hill Elementary School
Marsha Stembridge, Media Specialist, Ben Hill Primary School
Jaquetta Brown, Principal, Ben Hill Pre-K

Technology Committees for each School, SY 2017-18

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BHPS Technology Committee:
Marsha Stembridge - Chairperson
Beth Hall-Turner
Dena Bryan
Rose Grimes
Marissa Melton
Wendy Rickard
Nicki Troupe
Cathy Wallis

BHES Technology Committee :
Lisa Bell - Chairperson
Stacy Powell
Caleb Powell
Cheri Stone
Joi Kinnett
Melissa Gayton

BHMS Technology Committee:
Tessy Pereira – Chairperson
Dee Ann Winston
Katy Calhoun
Rob Garber
Shannon Bynum
Katrina Vaughn

FHS Technology Committee:
Christy Jacobs - Chairperson
Cynthia Hendrix
Myra Durden
Brenda Parker

VII. *Appendices*
Board of Education Technology Policies

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Board Policy IFBGE
Internet Safety

Introduction

Ben Hill County Schools Internet system has a limited educational purpose. Internet access will be provided to students and staff throughout the district with the following goals in mind:

a. To provide educational excellence for the advancement and promotion of learning and teaching by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication within our own community, the state, nationally and globally.
b. To support research and education in and among academic institutions in the world by providing access to unique resources supplemental to the Media Center resources, and provide the opportunity for collaborative work.
c. To stimulate personal growth in information gathering techniques, critical thinking skills and communication skills; to significantly expand each users' knowledge base; and to promote intellectual inquiry and awareness of global diversity through world wide communication and exploration.
d. To assist students in developing the intellectual skills needed to discriminate among information sources and to evaluate and use information to meet educational goals as posed to the student by the instructor.

It is the policy of Ben Hill County School System to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Instruction for Students
The Superintendent, administrators, and/or other appropriate personnel shall design and provide for students age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate online behavior, including interacting with others on social networking sites and in chat rooms; behaviors that may constitute cyber bullying; and how to respond when subjected to cyber bullying.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (Sonic Firewall) shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Ben Hill county Schools online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. All outside web based email will not be available to staff and students. If students have email access, it will only be under their teacher's direct supervision using a classroom account. Students may be provided with individual email accounts under special circumstances, at the request of their teacher and with the approval of their parent.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking', and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Ben Hill County School staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the designated representatives of the Technology Department.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of Ben Hill County Schools at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on November 8, 2005.

CIPA DEFINITION OF TERMS:

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions are:
   1.   OBSCENE, as that term is defined in section 1460 of Title 18, United States Code;
   2.   CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, as that term is defined in section 2256 of Title 18, United States Code;
   3.   Harmful to minors.

HARMFUL TO MINORS. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
   1.   Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
   2.   Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or

simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

    3.   Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT, SEXUAL CONTACT. The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of Title 18, United States Code.

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Policy IFBG
Internet Acceptable Use

Use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational mission, goals, and objectives of the school system.

It shall be the policy of the Ben Hill County Board of Education that the school system shall have in continuous operation, with respect to any computers belonging to the school having access to the Internet:

A qualifying "technology protection measure," as that term is defined in Section 1703(b)(1) of the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000; and

Procedures or guidelines developed by the superintendent, administrators and/or other appropriate personnel which provide for monitoring the online activities of users and the use of the chosen technology protection measure to protect against access through such computers to visual depictions that are (i) obscene, (ii) child pornography, or (iii) harmful to minors, as those terms are defined in Section 1703(b)(1) and (2) of the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000. Such procedures or guidelines shall be designed to:

Provide for monitoring the online activities of users to prevent, to the extent practicable, access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and the World Wide Web;

   ii. Provide for students age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate online behavior, including interacting with others on social networking sites and in chat rooms; behaviors that may constitute cyber bullying; and how to   respond when subjected to cyber bullying;

   iii. Promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic   communications;

 iv. Prevent unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unauthorized activities by minors online;

 v. Prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and

 vi. Restrict minors' access to materials "harmful to minors," as that term is defined in Section 1703(b)(2) of the Children's   Internet Protection Act of 2000.