

Pulaski County School System

Hawkinsville, Georgia

Three-Year Technology Plan

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Superintendent

Janis H. Sparrow
jsparrow@pulaski.k12.ga.us

Director of Technology

Robin C. White
rwhite@pulaski.k12.ga.us

(478) 783-7200

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I. Vision for Technology Use

Compose an overall mission and/or vision which describes the steps the LEA is taking to ensure all students/teachers have increased access to technology. Include a list of specific vision statements for system educational improvement over a three year period.

The mission of Pulaski County Schools is to educate students to be responsible, productive citizens who, through continuous learning, will be able to adapt to the ever-changing global society. We have also internalized the goal of the 'Enhancing Education Through Technology Act of 2001', a portion of the *No Child Left Behind Act*. That goal is to assist every student in crossing the digital divide by ensuring that every student is technologically literate by the time the student finishes the eighth grade, regardless of the student's race, ethnicity, gender, family income, geographic location, or disability. We will strive to bring global learning to our students who live and learn in a low-income rural area. We will assist students, educators, parents, and community members in accessing, analyzing, and preparing information so that they may become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and productive citizens. We will strive to provide our teachers and students with 21st Century instructional materials, equipment, training, and sustained support. We will utilize members of the Pulaski County Technology Services staff, HGRESA ETC staff, local experts, and outside experts to provide technology related opportunities and support to improve student achievement and productivity.

The Pulaski County School System vision for technology use includes the desire to implement the following:

- Offer students, teachers, administrators, and parents mobile and high speed access to current information to empower problem solving, decision making, and collaborative learning;
- Develop authentic models for accessing student achievement and diagnosing data to differentiate instruction and maximize achievement;
- Provide equal opportunities and assistive technologies for students with special needs or disadvantaged sub groups;
- Provide 21st Century standardized equipment and resources in all academic classrooms;
- Provide on-going professional development for our educators and administrators in the use and implementation of technology into the classroom to maximize learning and to differentiate learning to meet the needs of all students;
- Restructure classroom instruction to make it valid, goal-oriented, and connected to 21st Century technology;
- Allow students to work on areas of individual interest at their own pace with immediate feedback, the opportunity for self-evaluation, and continuous progress and success;
- Engage in continuous evaluation of instructional practices and technology integration to monitor student and teacher technology literacy in accordance with National Technology Literacy standards;
- Provide a web-based grade book and parent interface for the secure access of student attendance, grades, progress monitoring, and other data regarding the students' academic standing;
- Create baseline standards for classroom technology and initiate system wide purchasing policies;

- Provide high performance, web-based software with adequate training to administrative personnel that will allow easy data collection and distribution to school personnel;
- Provide current, web-based information to inform the community of overall student requirements, performance, and achievement;
- Extend the availability of school technology resources to our students outside of the classroom;
- Extend the availability of school technology resources to the community.

The vision of the Pulaski County School System is to provide state of the art technologies to our students and staff members, provide professional learning opportunities to assist teachers in the use of these technologies to produce maximum student achievement, and to provide support to ensure the success of these initiatives. Technology integration will enable us to prepare our students for future careers. Our classrooms will be enriched with real life performance tasks, collaborative planning and completion of assignments by diversified groups of students. Textbooks will be one of many resources used by students who complete research, hypothesize, and complete experiments and scientific studies using computers, Internet resources, and high tech software. Research findings and experiment results may be shared using interactive whiteboards, LCD projectors, podcasting, blogging, professional and attractive charts and graphs created with computer software, and possibly new technology that becomes available by 2014. Our classrooms are student centered where the teacher serves as a coach guiding his or her students through new and exciting learning experiences. Administrators, Board of Education members, and other stakeholders engage in data driven decision making as a result of current data being available through the use of technology. The Pulaski County School System believes that the skillful use of technology can be an integral part of producing successful 21st Century citizens who are collaborative problem solvers and critical thinkers.

II. Current Reality

Identify your data sources. What data does your technology inventory survey tell you? Compose a narrative analyzing the gap in access to technology across the district. Address the following groups - instructional, administrative, parent/community, system readiness/system support - personnel/resources.

Pulaski County Schools utilizes the following data sources to collect valuable data for informed technology planning decisions.

- Annual technology budget which identifies:
 - Capital purchases and support expenditures.
 - New and alternative funding sources.

- Professional Development Assessment which identifies equitable training between schools and identifies professional learning needs in technology.

- Ongoing gap analysis of equality of technology resources between schools.

- Ongoing benchmark assessment which identifies strengths and needed improvements in our technology department as perceived by teachers, administrators, and support staff.

- Annual technology inventory submitted to State Department of Education which includes:
 - Definition of “modern computer specifications” which leads to replacement of dated equipment.
 - Ratio of student to computers to ensure adequate technology access in all school settings.

- Annual technology literacy assessment to evaluate students.

- Levels of Technology Integration tool used to determine a teacher’s effective use of technology in the classroom.

Instructional Technology Use

All Schools

All schools in the system are connected via a fiber optic WAN. The T-1 connections are provided to the school district via the Georgia DOE. Additional bandwidth has been purchased using other funds. It is the goal of the district to purchase even more bandwidth (contingent on e-rate funding) in the upcoming school years. With the increased demands for online resources, the use of multimedia content and the increased data reporting requirements, stable and robust internet connections are vital. Every classroom in the Pulaski County School system has a minimum of 3 internet 'modern' computers for student use. Teachers are given the option of having a laptop or desktop system for his or her classroom. Previously, these workstations were on a 3 year rotation lease thus ensuring current technologies in all the classrooms. However, budget constraints have necessitated that no new leases be initiated and the remaining equipment was purchased from the leasor and remains in use in the classrooms. It is the desire of the district to replace older equipment when funding becomes available. Computer leasing is funded via local and SPLOST funds.

In FY06, all e-rate eligible schools including the BOE office were re-cabled using Category 6 cabling to replace the existing Category 5 cabling. In addition, wireless access points were installed in all schools, all switches were replaced with 1GB capacity equipment and several servers were replaced. All equipment installed was on the approved services and equipment list as provided by The Universal Service Administration Company (USAC). Network drops are present in all classrooms, computer labs, media centers, offices, conference rooms, cafeterias, and other instructional areas.

All classrooms at the three schools are connected to a video distribution network. The media specialists are able to record and redeliver a multitude of audio/visual tools via this network. Using local funding, the technology department bought and installed on the network a server dedicated to hosting all of the content from United Streaming/ Discovery Education. The implementation of this unit has greatly decreased the strain on the network's internet resources while allowing teachers access to all content available via the website.

The district's networks are maintained by the technology department in addition to a services provided with outside vendors on an "as needed" basis. Pulaski County employs one full time Technology Specialist and one half time Technology Specialist in addition to the Director of Technology. Trouble-shooting issues are handled through an online system of work orders. Academic and instructional support is provided through the Technology Support Department and the Curriculum and Instruction Department. All webhosting and email servers are maintained in-house by the technology staff.

Pulaski County Elementary School

Pulaski County Elementary School (PCES) has one computer lab that students visit on a rotational schedule with other classes including art, music and physical education. While in the lab, the students engage in a variety of activities including but not limited to: Class Works, Online Assessment System, individual software programs to support specific curricular goals, general internet usage, research, writing reports, skills practice, creating spreadsheets, and designing and creating materials that display understanding and mastery of subject matter.

In the spring of 2008, members of the PCES staff applied for and were funded with the Title II-D competitive grant through the Georgia Department of Education. The target group for this grant is the third grade. This funding provided 4 classrooms and the media center with interactive whiteboards, mounted projectors, mp3 players, student response systems, digital video and still cameras, and 30 laptop computers to be used by students in the classrooms and in the media center. Additional laptops were purchased for the teachers, media specialists and technology support specialists. Grant funds availed grant team members to a plethora of professional learning opportunities through the Heart of Georgia RESA and ETC as well as attendance to various curricular and technology related conferences.

In 2009, PCES was awarded a similar Title IID grant. This grant targeted the second grade and emphasized literacy. Funds were used to purchase laptop computers, digital cameras, microphones, software, and supplies to support literacy. Students were able to create digital portfolios to demonstrate the skills (both technology and literacy) they have mastered through the use of these resources.

In addition to Title IID grant funding, PCES applied to and received funding from The Pulaski County Education Foundation (Ed. Foundation) to equip the remaining classrooms in the third grade with interactive whiteboards and mounted projectors. With this funding, grant teachers can serve as mentors to the remaining teachers in their grade in their quest to integrate technology into daily lessons.

Funding from the Ed. Foundation also allowed PCES to purchase a mobile lab of laptop computers. The cart houses 25 machines and is easily moved to any classroom in the building. The computers are equipped with the Microsoft Office Suite as well as configured to access the school network and then internet via a wireless connection.

Other software packages, internet subscriptions, etc. have been purchased at PCES using a variety of funding sources like Title I, the Reading First grant, local funds, etc. Upgrades to the network infrastructure at PCES were made possible with e-rate funding and local funds.

Available software programs include but not limited to: Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, STAR Reading, STAR Math, Study Island, Math Facts in a Flash, Class Works, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher and Microsoft PowerPoint.

In the spring of 2011, Special Education funds were used to equip all Special Education classrooms as 21st Century equipment. With this installation, over 97% of the classrooms at PCES are designated as 21st Century classrooms.

Pulaski County Middle School

Pulaski County Middle School (PCMS) has 3 computer labs. One lab equipped with 28 computer workstations and is used for instruction of Connections classes; the second lab is equipped with 28 computer workstations used for academic remediation and enrichment. The third lab is available for teachers to schedule to bring their classes. Three classroom sets of classroom response systems is available for check out to the teachers at PCMS

Several years ago, PCMS was awarded the Title II D Competitive grant to provide one classroom with a classroom set of laptops, wireless access, etc. This set of laptops is an essential and effective tool used in the 7th grade math classes.

Many of the classrooms at PCMS are equipped with interactive whiteboards and all of the classrooms have projectors. In the spring of 2008, PCMS applied to The Pulaski County Education Foundation for a grant to install an interactive whiteboard in the classrooms that did not already have them. The school was funded for 11 boards that will be installed in the summer and fall of 2008. This means that every classroom at PCMS will be equipped with 21st Century technology.

The instructional lab is currently used as an extended learning lab for math and reading. Students use the labs for various assignments, included but not limited to accessing *Brain Pop* and the Georgia OAS for test review, research, web page building and movie making. A sample of the available software programs at PCMS include but not limited to: Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, STAR Reading, STAR Math, Class Works, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Movie Maker, Microsoft Photo Story and online resources correlated to the textbooks used at PCMS.

In 2010, Pulaski County School System elected to participate in the national "Race to the Top" (RT³) initiative. With use of RT³ funds, a mobile cart of 28 netbooks and a printer has been purchased for PCMS. Additional sets of classroom response systems will be purchased with RT³ funds. It is the goal to purchase additional netbook carts during the grant funding years.

Hawkinsville High School

Hawkinsville High School is equipped with two computer labs used to teach Business Education classes, one lab used for Computer Assisted Drafting, and two general 'sign up' labs. These labs provide extensive opportunities for students to develop technology skills based on the QCC/GPS standards. Every classroom is equipped with a minimum of one computer with Internet access, an

interactive whiteboard and mounted LCD projector. The science department is equipped with digital microscopes. Several sets of student response systems are available for check out at HHS.

A sample of the available software programs at HHS include but not limited to: Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, STAR Reading, STAR Math, Class Works, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Access, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Movie Maker, Microsoft Photo Story, Page Maker, Geometer Sketch Pad, online resources correlated to the textbooks used at HHS and a wide variety of vocational software.

In 2009, Hawkinsville High School received a "School Improvement Grant" from the Georgia Department of Education. elected to participate in the national "Race to the Top" (RT³) initiative. With use of RT³ funds, a mobile cart of 28 netbooks and a printer has been purchased for HHS, ten document cameras, graphing calculators and additional computers for the science labs. Additional sets of classroom response systems and mobile netbook carts will be purchased during the grant funding years.

Instructional Gap Analysis

Data collected from our fall 2007 gap analysis outlined the reality of instruction at each school setting in relation to 21st Century technology equipment. Classrooms meeting the baseline standard for a 21st Century classroom had the following components:

- Two to five modern computers (laptops or desktops);
- An LCD projector (ceiling-mounted or cart-mounted) with at least 1600 Lumens and all necessary cabling to connect to instructional devices;
- Interactive whiteboard (wall-mounted or stand-mounted) with accompanying software;
- A student response system

Results indicate that while students and teachers are able to use 21st Century equipment on a check-out or share basis at all locations, most classrooms were lacking one or more components of a 21st Century classroom. Exceptions occur in those schools/classrooms that had participated in recent Title II-D grant initiatives. Funding through previous grants at HHS has enabled all classrooms to have the interactive whiteboards and projectors installed. Private donations, grants, and collaborative spending between programs have provided these technologies at PCMS and PCES. Local and SPLOST funds have provided the computer hardware for all the schools. Unfortunately a gap in 21st Century technology still exists in some academic classrooms in Pulaski County Schools. The results of a recent Benchmark survey shows that most teachers have the instructional technology they need in order to teach the Georgia Performance Standards. To equalize access in academic classrooms, approximately \$500,000 dollars would need to be allocated for this purpose.

The Special Education Department has a long established Assistive Technology Team. The purpose of this team is to keep abreast of emerging assistive technologies and how they may benefit our

exceptional learner population. This team also refers local to the Georgia Project for Assistive Technology (G-PAT) for evaluation and recommendation of appropriate assistive technologies. The Special Education Department in Pulaski County is diligent in providing appropriate assistive technologies to students who need them.

Administrative Technology Use

Administrative applications are installed at each school. These applications are available to all schools and include student information management, food services, personnel information, employee attendance and applications. School personnel are provided web-based e-mail accounts to promote better communication between the schools, staff, and parents.

School Max is the student information system used in Pulaski County. With School Max, teachers report attendance by period at PCMS and at HHS while daily attendance is reported at PCES. To facilitate better communication with parents, the i-Parent suite is utilized. This allows parents to login to a secure site and view their student's attendance, pending assignments and current grades in real time. State data reporting documents such as FTE and Student Data Record are generated from School Max. School Max is deploying the longitudinal data system offered by the Georgia DOE. While our district is not currently enrolled in this program, the program should be fully deployed by the start of the FY12 school year.

Special education teachers use SEMS-Net, a special education program designed to manage data on special education students and electronically generate and document required paperwork such as Individual Education Plans as well as parent contacts. This application is web-based and therefore accessible from any internet connected computer. Additionally, in the fall of 2008, SEMS Tracker will be used to track the Pyramid of Interventions for students on SST or who have a 504 plan.

The School Nutrition Department uses a suite of programs from LunchBox at both cafeterias. The cafeterias at the schools and the central nutrition office are connected to a server that houses all data for free and reduced eligibility, student meal balances, inventory, etc.

Administrative Gap Analysis

In the administrative offices of the schools, the baseline standard was the presence of modern computers as the administrative equipment was also on the 3 year lease rotation. While bandwidth is adequate for the most part, additional bandwidth is desired to give a faster and more robust transfer of data. An offsite server is used to back up data from various applications from different locations. The low bandwidth slows this task and at times corrupts the data because the applications will 'time out' in the transfer.

Most administrative software packages have been in use by the system for quite some time. A web-based systems has been added to manage professional learning units and training opportunities,

leave requests by staff members and field trip and fund raiser requests. Teachers are informed of training opportunities via the website and emails. Our transportation department also needs to investigate possible software solutions for their department. The Maintenance and Operations Department utilizes the same ticketing system as the Technology Department for maintenance requests.

The Pulaski County School System is also exploring options to create and centrally store electronic copies of vital documents. It is understood that it will be a monumental task in terms of expense of equipment, software and man hours. This task is dependent upon funding.

Parent/Community Uses of Technology

Pulaski County Schools utilizes e-mail, websites, a local access cable channel and newsletters to promote better communication between schools, staff, parents and community members. Stakeholder input is solicited via both online and paper surveys. Computer labs at all schools are open during the evening hours to allow parent and student access for those who do not have access to these technologies at home. Pulaski County School System also utilizes an automated telephone messaging system to dispatch information to parents via phone calls.

Parent/Community Gap Analysis

The system website (<http://www.pulaski.k12.ga.us>) features upcoming events, recent school news, the school calendar, lunch menus, and special pages. Some of the links from the main page include the i-Parent portal for parents, the benefits site that explains benefits the district offers to employees. And a link to the e-Board site where all board meetings are publicized and agendas made public.

Every classroom in Pulaski County Schools is equipped with a telephone. The purpose of this phone is to facilitate communication with parents and teachers as well as the safety aspect. Teachers have instant access to 911 for medical or terroristic emergencies. All administrators as well as the School Resource Officer are provided cellular phones to facilitate constant contact with the schools. Cells phones are also made available to groups taking field trips, athletic events, etc. The instructor of the Driver Education program has a school cell phone with him when he is out driving with students as well. It is the goal of the district to add an automated phone calling system that will allow schools and district administrators to relay school event notices and emergency information in English and Spanish.

Each school in our system also maintains a school website with information and links specific to that particular school. Teachers at each school can link a personal website to the school website. However, each teacher is responsible for maintaining his/her own website. The intent is that teachers will post information specific to their classroom, club, or school-sponsored activities, but some teachers are not comfortable with web page management and design. Increased training and assistance should eliminate this problem over time.

Goals, Benchmarks, and Strategies

Instructional Goals

Goal 1	Continually update and improve 21 st Century technology access.			
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source – Estimated Amount	Responsible Person
Provide LAN/WAN and wireless access robust enough to handle streaming video, and distance learning applications	The district’s network (both wireless and wired) will be stable and capable of providing high speed access to online resources by 2014.	Annual technology inventory	SPLOST Local Funds E-Rate awards Amount: \$50,000	Director of Technology
E-rate application will be filed to apply for discounted rates for Internet connectivity, basic maintenance of internal connections, eligible hardware and the district’s phone system	E-rate applications will be filed annually for any eligible services.	Annual technology budget	Eligible E-rate awards excluding end-user equipment. Local Funds Amount: Awards contingent upon USAC	Director of Technology
Provide access to updated computer workstations, LCD projectors, student response systems, and other multimedia equipment for instructional purposes	Schools in the system will review and acquire, as appropriate, 21 st Century equipment for each classroom by 2014	Annual gap analysis	Title I Title II SPLOST Local Funds E-rate awards Amount: \$500,000	Director of Technology, School technology contacts, Director of Curriculum and Instruction/Title I and Title II Director

Goal 2:	Improve student academic performance, technology literacy, and motivation.			
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source/Amount	Person Responsible
Utilize motivational, instant feedback test practice materials both in print and online to assist students in preparation for state testing.	Students passing the CRCT and the GHSGT will increase 8% in all subject areas below the 90 th percentile over the next three years.	Annual software/technology utilization report	Title I Local Funds Amount: \$30,000	Technology Director Graduation Coaches Technology contacts Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Title I Director
Utilize a credit recovery system for students in middle and high school who are not passing at the end of each semester.	The District will evaluate available programs and implement by 2014.	Annual gap analysis Graduation Rate Student Retention Rate	Title I Title II Local Funds Amount: \$75,000	Director of Technology Graduation Coaches Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Title I & Title II Director
Expand our use of online credit courses such as Odyssey or Georgia Virtual School to accommodate students who must work or have other family obligations in order to increase our graduation rate	The District will evaluate available programs and implement by 2014.	Annual graduation rate Annual software/hardware utilization report.	Title I Local Funds Amount: \$50,000	Director of Technology Director of Curriculum & Instruction Graduation Coach

Utilize software to disaggregate data for the purpose of differentiating instruction and increasing student achievement in all subgroups including special education.	The District will evaluate available software and implement by 2014.	Annual Gap Analysis	Title I Title II Local Funds Amount: \$50,000	Director of Technology Graduation Coaches
Ensure that technology is an integral component of the instructional program and assess student technology achievement.	Schools in the system will update technology curriculum and assess technology literacy in relation to NETS technology standards.	Annual technology literacy assessment.	Local Funds Amount: \$7,000	Technology Director

Goal 3		Utilize technology to support the professional growth of all staff to maximize student learning.		
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source - Estimated Amount	Responsible Person
Increase technology trained staff members to increase teacher training and technical support.	The system will add at least one full or part-time technology position by 2014.	Annual gap analysis	Local Funds Amount: \$40,000	Director of Technology
Develop 10 hour technology training courses that align with technology goals and teacher requests.	The level of technology integration will increase by 30% from level 3 to level 4 in relation to the LOTI evaluation instrument.	Annual training needs survey Professional Learning Needs Assessment	Local Funds QBE Staff Development Funds Amount: \$15,000	Director of Curriculum & Instruction Director of Technology Technology Contacts

Administrative Goals

Goal 4	Increase the application and use of technology to enhance job performance and productivity.			
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source – Estimated Amount	Responsible Person
Provide teachers and administrators technology equipment using system wide purchasing.	90% of technology purchases will be coordinated by Central Office Technology Department by 2014.	Annual Gap Analysis Annual Technology Inventory Annual software/hardware utilization report	Local Funds Title I, II, VI Eligible E-rate awards excluding end-user equipment SPLOST Amount: \$200,000	Director of Technology Technology Contacts Title I, II, VI Director
Include a section in faculty/staff evaluation form to include technology proficiency.	All faculty/staff will attain intermediate proficiency levels in job related technology applications by 2014.	LOTI Software/Hardware Utilization Report	Local Funds Amount: \$10,000	Director of Technology Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Purchase and implement a system to create electronic back up of vital transcript, financial, personnel, and other pertinent documents.	Installation and document creation system for electronic retention by 2014.	Annual software/hardware utilization report.	Local Funds Amount: \$50,000	Technology Director Human Resources

Parent/Community Use of Technology Goals

Goal 5	Utilize technology to enhance community communication and provide additional standards based material.			
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source - Estimated Amount	Responsible Person
Provide parents access to the homework assignments and assistance through teacher and standards based websites	Monitor teacher website updates and parent use of school sponsored websites	Quality Website Rubric Usage Report	Local Funds Amount: \$20,000	Technology Director Principals
Involve Parent Coordinators in all technology training to increase use of instructional technology after school hours.	Increase parent coordinators' and parent's knowledge of available technology by 50% over the next three years.	Monitor content and participation in Parent Coordinator Workshops	Title I Title II Amount: \$50,000	Technology Director Director of Federal Programs/Parent Coordinators

System Readiness Goals

Goal 6	Insure that all system personnel and stakeholders are educated and involved in the implementation of the vision for the use of technology.			
Strategies	Benchmark	Evaluation Method	Funding Source - Estimated Amount	Responsible Person
Adopt a "train the trainer" model to more fully implement the vision of the use of technology.	Increase knowledge of the district's vision for technology by 50% over the next three years.	Review of system website, newsletters, and training presentations.	Local Funds State Professional Development funds Amount: \$50,000	Technology Director Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Director of Professional Development

Upgrade the data connectivity between all schools and the central office as increased bandwidth becomes available	Purchase additional bandwidth connections at each school	Negotiations with local Internet service provider.	Local Funds E-rate Amount: \$25,000	Director of Technology
Update local Internet Safety Policy to include policies on hacking, cyber bullying and pornography.	Policies will be in place to handle any incidence of hacking, cyber bullying or pornography on the school system network.	Review of local Internet Safety Policy	N/A	Director of Technology Superintendent Board of Education

III. Communication and Marketing

Describe strategies to share system progress, disseminate evaluation results, encourage broad stakeholder involvement, and market the role technology can have in helping students achieve in innovative ways. How are we sharing what we are doing? How can we show that the way we are sharing is meeting our needs? How are we encouraging more people to be actively involved with the system?

The Pulaski County School System uses regular press releases, Internet articles, and staff newsletters to help disseminate information to community stakeholders. Our superintendent publishes a quarterly newsletter that is posted on the school website, the local chamber of commerce website and printed copies are distributed at local businesses. The school officials periodically publish articles in the local newspaper to keep parents and stakeholders informed. System, schools, and teacher websites are used extensively to communicate with parents and the community. The websites contain school start and release times, announcements, assignments, course syllabi, AYP reports, and announcements among other information. The system website features upcoming events, recent school news, the school calendar, lunch menus, and special pages with links and information for parents, students, and community members. School information is also disseminated via ComSouth's cable public access channel 10.

School and class newsletters are sent home on a regular basis. School related articles regularly appear in local newspapers. School news also appears occasionally on area television stations.

Regular and consistent technology planning occurs through collaboration between the Pulaski County School System technology department and system-level staff development, curriculum,

media, Title I, special education, and administration. Monthly meetings of the system leadership team, which consists of all principals, ALC Director or his designee, Pre-K Director, Director of Maintenance and Operations, Special Education Director, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Personnel, Director of Technology, and Superintendent, allow stakeholders to develop successful strategies to insure that all stakeholders have input into a System-level plan. Pulaski County Schools also use the services provided by the local Educational Technology Training Center, including technology planning, support, and training.

IV. Professional Development

Describe how the local educational agency will provide professional development and ensure that specific funds like E-Rate and other sources are spent on scientifically and/or evidence based practices in relation to the purchase of technology and technology tools.

The bodies of research on technology integration should be disaggregated to allow policy makers, school administrators, and classroom teachers access to the most consistent data to make informed decisions. These decisions should revolve around two critical components:

- (1) the type of technology-focused professional development needed for classroom practitioners to integrate technology in a manner that would result in increase of student achievement and
- (2) the type of hardware and software needed to maximize achievement.

Pulaski County School System seeks to provide high-quality professional development programs with follow-up and support that promotes knowledge and enhances skills related to the use of technology for productivity, teaching, and learning. To accomplish these goals, courses, conferences, workshops, site visitations, and other related activities are results-driven, standards-based, job-embedded, and aligned with system level goals. Aiding in this endeavor are staff members of the Heart of Georgia RESA and Educational Technology Center. Available throughout the year for assistance with grant writing and training and development, involvement with RESA and HGETC insures that the Pulaski County School System complies with current best practices in educational technology. Professional development in the technology area is provided through RESA and HGETC, at each school and at the system level. At the system level, experienced trainers facilitate professional development opportunities in the area of technology for all Pulaski County personnel. Trainers consider curriculum standards when designing classes that will be offered to teachers and administrators. Classes are offered by the RESA and HGETC on a regular basis. In addition, any school or group (and even an individual) within a school can request a specific training on any and all technology applications available within the classroom. RESA and HGETC personnel will go into individual classrooms and assist teachers and students or model lessons. Course participants may view course offerings and register through a web based professional development software system. Professional learning courses are offered that promote current system initiatives, increase skill and productivity in specific applications, provide strategies for using technology to enable or

enhance learning, and provide hands-on training of emerging technologies in accordance with the Georgia Performance Standards.

The following chart outlines courses that address system initiatives and system departments that are involved in course planning and deployment:

Course Content	Department(s) Involved
Student Information System	Technology, School Classified Staff and Administrators
Special Education Program	Technology, Special Education and Administrators
Media Center Program	Technology and Media Personnel
Cafeteria Program	Technology and Food Services Staff
Title II D	Technology, Title II D team members, curriculum
Productivity Programs (Microsoft Office, FrontPage, Adobe Acrobat Professional, Movie Maker, and others)	All Departments
Emerging Technologies (CPS, SMART Board, Senteo, Digital Cameras, Podcasting, Web-based software, Wireless Connectivity)	All Departments

Funding for technology equipment, software, and training comes from a variety of sources including Title program funding, grant funding, e-rate and local funds. Using best practices research, curriculum standards, technology plan documentation, and recommendations from technology department members, school personnel make decisions about system-level equipment purchasing that will maximize student achievement.

V. 8th Grade Technology Literacy

In recent years, scores on the 8th grade Technology Literacy assessment have been less than desirable. After analyzing the results of the 8th grade technology assessments, the manner in which the skills were taught and the language of the assessment, changes in instruction were made thus resulting improved scores. At each school the Assistant Principals for Instruction and Media Specialists are working with classroom teachers and Connection teachers to make sure the technology literacy skills are being taught at each grade level. Skills are informally assessed by classroom teachers and formally assessed while in computer related classes like Connections or Introduction to Computer Applications.

Appendices

Appendix A: Acceptable Use Policies

Board Policy	Descriptor Code: IFBG
Internet Acceptable Use	Adopted 5-14-2002

The Internet, a global electronic information infrastructure, is a network of networks used by educators, businesses, the government, and numerous organizations. The Board of education believes that the Internet should be used in the schools to educate and to inform. The Internet is considered primarily as a learning resource, similar to books, magazines, video, CD-ROM and other information services.

Students should use the Internet to participate in distance learning activities, to ask questions of and consult with experts, to communicate with other students and individuals and to locate material to meet their educational and personal information needs. The Board believes that library media specialists and teachers have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills needed to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational goals.

The Internet is viewed as a fluid environment in which information available to student is constantly changing. Therefore, the Board believes that it is impossible to predict with certainty what information students might locate. The electronic information available to students does not imply endorsement by the District of the content.

The Board requires the Superintendent to define guidelines for student exploration and use of electronic information resources. Such guidelines should address issues of privacy, ethical use of information with respect to intellectual property, illegal uses of networks, and conditions of usage. The guidelines should strive to preserve student rights to examine and use information to meet the educational goals, objectives and high expectations of the District.

The guidelines should include language affirming that:

- Students have the right to examine a broad range of opinions and ideas in the educational process, using and exchanging information and ideas on the Internet.
- Students are responsible for the ethical and educational use of their own Internet accounts.
- Students have a responsibility to respect the privacy of other Internet users.

Failure to abide by Board policy and administrative regulations governing use of the district's system may result in the suspension and/or revocation of system access. Additionally, student violations may result in discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion. Staff violations may also result in discipline up to and including dismissal. Fees or other charges may be imposed.

Internet Safety

It is the belief of the Pulaski County School District that the use of telecommunications, including the Internet, in instructional programs is an educational strategy which facilitates communication, innovation, resource sharing, and access to information. 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 Pulaski County Board of Education that the school district shall have in continuous operation, with respect to any computers belonging to the school having access to the Internet:

1. 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
2. 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:
 - a. 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;
 - b. Promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
 - c. Prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking”, and other unauthorized activities by minors online;
 - d. Prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and
 - e. 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.

<http://www.gsbaepolicy.org/policy.asp?PC=IFBG&S=4132&RevNo=1.11&C=I&Z=P>

EXHIBIT

Descriptor Code: IFBG~E(1)

Internet Use Policy

ISSUED: May 14, 2002

STUDENT USER CONTRACT

I, _____ accept and agree to abide by the following rules:

- I will abide by all rules stated in the Internet Use policy.
- I realize that educational pursuit is the main purpose of this connection and will use the
- Internet as such.
- I agree that the Internet is a privilege not a right.
- I accept that inappropriate use may lead to penalties included but not limited to revocation of account, disciplinary action, or legal action.
- I will not give out any personal information about myself, my parents, or any other student or colleague.
- I will tell the teacher or lab supervisor if I come across any material that makes me uncomfortable.
- I agree not to transmit inappropriate or illegal materials over the Internet and that in doing such may result in legal action against me.
- I agree not to participate in the transfer or communication of data that may be deemed slanderous to or misinformative concerning the Pulaski County Board of Education.
- I agree to not let others use my account or password.
- I release the Pulaski County Schools System from any liability or damages that may result from my use of the Internet, either financially or legally.
- I understand and will abide by the above terms and conditions for Internet use. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal or school system offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and appropriate legal action may be taken.
- I agree not to hold the Pulaski County School System or any of its employees or any of the institutions for networks providing access to Pulaski County Schools responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

http://www.gsbaepolicy.org/pdfs/pulaski/ifbg~e_1.pdf

EXHIBIT

Descriptor Code: IFBG~E(2)

Internet Use Policy

ISSUED: May 14, 2002

INTERNET USE PERMISSION SLIP

Your student has been selected to participate in the district's electronic communications system and needs your permission to do so. Your student will be able to communicate with other schools, colleges, organizations and individuals around the world through the Internet and other electronic information systems/networks. With the educational opportunity to access the Internet also comes responsibility. It is important that you and your student read the enclosed district policy together. Inappropriate system use will result in the loss of privilege to use this educational tool.

I, _____ the parent of the above student, agree to accept all legal and financial obligations which may result from my son/daughter's use of the Pulaski County Schools' Internet connection. I agree not to hold Pulaski County Public Schools nor any of its employees nor any of the institutions or networks providing access to networks responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it. As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Internet Use policy. I understand that this is designed for the educational purposes and the Pulaski County Board of Education has taken all available precautions to eliminate controversial materials. I will not hold the school system responsible for materials acquired through the Internet. Further, I accept full responsibility for the actions of my child. I hereby give permission for my child to use the Internet or resources provided by the Board of Education and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

<http://www.gsbaepolicy.org/pdfs/pulaski/ifbg~e 2.pdf>

EXHIBIT

Descriptor Code: IFBG~E(3)

Internet Use Policy

ISSUED: May 14, 2002

Teacher or Supervisor's Agreement

I have read the Internet Use Policy and agree to enforce this agreement with every student user accessing the Internet for my class assignments. As the sponsoring teacher, I agree to instruct the student on acceptable use of the network and proper network etiquette. I further agree to supervise each student-user to the best of my ability. I also realize my responsibility to report any improper use, by any user, to the building principal.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

<http://www.gsbaepolicy.org/pdfs/pulaski/ifbg~e 3.pdf>

Pulaski County School System Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

It is the belief of the Pulaski County School System that the integration of technology into daily academic activities is integral to the success of the school's instructional programs. It is, therefore, important that the integrity of the equipment, software and data be maintained for maximum use by every student. In this regard, the Pulaski County School System requires that all students who use technology in any form sign the following behavioral contract, acknowledging these guidelines as necessary in order for the school to maintain productive classrooms and equipment.

Student use of the computers, printers, peripherals and other electronic devices are for educational use only. Each student is assigned a lesson with specific objectives. The teacher will give instructions as to what and how the software is to be used. The violations of the provisions of this policy may result in the cancellation of privileges in the computer lab and in the some cases, disciplinary action.

Before use, all students will be briefed on the aspects of security and ethics involved in using technology.

By signing this agreement, the student and parent/guardian agrees to the following conditions:

- Students will not attempt to make any changes in the configuration of the computer system or software, which are not intended by the instructor to complete the objectives in the student lesson.
- Students will not use to use portable storage devices including thumb drives in the classroom unless the teacher has granted permission to do so. The instructor may request the opportunity to scan the disk and directory before granting permission for use in the classroom.
- Students will never use a game disk on computers at Hawkinsville High.
- Students will not share passwords.
- The use of scanner and camera/digital camera for educational objectives only and will receive prior permission from the instructor.
- Students will not share files or directories. This will be considered cheating. Students will respect the work of other students at all times.
- Under NO circumstances will a student login with any credentials other than those assigned to him/her from the network administrators.
- Students will not modify the operating system and network preferences of any workstation. This includes adding/deleting files, changing windows, downloading, installing software, running other software, and changing any files/information on the hard drive/file server.

- Students will not attempt to circumvent the network firewall or internet filtering devices by accessing or attempting to access anonymous proxy sites or anonymous browsing sites.
- Students should report any malfunction of electronic equipment or computers to the teacher immediately.
- Email addresses assigned to students through the Pulaski County School System network will be used for educational use only.

Student use of the Internet shall be subject to the provisions of Board of Education policy IFBGA-Appropriate use of the Internet. Students agree to follow all school system guidelines in reference to the Internet.

Here at Hawkinsville High School, we also provide great educational benefits to students with the use of the Internet. Unfortunately, however, some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, or potentially offensive to some people. Access to the Internet is given as a privilege to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. We require that students and parents or guardians read, accept and sign the following rules for acceptable on-line behavior.

1. Students are responsible for good behavior on the Internet just as they are in school. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.
2. Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files would always be private.
3. In order to access any part of the Internet (e-mail, web page, news groups, etc.) prior permission must be granted by the student's instructor or supervisor.
4. The following are not permitted at any school in the Pulaski County School District:
 - a) Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures.
 - b) Using obscene language.
 - c) Harassing, insulting or attacking others.
 - d) Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks.
 - e) Violating copyright laws.
 - f) Using another's password.
 - g) Trespassing in another's folders, work or files.
 - h) Intentionally wasting limited resources, including through the use of "chain letters" and messages broadcasted to mailing lists or individuals.
 - i) Employing the network for commercial purposes.
 - j) Revealing the personal address or phone number of yourself or any other person without permission from your instructor.
 - k) Entering into a chat room or on-line messaging service.
 - l) Checking e-mail without permission to do so.

5. The use of personal laptop or other handheld computing devices is allowed within the Pulaski County School System providing the following guidelines are followed.
- a) The instructor of the class must first give permission for the device to be used during class.
 - b) The device must be used to support academic goals during instructional time.
 - c) All rules and regulations regarding computer/internet usage for school system provided
 - d) The Technology Services Staff reserves the right to examine any device that attaches to the PCSS network.
 - e) The Technology Services Staff is not responsible for providing technical support to non-school provided hardware, software or peripherals.
 - f) Pulaski County School System is not responsible for lost, theft or damage of said devices.

By signing this electronic technology and Internet contract, both student and parent/guardian are stating that both have read the rules for acceptable uses of electronic technology, acceptable on-line behavior, understand the rules, and agree to comply with all of the above stated rules at my student's school. **Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.**

I have read and understand BOTH pages of the Pulaski County School System electronic technology and Internet Contract.

Student's Signature Date Student ID Number

Parent's Signature Date

Appendix B: CIPA Compliance Requirements

It is the policy of the Pulaski County School System to limit internet access as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

- To the extent practical, technology protection measures are being used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. More specifically, blocking is applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors through the use of Web Blocker internet content filtering.
- To the extent practical, steps are being taken to promote the safety and security of uses of the Pulaski County Schools online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.
- As a part of this compliance, a firewall is in place that limits access. The internal and external networks have been separated with a physical network break. The internal network is configured with a private IP scheme and all nodes must pass through the firewall and filtering system. The filtering system prevents access to sites that must be blocked in accordance with state and federal guidelines.
- It is the responsibility of all members of the Pulaski County School System 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.

NOTE: During the spring of 2002, the Georgia School Board Association analyzed and updated all policies of the Pulaski County Board of Education. The purpose of this evaluation was to ensure that all policies were within the recommended guidelines. Therefore, all policies in effect at that time were re-adopted at this board meeting. This included the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy.

Internet Safety

It is the belief of the Pulaski County School District that the use of telecommunications, including the Internet, in instructional programs is an educational strategy which facilitates communication, innovation, resource sharing, and access to information. 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 Pulaski County Board of Education that the school district shall have in continuous operation, with respect to any computers belonging to the school having access to the Internet:

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2. 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:
 - a. 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;
 - b. Promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
 - c. Prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking”, and other unauthorized activities by minors online;
 - d. Prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and
 - e. 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.

<http://www.gsbaepolicy.org/policy.asp?PC=IFBG&S=4132&RevNo=1.11&C=I&Z=P>

Appendix C: Internet Links for Additional Information

CIPA Background

Full text of the Children's Internet Protection Act

http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/universal_service/chipact.doc

FCC regulations implementing CIPA: FCC 01-120

http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Common_Carrier/Orders/2001/fcc01120.doc

SLD's FAQ on E-rate certification procedures and timing

<http://www.sl.universalservice.org/reference/CIPAffaq.asp>

Pulaski County Board of Education Policy Manual

Full text of all board policies and exhibits

<https://eboard.eboardsolutions.com/Index.aspx?S=4132>

Appendix D: Levels of Technology Integration Tool

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students using computer games, software, or the Internet as a reward after their traditional classwork is finished.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers dropping their students off at the lab to learn technology skills from another instructor. • Teachers teaching students how to use word processors, spreadsheets, the Internet.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching using technology to present content to students or to stimulate teacher-led discussions. • Students using drill and practice software, games, and tutorials while teachers monitor their use and gauge their progress in mastering concepts. • Students taking computer-based quizzes on the content of books they've read or lessons they've learned.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students using the Internet or electronic databases to research information, access primary resources, and download graphics related to a topic of study. • Students doing "web quests". • Students using software to draw geometric shapes. • Students using spreadsheets to record and chart data from a science lab or a textbook activity. • Students using software to write a research paper. • Students using computer design software or drawing software to complete a project. • Students using graphing calculators to solve problems or to complete a learning activity provided by the teacher. • Students constructing a PowerPoint presentation to present to their class. • Students participating in a computer-based simulation that encourages decision making and problem solving. • Students using technology to prepare materials for a mock trial or to document evidence found at a mock crime scene. • Students recording nutritional information on what they've eaten in a spreadsheet. • Students using probes to monitor their heart rate.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students creating, administering, and analyzing results from online surveys about current social issues. • Students participating in online projects which safely connect students to authentic learning experiences and to peers and mentors in other locations. • Students creating and posting podcasts on topics relevant to achieving the GPS • Students generating questions/pursuing answers on standards-based learning topics that are of the most interest to them. • Students participating in web blogs for the purposes of learning. • Students creating and publishing products that both demonstrate mastery of content and are of interest to an audience other than the students' teachers and immediate classmates. • Students learning marketing strategies and math skills by engaging in an actual online virtual business adventure. • Students posting their school newspaper stories online and engaging in conversations with other students across the country and around the world.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers designing the instruction tools such as websites, databases, tutorials, and simulations that they need for their classes. • Students designing technological solutions to current problems and issues, for example, creating an interactive web-based database to help ESOL students understand local culture and language. • Students designing a new type of scanner that optimizes 3-D Graphics.

Appendix E: Interoperability and Redeployment Policy

Pulaski County School District does not have a formal policy concerning the redeployment of equipment. However, an informal procedure has been established. Previously, all computer workstations were leased on a 3 year rotation. This procedure worked well to balance the financial burden of replacement of equipment as well as ensuring that all classrooms have at least one workstation with the newest technology possible. Financial constraints have forced this procedure to be placed on 'hold'. The district has purchased all equipment that was formally leased. As equipment breaks down, the technology staff makes necessary repairs. If the cost of repair of the equipment exceeds the value of the workstation, that machine is used for parts to repair other machines. Additionally, off lease machines have been purchased from other vendors to replace machines that are no longer operational.

Major purchases are selected through a committee of interested parties. The software applications are viewed, evaluated, tested and compared to other applications. The Microsoft Office Suite has been in use in the district for many years. The media centers are currently standardized on Destiny. School Max is used as the Student Information System and for accounting and payroll at the central office level, PC Genesis is used. The schools use an online accounting program from Progressive Technologies for their fund accounting.

Network applications are selected with SIF (Schools Interoperability Framework) compliance in mind. A long time and long range goal has been to have an integrated system for student information and fund accounting.

Older equipment that is still functional is refurbished and distributed to other areas of need such as the Alternative Learning Center. Equipment that is no longer useable is declared as surplus and sold, used for replacement parts for other equipment or discarded. The school systems uses an outside recycling company to pickup and discard all computer related equipment that is no longer in use. This method is environmentally friendly and cost effective for the district in time and labor costs associated with the disposal of old equipment.

The district has no formal email archiving or general data retention policy (other than those required by state and federal policy). All email and data servers are backed up nightly to a tape library. Those tapes are used in a 7 day rotation thus providing 1 week of backups for email and data.



DATE: June 7, 2011

Ms. Janis Sparrow
206 McCormick Avenue
Hawkinsville, GA 31036

Dear Ms. Sparrow:

Thank you for submitting your system-level technology plan to the Georgia Department of Education. The Pulaski County School District technology plan meets all the required criteria posted at (http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/documents/technology/state/tech_planning_rubric.pdf) and is approved from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014. Keep this official approval with your records for audit purposes of the following programs:

- E-Rate discounts – Federal program
- Enhancing Education through Technology (EdTech) Grants – Federal ESEA, Title II-D.

Sincerely,

Kathy Platt, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Technology
Georgia Department of Education
Instructional Technology
1952 Twin Towers East
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-463-0503
404-657-1549 fax
kplatt@doe.k12.ga.us

PK: CJ

CC: Mr. Robin White

"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

2066 Twin Towers East • 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive • Atlanta, GA 30334 • www.gadoe.org

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