Vision for Technology

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**Vision Statement**

Technology will be consistently integrated into all content areas to create engaging and authentic learning experiences for students. Teachers will facilitate the use of technology to assist students of all ability levels and cultural backgrounds in meeting content area and technology standards through technology embedded higher order thinking learning activities. Students will take advantage of the variety of technologies available inside and outside of the classroom to take ownership of their learning. The school administration will collaborate with the staff to create an environment conducive for the effective use of technology to enrich students’ education. Teachers, parents, community members, and the school district will collaborate to create meaningful learning experiences for students through the use of technology. Finally, the school district and school administration will work with schools to train staff and provide necessary technology tools and support to ensure equitable technology access to all students.

**Administrators’ and The Technology Coach’s Role**

The administration will collaborate with the Technology Coach to create the essential conditions for effectively leveraging technology for learning (ISTE, 2014). These conditions will begin with creating a shared vision for technology, empowering technology leaders at every level, and developing a strategic plan. The administration and Technology Coach will provide opportunities for ongoing professional development about effective and meaningful uses of technology. During these professional learning sessions, the administration and Technology Coach will allow all teachers and staff are have time to express opinions, concerns, and questions related to technology use to ensure all team members feel valued in the technology integration process (Creighton, 2003). Throughout the school year, these leaders will continue to promote student-centered learning through training and allocation of resources to provide equitable access, technology support, and innovative learning opportunities for students (*LaBelle Elementary School: School Improvement Plan 2013-2014*, 2013).

**Teachers’ Role**

Teachers will integrate a variety of technologies into their daily instruction to create meaningful and authentic learning experiences for their students (ISTE, 2014). To accomplish this, teachers will make use of school iPads, computer carts, iPods, ActivBoards, and the Technology Lab. Since the teacher is the person best equipped with the knowledge of students’ interests, strengths, and struggles (NAEYC, 2009), they will be empowered to use that knowledge to create engaging learning opportunities for their students. Teachers will follow the recommendations from the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Fred Rogers Center (2012) to “Select, use, integrate, and evaluate technology and interactive media tools in intentional and developmentally appropriate ways.” Teachers will align technology enhanced learning to state and district content and technology standards and ensure technology coexists with constructivist learning principles (Creighton, 2003).

**Students’ Role**

Students will use technology to think critically to solve real world, authentic problems (ISTE, 2014). Students will collaborate with their peers, local community, and global community to extend their learning beyond their classroom walls to share their knowledge with others, gain knowledge from outside experts, and create knowledge through inquiry (ISTE, 2014). Students will access school provided technology to extend their learning and seek ways to access technology outside of the classroom setting to take ownership of their education and prepare for the college or career goal they hope to attain. Students will model global citizenship through responsible communication, collaboration, and uses of digital material.

**Parents’ Role**

Parents will support technology and education in their home by maintaining communication with the school to better understand their child’s learning through the use of technology. Parents will provide their child access to their computers or Smart device for the purpose of further constructing knowledge (ISTE, 2014) outside of the classroom walls. Parents will allow their child to complete homework, conduct additional educational inquiry, and seek out educational support through online resources.

**Community Members’ Role**

Community members will share their funds of knowledge about technology use in real world situations. They will communicate both face-to-face and through the use of technology to serve as experts in various content and technological areas. Community members will share insight about technology funding sources and new technology tools that could enhance classroom instruction.

**Conclusion**

Technology is becoming more readily available in our school systems today; however, it is not yet used to its full potential. It is not enough to have technology resources in the hands of the teachers. All stakeholders must work together to create the essential conditions for effective technology integration to have a truly powerful impact on our students’ education (ISTE, 2014).

**References**

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