

# **Dexter Public Schools Technology Plan 2016-2019**

**(2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019)**

**Adopted by Dexter Public Schools Board of  
Education  
June 30, 2016**

## **Introduction and Overview**

Dexter Public Schools is a K-12 school that serves approximately 2000 students. We are located in the far southeastern section of Missouri, commonly called the “Bootheel.” This area is rural in nature, and we are the largest of 7 school districts in Stoddard County. About 46% of our students are eligible for free and reduced lunches. Due to a combination of the current state funding formula, low rural property values, and low property tax rates, we currently rank in the bottom 13% of schools in Missouri in terms of per pupil expenditures. In spite of having well under the average amount of dollars to spend per pupil, we have enjoyed solid academic performance and are able to meet state guidelines for Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) purposes. Our most recent Comprehensive School Improvement Plan was adopted in 2012.

## **Purpose and Scope**

This document has been developed to provide information to others concerning technology in Dexter Public Schools. The content and format of the document are intended to meet the requirements of the scoring guide created by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which scores this document in order to ascertain the eligibility of Dexter Public Schools to apply for certain funds.

The objectives in this document are organized by the five Technology Focus Areas (TFA’s) identified by the state as categories that can serve to analyze efforts to use technology effectively. The five TFA’s are (1) Student Learning, (2) Teacher Preparation, (3) Administration, Management, and Communication, (4) Resource, and (5) Support.

As adopted, this plan serves as a guide to be cooperatively implemented by the parties involved.

## **Technology Planning Committee Membership**

The Dexter Public School Technology Plan is developed by the Technology Planning Committee. Progress and evaluation of the plan is ongoing throughout its relevant time span by technology staff and administration. Ongoing input is provided through direct communication of staff with the Technology Committee members. In addition to the regular, ongoing evaluation, the previous plan's activities have been reviewed during the 2015-2016 school year. Discussions were held to note strengths and weaknesses and to make future recommendations. This review process was used to formulate the 2016-2019 Technology Plan. The following individuals influenced the Technology Plan through their input:

Mr. Mitchell Wood – Superintendent  
Mr. Corey Mouser – Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Michele Williams – Curriculum Director  
Mr. James Sneed – Technology Support  
Mr. Steve Sparlin – Technology Support  
Mrs. Jacinda DeWitt – Southwest Elementary School Principal  
Mrs. Angela Duncan – Central Elementary School Principal  
Mr. Scott Kruse – T. S. Hill Middle School Principal  
Mr. Dan Pollock – Dexter Senior High School Principal  
Mrs. Nancy Mayer – Dexter R-XI Board Member  
Mrs. Carrie Haynes – Southwest Elementary Teacher  
Mrs. Rebekah Massey – Southwest Elementary Teacher  
Mrs. April Aldridge – Central Elementary Teacher  
Mrs. Nicole Guethle – Central Elementary Teacher  
Mrs. Rebecca Hester – Elementary Computer Teacher  
Mrs. Camie Richard – Elementary LMC Specialist  
Mr. Chris Bolin – MS Teacher  
Mrs. Jeannie Cato – MS Teacher  
Mrs. Kay Stevenson – MS LMC Specialist  
Mrs. Tammy Crowley – HS Teacher  
Mrs. Sharon Guy – HS Teacher  
Mrs. Krystal Hobgood – HS LMC Specialist  
Mrs. Suzanne Collier – City Council PTO  
Ms. Kerigan Brady – HS Student  
Ms. Makayla Waldner – HS Student  
Mrs. Trish Julian – Local Business Leader

## **Mission Statement**

We believe that technology has the potential to improve teaching and learning within our schools and to bring about improved student achievement and progress toward the Grade Level and Course Level Expectations as measured by MAP/EOC, ACT, and other assessments.

Computer environments and innovative uses of technology will help us accomplish the goals of Dexter Public Schools' Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) by supporting changes in educational structure and instructional processes. Because of supportive correlation, all objectives listed in each Technology Focus Area are linked to specific CSIP objectives.

Dexter Schools intend to incorporate technology into instruction so that problem-solving, exploring, and student-centered learning are possible. Equitable access to appropriate technology and technology training must be provided for students and staff in order to restructure the learning environment, improve student achievement, support comprehensive information systems, facilitate communication, develop life-long learners, and improve faculty and staff productivity.

In order to better maintain and support existing technology, to more fully utilize existing technology, and to plan for optimum utilization of future technology, Dexter Public Schools will follow the plan outlined in this document. It is the intent of the plan to minimize waste and effectively allocate all resources connected with district technology. The plan will be administered in a cooperative effort by the Technology Staff, Technology Committee, the Administration, and the Board of Education.

## Goals

Because goals are broad statements and linked to our CSIP, our goals have not changed drastically since the last technology plan was written. Our goals describe our effort to strive always to improve regardless of the starting point. Even when improvement has been made, our goals remain as we attempt continuously to enhance the educational environment of our students. The specific need identified that led to the creation of all of these goals is the continual need to improve our school environment to provide the best education possible to our students, to meet the requirements of the accreditation process, and to meet the expectations and requirements of State and Federal Regulations.

### Specific Goals:

1. Enhance instruction and improve academic achievement and successful attainment of Missouri learning standards through the use of appropriate technologies, both as a tool for instruction and as an essential component of the curriculum. (TFA 1,2)
2. Integrate technology into the curriculum in order to provide the optimum learning environment and to develop student technological literacy skills. (TFA 1,2)
3. Develop, maintain, and extend high-speed networks within and between buildings to allow the sharing of materials and resources by all students and staff throughout the district, facilitating the integration of technology into all curricular areas. (TFA 1,2,3,4)
4. Provide appropriate and equitable access to technological equipment, information, tools, communication channels, adequate support, and resources to all personnel to enhance the administrative and instructional functions and operations of the district. (TFA 3,4,5)
5. Continue to provide timely and effective staff training relating to technology use for instructional and administrative purposes. (TFA 2,5)
6. Involve students, staff, community, Board, and administration in building a strong technology program for the district. (TFA 1,2,3,4,5)
7. Identify short-term objectives and action steps that will lead to the accomplishment of the goals stated above, CSIP goals and objectives, and ultimately our overall mission. (TFA 1,2,3,4,5)

## **Objectives Organized by Technology Focus Areas**

### Student Learning Objectives and Action Plans

Objective 1: Continue support for curriculum and software enhancements currently used to supplement all curricular areas.

Goals: 1; CSIP Objective 1, Strategy 3,4,5

Timeframe/Completion Date: Annually

Measured by: Purchase of support packages and current versions

Action Step 1: Review and determine software enhancements. Purchase, install as appropriate, and configure for use.

Person Responsible: Curriculum Director, Building principal, technology staff

Cost: TBD

Funding Source: Building budgets/District Funds

Completion Date: Annually

Action Step 2: First grade Title I students' time will be increased to 30 minutes daily to provide access to My Reading Coach software.

Person Responsible: Building Principal, Title I staff

Cost: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Completion Date: Annually

Objective 2: Continue exploration of software and hardware (such as iPads and Chromebooks) as a mechanism for engaging students with technology.

Goals: 1,2,4,5; CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 3

Timeframe/Completion Date: Annually

Measured by: If teachers incorporate the technology for instruction, the objective will be considered met.

Action Step 1: Place Chromebooks in the buildings for use.

Person Responsible: Superintendent, Technology Staff

Cost: Approximately - \$50,000.

Funding Source: Technology Budget and Community Donations

Completion Date: August 2016 and continuing

### Teacher Preparation Objectives and Action Plans

Objective 1: Over the next three years, applicable staff using Tyler Technologies applications will improve their proficiency in the use of these programs.

Goals: 1,2,5; CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 3

Timeframe/Completion Date: Ongoing

Measured by: PDC Committee input, surveys

Action Step 1: Teachers will be encouraged to participate in a regular performance review that involves the use of some aspect of technology.

Person Responsible: Teacher, building principal

Cost: None

Funding Source: N/A

Completion Date: Ongoing

Objective 2: Over the next three years, the district will offer training opportunities to help improve teacher technology use.

Goals: 1,5; CSIP Objective 4, Strategy 1,2

Timeframe/Completion Date: Annually

Measured by: If at least 2 workshops are offered annually with approximately 100 teachers total in attendance, the objective will be considered met.

Action Step 1: Workshops will be developed on topics suggested by the PDC and staff surveys and delivered on a variety of dates.

Person Responsible: Technology Coordinator, teacher trainers, PDC committee

Cost: Approximately \$2500 annually

Funding Source: Title II or Title V

Completion Date: Annually

### Administration Management and Communication Objectives

Objective 1: Over the next three years, applicable staff using Tyler Technologies applications will improve their proficiency in the use of these programs.

Goals: 4, 5; CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 3

Timeframe/Completion Date: Ongoing

Measured by: Self-reporting, administrative observation, and Profiler scoring

Action Step 1: Staff will be made aware of and provided support for on-site and off-site training opportunities relating to Tyler Technologies applications

Person Responsible: Superintendent, technology staff, principals

Cost: Variable, depending on number of workshops needed and travel expenses

Funding Source: Technology Professional Dev. and PDC funds as appropriate

Completion Date: Ongoing

### Resource Objectives and Action Plans

Objective 1: Keep networked hardware as current as possible by following the district replacement schedule for computers (5 years) and file servers (3 years).

Goals: 1,3,4; CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 1

Timeframe/Completion Date: Ongoing

Measured by: If 20% of the computer fleet and 33% of the file server fleet are replaced annually, the objective will be considered met.

Action Step 1: Using inventory records, the oldest hardware will be identified and replaced annually using the guidelines above.

Person Responsible: Technology staff

Cost: \$115,000 annually

Funding Source: District funds, Title V

Completion Date: December 31<sup>st</sup> annually.

Objective 2: Encourage the use of building and district budgets to continue to place current classroom technologies (Mobi wireless pads, student response systems, wireless access points

throughout buildings, on-line textbooks, etc.) to improve student interest, involvement and achievement.

Goals: 1,2,4,5 CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 3

Timeframe/Completion Date: On-Going

Measured by: District hardware inventory can be used to monitor progress.

Action Step 1: Building budget codes will be identified for use with these purchases.

Person Responsible: Superintendent, Building Principals, Technology Staff

Cost: N/A to this step, implementation cost could vary greatly and will necessarily be dependent on internal and external funding circumstances

Funding Source: Local and State funding

Completion date: On-going

Action Step 2: Pursue Erate funding opportunities as funding options

Person Responsible: Technology Director, Superintendent

Cost: TBD – Currently qualify for 80% reimbursement

Funding Source: Local and Federal Funding

Completion Date: On-going

Objective 3: Encourage financial resource allocation at the budgeting level for 1) updated building software, especially recurring software maintenance fees, 2) addition of personnel for instructional technology integration assistance to help with in-class integration of technology; 3) match money for grant opportunities, and 4) provide technology support for the building (application of software, minor computer repairs, and student instruction) through the addition of a teacher specifically assigned to the computer lab at the elementary level and provide support for the regular update/upgrade of the district's website.

Goals: 1,2,4,5 CSIP Objective 6, Strategy 1

Timeframe/Completion Date: 06/2016 and On-Going

Measured By: When this plan is adopted by the Board of Education, the wishes of the committee will have been conveyed to those involved in budgeting and the objective will be considered met.

Action Step 1: Staff will be made aware of and encourage to pursue grant opportunities for technology acquisition.

Person Responsible: Technology Committee, Building Principals, Curriculum Director

Cost: TBD

Funding Source: TBD

Timeframe/Completion Date: On-going

Action Step 2: Specific areas needing additional financial resources were identified by this committee. This plan will be presented to the board for approval upon completion.

Person Responsible: Technology committee, Board of Education, superintendent

Cost: N/A to this step, implementation cost could vary greatly and will necessarily be dependent on internal and external funding circumstances

Funding Source: N/A

Completion date: On-Going

## **Dissemination, Monitoring, and Evaluation**

### Dissemination

1. Each committee member will be given a copy of the plan to evaluate and asked to report back to the committee.
2. Upon completion of the development process, the plan will be presented to the Dexter Public Schools Board of Education for approval.
3. A copy of the plan will be available to the school staff by having a copy on file with each building principal in each attendance center and in the central administration office. Also, a copy will be posted on the school web site.
4. Parents, business leaders, and district patrons will be informed that a new technology plan has been approved by the school board at the June 2016 board meeting. This will be accomplished through the board minutes and through the summary of the board meeting emailed to the staff and published in the local newspaper.
5. Progress will be noted to committee members through committee email or meetings. Also, annual program review will occur as part of the district's Program Review Plan as outlined by the Board of Education. Results of this are available to all stakeholders as a result of press publication of board meetings and through meetings with administration and the Teacher Executive Committee.

### Monitoring

6. Technology committee meetings will be held periodically as appropriate to review the status and progress of the technology plan.
7. The district technology support staff will monitor hardware, infrastructure, software, and support needs on an on-going basis to assure that the aims of the technology plan are being followed.
8. Superintendent, principals, and technology support staff will monitor the acquisition of technology to assure that the aims of the technology plan are being followed.

### Evaluation of the Technology Plan

9. Since the Technology Committee members use these systems daily and receive direct feedback from the students and staff who use them, their experiences, observations, and evaluations will be used in the Technology Committee and administration meetings to determine the effectiveness of the technology plan.
10. The impact of technology on the Technology Focus Areas will be monitored by the ongoing collection and review of the raw data. This includes MAP scores, local assessments, surveys, policies, Annual Census of Technology, training data, and Total Cost of Ownership analysis. This collection process timetable is dependent on the data being collected (Ex: MAP scores, ACT scores, Profiler Surveys, etc.). Progress is reported to the Dexter Board of Education and then communicated to all stakeholders through the press and through administration and teacher executive committee meetings on the cycle described in the Program Review Plan.