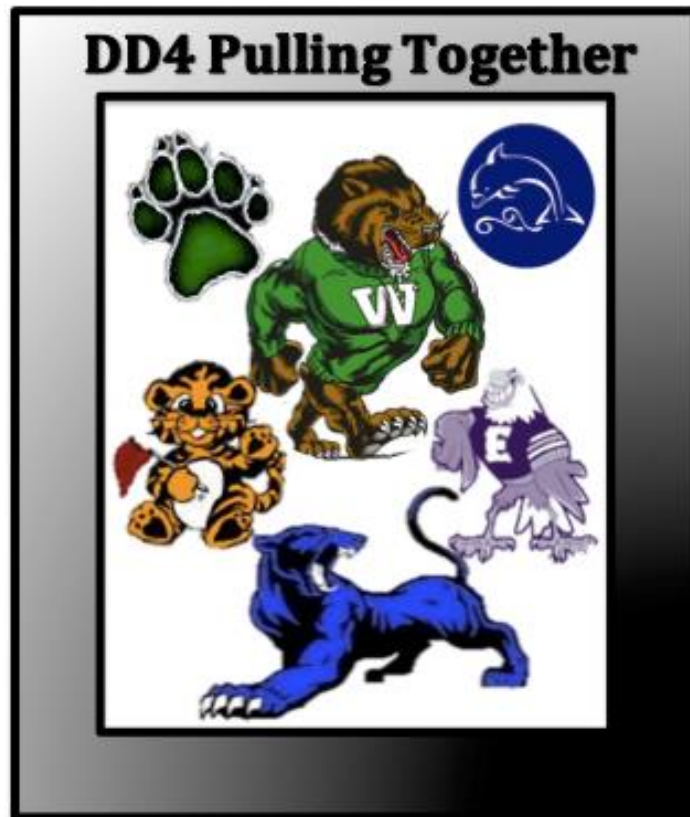


DORCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUR TECHNOLOGY PLAN 2016-2020



KEEP FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

Revised 10/2016
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Introduction

Dorchester School District Four is a rural school district located in the western section of Dorchester County, South Carolina. The school district is unique because of its grade configuration. There are three elementary schools: Harleyville Elementary School (Pre-K-Grade 5), Clay Hill Elementary (Pre-K-Grade 5) and Williams Memorial Elementary School (Pre-K-Grade 5). There are two middle schools: St. George Middle School and Harleyville-Ridgeville Middle School (Grade 6-8). The Odyssey Educational Center - Jenkins Hill Campus (Grades 6-12) serves as the alternative school. Dorchester School District Four has one high school: Woodland High School (Grades 9-12). The total enrollment in the district is approximately 2,300 students. Some students travel as long as four hours roundtrip to school, because of the location of the district's schools and the uniqueness of the district's grade configuration.

Because our free and reduced population of students was so high, the district was eligible to participate in the Community Eligibility Program where all students in Dorchester Four receive free breakfast and lunch. Consequently, all of these students came from families that fall below the poverty line. A significant number of the students in the district were from single parent families who did not complete high school. Therefore, it is essential for the school district to develop and implement an instructional program that will encourage all students to reach their greatest potential by using technology.

This plan will be implemented over the next three years to accommodate the schools in Dorchester School District Four, provide resources for administrators, teachers and staff, and provide community and parental support. This plan is provided as a current guideline for the appropriate and effective use of technology in the district. It is not meant to be a stagnant document. It is intended that it undergo regular revisions as technology changes.

Mission

The Mission of Dorchester School District Four, is to develop life-long learners who will have a positive impact on our global world.

Vision

The following constitutes the vision of the stakeholders of Dorchester Four.

- All students will enter 1st Grade ready to learn
- All students will receive quality instruction
- All students will successfully complete their program of studies
- All students will be on grade level and remain in school until graduation.
- All students will graduate from the school district with the technological skills to successfully compete in the workplace or later in higher education.
- All students will graduate from the school district with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to exercise their civic rights.
- All students will graduate from high school with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to attain a high standard of living.
- All students will graduate from the school district with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to effectively interact with others in society.
- All students will graduate from the district with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to compete in a culturally diverse global society.

Goals & Objectives

- To improve student performance in language arts, math, science, social studies, technology literacy and increase educational accountability.
- To assist students in crossing the digital divide by ensuring that every student is technologically literate by the end of the eighth grade.
- To encourage and implement the integration of technology with teacher, administrative and support staff training and curriculum development.
- To provide opportunities for professional growth and development for all staff.
- To provide technology coaches to assist teachers and administrators with technology.
- To provide dual credit courses to students in the high school for college credit.

Needs Assessment

Each school year, a needs assessment is conducted to keep the needs of the district and schools current. Surveys are issued to staff to evaluate the effectiveness of technology program.

Technology Infrastructure

With the support of the Dorchester School District Four Board of Trustees and surrounding communities, Dorchester School District Four has been building its technology infrastructure as an ongoing process. The district maintains its Local and Wide Area Networks (LAN and WAN), hardware, and cabling. Our Frame relay lines (T1) have been upgraded to Metro Ethernet and are connected to all school sites and mainstreamed to a central line at the district office.

The E-Rate program has helped the district to provide needed cabling, switches, and routers. We have provided cabling in each classroom to accommodate the needs of the students and teachers. In addition, every school has at least one computer lab with 25 Internet-ready computers. In accordance with the Child Internet Protection Act, Dorchester School District Four uses iboss for its Web filter. The district is also protected by a firewall server at the central site.

Our computers are constantly in use, and hardware fatigue became a reality after just a few years of high demand usage. Repair costs have become unreasonable when viewed against the true residual value of a very aged, used computer. However, the challenge remains for how to periodically, and most economically, "replenish" or update our existing computer inventory, separate from new computer purchases completed as additional technology demands develop. At Dorchester School District Four, we try to either upgrade or replace computers every three to five years.

During the 2015-2016, the district implemented a Digital one-to-one initiative for students in grades 4-12. Chromebooks were purchased and issued to students in grades 4-12.

During the September, 2016, school board meeting, a Comprehensive budget was presented to the School Board of Trustees as a plan to update and upgrade technology over the next three years. Further discussions throughout the 2016-2017 school year will take place with the school board concerning the proposed Comprehensive Budget.

Although we have come a long way in Dorchester School District Four, we cannot be satisfied with our accomplishments but we must strive to provide our students with more. Changes in technology occur rapidly therefore research and planning is essential if our students are to continue to cross the digital divide. We would like to continue to provide our students and teachers with technological resources that are in line with current trends and best practices. Therefore, we will have to plan to refresh our technology (computers, laptops, iPads, etc.) every three to four years.

In accordance with the No Child Left Behind Act, we must ensure that every child have the resources necessary to be successful in school. A famous quote taken from Richland School District Two Technology Plan says: "To thrive in today's world and tomorrow's workplace, America's students must learn how to learn, learn how to think, and have a solid understanding of how technology works and what it can do. American schools must therefore, provide students with the opportunity to combine the best of traditional learning with the unprecedented opportunities technology offers." CEO Forum. Since we are in a low poverty area, many students still do not have computers or other resources available to them at home. Therefore, we need to have laptops and iPads available at each school for students to check out to use at home for instructional purposes. .

Below is a list of networked software programs currently in use in Dorchester School District Four:

Software Application	Brief Description	Location Used
Study Island	On-line instructional management program which provide comprehensive instruction.	All Schools

Accelerated Reader	Helps students to focus attention on careful reading of books, which improves students' critical-thinking skills and builds the intrinsic love of reading	Elementary, Middle & High Schools
Star Reader	Star Reader helps to determine the appropriate level of challenge for each child, instantly place new students, and identify those who need individual help. In-context vocabulary questions plus authentic text passages give you a precise measure of each student's reading performance.	Elementary and Middle School
Read 180	An instructional management program which provide comprehensive instruction to increase Reading skills	Middle and high Schools
Math 180	An instructional management program which provide comprehensive instruction to increase Math skills	Middle Schools
PowerSchool	NCS Pearson student management and school administration software.	All sites
Follett's Destiny	Library automation Software and textbooks used by South Carolina State Department of Education	All School sites
CIS (Computer Innovations Software)	Financial Management Software	Finance Department at the district office
NutriKids	Food Service automation software	All sites
ENRICH	A program to store the district's test results by school. Easy access to print reports and data analysis. It is also the Management program for IEP's and other information related to Programs for Exceptional Children	All sites

Perform Smart	Evaluation software used to evaluate support staff	Administrators at all Sites
Cognitive Tutor	Software for students in Algebra I	High School
SC Virtual School	Online program of studies for students who wish to complete course work online for graduation	High School
GIFT	A program to track information on Gifted and Talented students in the district	Administrators
NWEA	Measures of Academic Performance (MAP) Testing	All Sites
School Messenger	SchoolMessenger is used to send mass notifications	All Sites
iBoss	Web Filter	All Sites
Google Applications	Used by Administrators Teachers and Students for a variety of content	All Sites
Hapara	Hapara offers a Cloud-based instructional management system to K12 education institutions who use Google Apps for Education	All Sites
Online Staff Development (TEQ)	TEQ delivers professional development content through a convenient online platform, giving teachers access to an entire library of live PD sessions, where teachers can participate and interact with an instructor in real-time. Available Anytime, anywhere, on any device.	All Sites

Professional Development

Professional Development will be coordinated by the Director of Staff Development, Technology Director, Technology Coaches and Director of Curriculum and Instruction. An online professional development platform was purchased for the 2016-2017 school year called TEQ. School administrators and district level administrators will select lessons from the program that teachers will be required to complete. Teachers will not be limited to just the required lessons but will be able to complete as many lessons as they feel necessary to help them in their classroom instruction.

Onsite training from instructional software vendors will be done on an annual basis.

The technology coaches and teacher technology specialists will coordinate professional development with principals on hardware and software during a scheduled time frame throughout the school year.

All staff will utilize various training webinars throughout each school year.

The Professional Development Schedule for 2016-2017 is listed below:

Date	Focus	Person Responsible/ Audience
August 9, 2016	Edmentum/ Study Island Training	Consultant Director of Professional Development
August 10, 2016	Math 180 Training (SGMS)	Consultant
August 11, 2016	SPED Training	Director of Special Education
August 11, 2016	OWL Training (Florence, SC)	4K Teachers
August 12, 2016	Destiny Textbook Training (Columbia)	Textbook Coordinators
August 12, 2016	SAFE-T Orientation	ADEPT Evaluators/ Formal Evaluation

		Teachers
August 8-12, 2016	Rubicon Overview (Middle/High Only)	Curriculum Specialists
August 8-12, 2016	ELEOT Training	Curriculum Specialists
August 8-12, 2016	Dyslexia Training (On-Line Module)	Curriculum Specialists
August 26, 2016	DRA 2 Webinar	SCDOE
September 9, 2016	PLATO Courseware Training (Credit Recovery/ Initial Credit)	High School Guidance Curriculum Specialist Director of Professional Development Director of Curriculum and Instruction
September 12, 2016	Google Docs Training	Principals/Directors
September 14, 2016	SLO Darkness to Light Training (1-4) Teq On-Line Professional Development	Director of Professional Development Director of Curriculum and Instruction Director of Technology
September 15, 2016	Project Based Learning (SGMS)	SCDOE
September 15, 2016	SRA Curriculum Training (SPED)	Director of Programs for Exceptional Children
September 16, 2016	SRA Curriculum Training (SPED)	Director of Programs for Exceptional Children
September 21, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction

September 21, 2016	SRA Curriculum Training (SPED)	Director of Programs for Exceptional Children
September 29, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
September 28, 2016	Math 180 Training Day 2 (Middle Schools Only)	Math 180 Consultant
*October 5, 2016	Read 180 Training Day 2 (Middle/High Schools Only)	Read 180 Consultant
October 11, 2016	On-Line Professional Development Training (Teq)	Director of Technology Director of Professional Development Director of Curriculum and Instruction Curriculum Specialists
October 12, 2016	SLO/Assessment/Data/ RTI	Administration Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
October 13, 2016	Project Based Learning (SGMS)	SCDOE
October 26, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
November 9, 2016	TEQ Online Professional Development	Director of Technology Director of Professional Development, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Technology Coaches
November 10, 2016	Project Based Learning	SCDOE

	(SGMS)	
November 16, 2016	SLO/Assessment/Data/ RTI	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
November 10, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
November 15, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/Pacing Guides Middle/High ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
November 30, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
November 30, 2016	GT Curriculum Professional Development (M3 and Math Innovations)	Director of Curriculum and Instruction Curriculum Specialists GT Teachers
December 8, 2016	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
December 7, 2016	Celebrations!	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction Principals
January 13, 2017 *Teacher Work Day	Read 180 Training Day 3 (Middle School Only)	Read 180 Consultant
January 18, 2017	Math 180 Coaching Support	Math 180 Consultant (visiting schools)
January 25, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum

	Pacing Guides Elementary ELA Department	and Instruction
February 1, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
February 15, 2017	SLO/Assessment/Data/ RTI	Administration Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
February 22, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
March 1, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
March 15, 2017	Read 180 Coaching Support (Middle Schools Only)	Read 180 Consultant (visiting schools)
March 22, 2017	SLO/Assessment/Data/ RTI	Administration Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
May 23, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary ELA Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
May 24, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction

	Middle/High ELA Department	
May 25, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Elementary Math Department	Curriculum Specialists Director of Curriculum and Instruction
May 26, 2017	Rubicon Curriculum Maps/ Pacing Guides Middle/High Math Department	Curriculum Specialist Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Staffing Requirements

V. District Contact

This person is primary contact for the implementation and management of this plan:

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Personnel and Support

District Level Technology Staff

Director of Technology

Two Full-time Technicians

Inventory Specialist

Two Technology Coaches

In addition to the above technology staff, the district has assigned a teacher at each school to serve as a teacher technology specialist. For the current school year, 2016-2017, the teacher technology specialists serve in this capacity along with their regular teaching responsibilities. A proposal was submitted to the school board of trustees in September, 2016, for the teacher technology specialists as follows:

2017-2018 Half day teaching/Half day teacher technology specialist

2018-2019 Full time teacher technology specialist

Funding Sources

Support for the acquisition of new technologies as well as maintaining the existing technologies is essential to provide the best technology for Dorchester School District Four. A strong support structure must be in place to assure that technology, once purchased, will produce benefits in learning and productivity commensurate with the investment made.

Adequate funding of the district's technology will be maintained by the following sources:

1. The district's budget
2. E-Rate funding

3. Business Partnerships
4. Title One funds
5. South Carolina Career and Technology
6. Applying for state grants
7. Applying for federal grants
8. Carl Perkins funds
9. Community assisted programs

Dorchester School District Four's Technology Budget 2016-2017

Operation & Maintenance Technology (Repairs)	\$42,500.00
Data Processing Services Salaries	\$281,547.00
Employee Benefits	\$98,406.00
Purchased Services (E-Rate Match)	\$26,500.00
Travel	\$17,500.00
Supplies	\$28,000.00
Other	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$494,653.00

Evaluation

Proper evaluation is an essential part of the educational process. The district's technology plan and all activities included in the plan should undergo constant informal evaluation and periodic formal evaluation. Dorchester School District Four will make adjustments where needed to the district's technology plan based on ISTE/NETS standards and other technological innovations to increase access to educational technology.

This plan will include all schools in the district and will concentrate on the high-poverty and high need schools in the district. The goals and objectives stated in this plan will be evaluated through surveys administered to staff. The surveys will be developed by the schools' technology teams and by the district's technology director. Evaluation will also be based on surveys conducted on the state and national levels. The director of technology will meet semi-annually with technology team members at the school level as well as the district level to determine the effectiveness of the district's technology. The director of technology will prepare and present to the Board of Trustees an annual report on the district's success in meeting the technology goals and implementing the technology plan.

Funding is crucial to the implementation of technology in the district. The district has made substantial improvements in its technology infrastructure with E-rate funds. Clearly, E-rate funding is essential to the effectiveness of our district's plan and will be considered in the implementation of the plan.

Upgrading & Maintenance

Equipment and software will be upgraded on a rotation basis. The technology department and School administrators will determine the rotation cycle. Replacement of outdated or faulty equipment will be included in the planning and budgetary process.