HORRY COUNTY SCHOOLS DIGITAL LEARNING PLAN 2017-2018

#HCSPDL

VISION OF PERSONALIZED DIGITAL LEARNING

The vision of Horry County Schools PDL Initiative is to accelerate student achievement by providing students the flexibility to learn at the appropriate level and master material at their own pace, to increase student engagement, and to individualize learning by providing students opportunities to work independently and with their teachers in small groups. The district has thoughtfully teamed the rollout of 1:1 devices with an instructional model centered on blended learning. In the blended learning environment, classrooms will be interactive and dynamic, blending the best of teacher talents and technological tools. Our teachers continue doing what they do best, working directly and closely with individual students and groups of students, while other students in the classroom learn using technology and digital content focused on their unique learning needs. Students also work collaboratively, using technology to create products, to conduct research, to develop multimedia projects, and to communicate.

Due to the availability of personal devices for students, online and adaptive digital content allows teachers to personalize learning for every student in a way that has not been possible in our classrooms before. Today's teachers have to accommodate a wide range of student differences, including literacy and numeracy skills, learning styles, different rates of learning, and student interests.

Through the use of personal digital learning devices and the many technological tools and resources available, teachers are able to design and personalize learning experiences using student interests and learning strengths. Horry County Schools Personalized Digital Learning Initiative provides teachers with the needed tools to engage students and to ensure that every student is college and career ready.

INTRODUCTION

The goals and strategies of instructional technology in Horry County Schools must reflect the current context in which technology is rapidly changing. Stakeholders, including, but not limited to, students, parents, community members, are increasing their expectation of technology in the classroom. In this rapid shift towards technology integration in the classroom, it is critical that teachers continue to grow and refine their technology skills to make the best use of the technology tools available to them. The use of technology is critical to a student's learning experience and in preparing him or her for the workforce. Teachers and students express a desire to create, innovate, and streamline their workflow through the use of technology in the classroom.

Since the implementation of the Personalized Digital Learning Initiative and the integration of 1:1 devices in many Horry County classrooms, ongoing professional development from the Digital Integration Team is needed to keep up with advances in educational technologies. By supporting teachers through professional development, ultimately students will receive an experience in the classroom that will better equip them for college, the workforce, and to be lifelong learners. For the goals and strategies of the Digital Integration Team to be successful, administrators must share in this vision and encourage teachers to integrate instructional technology and instructional models that support the use of technology in the classroom.

While many Horry County teachers use technology in the classroom, many students still do not have routine access to technology. Without changes in curricula, high-quality teacher professional development and everyday access to technologies by students and educators, the most complex and powerful uses of technology will not be integrated on a regular basis. Horry County Schools' Instructional Technology Plan seeks to ensure that all students and teachers are prepared to use a variety of technologies in the classroom and have access to ample resources and support.

By engaging the effective use of technology in our classrooms, every child can reach his or her potential and achieve success. The individual learning styles and needs of every child can be addressed by using technology to differentiate instruction and provide accessible resources to all students. Schools no longer need to rely on traditional textbooks as the main centerpiece of instruction, but can now use an array of high-quality, digital resources. Teachers can collaborate across time and space to share and develop learning resources. Students can facilitate their own learning, guided by teachers knowledgeable in content, pedagogy, and technology and use real time, real world resources to solve problems and address rigorous standards.

With increased access to resources comes a responsibility to understand and practice ethical and safe use of information. Students will understand digital citizenship and apply smart practice related to copyright, plagiarism, social networking and the appropriate use of information. As students have access to technology resources in all subjects, not only will they better learn course content, but they will also develop, as demonstrated by mastery of the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS), critical technology and information literacy skills necessary for life in this new millennium, allowing them to compete and excel in an increasingly competitive global world.

Horry County Schools' Instructional Technology Plan seeks to outline the goals and outcomes of the Personalized Digital Learning Initiative.

Personalized Digital Learning Initiative

Horry County Schools Personalized Digital Learning (PDL) initiative began in August 2103. The new technological tools enable teachers to personalize education in ways not possible before.

Over the past decade, technology has transformed the way we live and work. During this time the Horry County Schools has been a state leader in using technology as a tool for teaching, including a teacher laptop initiative, classroom interactive whiteboards, $25,000 school technology grants for all 54 schools and programs, project-based learning, a district virtual school, and extensive teacher training in using technology and technological tools.

Our students and teachers have embraced the use of technology in our schools, and their enthusiasm can be seen in our district technology fair, our competitive robotics programs, and a wide range of technology-based student projects and products.

Today's students and teachers who are entering our classrooms are digital natives who use, understand, and value technological tools.

The personalized digital learning initiative takes the next step in moving our educational system forward by expanding the use of technology as a tool for learning. Through this initiative, we have the opportunity to put technological tools into the hands of every student.

Students utilize Dell Venues and iPads

Collaboration, creation, and critical thinking

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PDL INITIATIVE

Horry County Schools' PDL Initiative merges the use of 1:1 devices and a blended learning instructional model to fully leverage the power of technology. The initiative began in January 2014 with the distribution of iPads to every middle school student in the district. High school students received Dell Venue Windows tablets in the fall of 2015, and the initiative continued in the 2015-16 school year with iPads being provided to fifth grade students. In the fall of 2016 the initiative expanded to grades 3 & 4 using a shared model providing one iPad for every 2 students. The district also partners with Education Elements, an educational consulting firm, to innovate the use of devices in the classroom to create a personalized learning path for each student. Adaptive digital content, such as Achieve3000, NoRedInk, and ALEKS Math, enables teachers to provide students with content-based practice that meets each student's individual ability, while the teacher provides quality small group instruction to other students based on need.

	Elementary	**Middle**	**High**
Hardware and Software	1:1 iPads in grade 5 2:1 iPads in grades 3-4 Google Apps for Education Projectors SmartBoards Achieve 3000 ALEKS Math iTunesU Discovery Education Science Techbook Discovery Education Streaming Services Lexie Core 5	1:1 Chromebooks Google Apps for Education Projectors Achieve 3000 No Red Ink USA Test Prep ALEKS Math Discovery Education Science Techbook Discovery Education Streaming Services	1:1 Dell Venue Windows Tablets Google Apps for Education Projectors No Red Ink USA Test Prep Achieve 3000 USA Test Prep ALEKS Math Discovery Education Science Techbook Discovery Education Streaming Services

Instructional Technology Goals

List of Goals:

- The Digital Integration Team will keep current with emerging educational technologies.
- The Digital Integration Team will align professional development efforts to the ISTE National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)
- The Digital Integration Team will support teachers by providing regular professional development sessions in their schools on technology tools and facilitating blended learning lesson planning.
- The Digital Integration Team will support teachers by providing professional development sessions with consultants supporting hardware and software on pre-existing technologies such as iPads, Google Apps for Education and Microsoft tools.
- The Digital Integration Team will support teachers by leading a group of teacher leaders called the EdTech Task Force. During meetings with the EdTech Task Force, professional development sessions will be created for August and February district professional development sessions.
- The Digital Integration Team will create and support effective digital age learning environments to maximize the learning of all students.
- The Digital Integration Team will model and promote digital citizenship.
- The Digital Integration Team will work with Learning Services and Curriculum Coaches to align and support their student learning objectives.
- The Digital Integration Team will post and share resources to social media services like Twitter and/or Google+ Communities

Support Evidence:

- Personalized school long-range plans, instructional Weebly websites, Google+ communities, and school reports.

List of Goals:

- Administrators will implement, inspire, and facilitate among all stakeholders a shared vision for comprehensive integration of technology to promote excellence and support transformation throughout the organization.
- Administrators will maximize the use of digital-age resources to meet and exceed learning goals and support effective instructional practice.
- Administrators will create, promote and sustain a dynamic, digital age learning culture that provides a rigorous, relevant, and engaging education for all students. They will accomplish this by creating technology rich environments that focus on continuous improvement of digital skills, frequent and effective use of technology for learning, and participation in professional learning communities that facilitate digital collaboration, innovation, and best practices.
- Administrators will create and promote an environment of professional learning to enhance student learning through integration of technology by facilitating ongoing professional development opportunities, modeling communication and collaboration among stakeholders, and staying abreast of emerging trends and technologies.
- Administrators will support systemic improvement with the effective use of information and technology resources. Administrators will collaborate to collect and analyze data, interpret results and share findings to improve growth.
- Administrators will support digital citizenship by modeling and facilitating the understanding of social, ethical and legal issues and responsibilities related to an evolving digital culture.
- Administrators will ensure equitable access to appropriate digital tools and resources to meet the needs of all learners.
- Administrators will promote, model and establish policies for safe, legal, and ethical use of digital information and technology.
- Administrators will model and facilitate the development of a shared cultural understanding and involvement in global issues through the use of contemporary communication and collaboration tools.

Support Evidence:

- Job Accountabilities
- Planning with Digital Integration Specialist

Administrator Technology Goals

Teacher Technology Goals

List of Goals:

- Teachers will use technology daily to support their student learning objectives by developing digital age learning experiences and assessments. Teachers will also provide students with multiple and varied formative and summative assessments aligned with content and technology standards, and use resulting data to inform learning and teaching.
- Teachers will use the SAMR Model as a guide for technology integration in their classrooms.
- Teachers will effectively use blended learning instructional models to support technology integration in their classrooms. Teachers will customize and personalize learning activities to address students' diverse learning styles, working strategies, and abilities using digital tools and resources.
- Teachers will engage students in exploring real-world issues and solving authentic problems using digital tools and resources.
- Teachers will promote student reflection using collaborative tools to reveal and clarify students' conceptual understanding and thinking, planning, and creative processes.
- Teachers will model digital age work and learning by exhibiting technology knowledge, skills, and fluency. Teacher will collaborate with all stakeholders to engage students in learning using emerging technologies.
- Teachers will promote and model digital citizenship and responsibility by advocating, modeling, and teaching safe, legal, and ethical use of digital information and technology, including respect for copyright, intellectual property, and the appropriate documentation of sources.

Support Evidence:

- Classroom walk-throughs/visits
- Exit Slips
- Google+ Communities
- Lesson Plans
- Survey Data
- Digital Content Data

List of Goals:

- Students will create and develop innovative products using technology.
- Students will use digital media to communicate and work collaboratively.
- Students will use digital tools to gather, evaluate and use information.
- Students will plan research and make decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
- Students will understand the issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.

Support Evidence:

- Digital Content Reports
- Standardized Test Growth
- Report Cards

Student Technology Goals