Buford City Schools
Buford, Georgia
www.bufordcityschools.org

Three-Year Technology Plan
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021

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Technology Department Mission and Vision Statement

I. Technology Mission Statement:

The mission of Buford City Schools is to provide a varied, integrated, and technologically educational approach that will help all students achieve full development of their potential. Buford City Schools will work to integrate technology into system-wide management and classroom instruction to enhance the educational process. Technology will be implemented, used, and upgraded to develop 21st century citizens who are technically proficient and capable of competing in higher education and in the work force. Our mission is to create technical opportunities for students to become critical thinkers, responsible individuals, productive citizens, and lifelong learners to meet the challenges of change in real-life situations. The school district will display a common understanding of the transformational nature of changes in information-processing technologies, and the district will provide all administrators, teachers, staff and students the tools required for quality work.

Technology Vision Statement:

The vision of Buford City Schools is to provide opportunities for students to gain the knowledge, values, and skills necessary to be productive lifelong learners in a changing society. Technology is currently used in all areas of the work force and students must be prepared to adapt to new and different media, using technology as a tool for success in the future. In order to reach this goal, it is necessary to guide students toward technology literacy by providing opportunities to develop personal productivity skills and attain content area knowledge. Teachers facilitate conduct activities that promote technology and facilitate an active student-learning environment where students use computers to link to real world, relevant topics. Parents have access to real-time data on their child’s grades, attendance, homework, and test scores.

We believe that technology is a tool for learning that expands our instructional repertoire and is the vehicle that maximizes the capacity of all teachers and learners. It is the vision of Buford City Schools that students be engaged in a stimulating academic environment and a challenging curriculum that is student-centered and focused on inquiry-based learning.

Specifically, we envision that technology is available and effectively supported for all students and staff:

- To provide global access to information
- To meet the curricular needs of all learners
- To provide access to the general curriculum
- To refine critical thinking skills and foster creativity
- To provide a medium for expression and communication
- To collect, assess, and share performance information
- To improve the effectiveness of administrative tasks
- To provide skills and proficiencies necessary for the workforce
II. Current Reality:

We have in place a wide area network (WAN) (which facilitates communications within the school district and beyond), Internet access, resource sharing, video applications, etc. Our local area network (LAN) facilitates sharing of printing services; resource sharing among administrators, teachers, and students; and expedites administrative duties of faculty and staff. All students and teachers in all classrooms in Buford City Schools currently have generous and equitable access to technology. Recognizing however, that technology is a dynamic arena, the system has prioritized its plan for retooling and refurbishing the technology at each school, with updates for software and replacement of hardware scheduled on an annual basis. A variety of funds will be used to carry out this plan, including but not limited to: Title IID (if allocated), SPLOST, Professional Learning, and Locally budgeted funds.

The needs for each school are assessed annually by school and district staff through the use of both local and state surveys and local inventories to insure both equity and appropriate access. Student demographics and school facilities are considered in the assessment.

All hardware and software resources are linked to the student outcomes, targets, and indicators in technology, the curriculum, and the goals and objectives in the Technology Plan.

The district maintains a website at www.bufordcityschools.org and develops and maintains applications for district-wide use over the Internet. In addition, all schools write and maintain their own individual school sites. Access is limited from outside the network by the firewall, and the content filter prohibits students and staff from accessing inappropriate internet content. Every staff member has an e-mail account capable of sending and receiving e-mail internally within the district as well as globally over the internet. All students in grades 2-12 have email accounts capable of sending and receiving email internally within the district as well as some whitelisted external domains. All district computers have network access giving them the ability to access file servers, print servers, e-mail, and the Internet. All schools are interconnected by fiber optic cabling which provides speed and reliability. All schools have been equipped with numerous wireless access points that provide “untethered” network coverage anywhere within the building.

Data Sources
Buford City Schools utilizes the following data sources to collect valuable data for informed technology planning decisions.

- Annual local technology budget which identifies:
  - Capital purchases, training, and support expenditures.
  - New and Alternative funding sources.
- Annual software/technology utilization report that monitors school use of technology equipment.
- Ongoing gap analysis of equality of technology resources between schools.
- Annual technology inventory submitted to State Department of Education which includes:
  - Definition of “modern computer specifications” which leads to replacement of outdated equipment.
  - Ratio of student to computers to ensure adequate technology access in all school settings.
- Annual training needs survey used to determine the quantity and content of technology professional development.
- Levels of Technology integration tool used to determine a teacher’s effective use of technology in the classroom.

**Instructional Technology Use**

**Buford Elementary School**  
**Kindergarten and 1st Grade**  
[https://www.beswolves.com/](https://www.beswolves.com/)

All students and staff at Buford Elementary School have access to a variety of technology tools including but not limited to building wide networked computers, wireless access, projectors, digital cameras, color printers, network printers, DVD players, LCD TVs, video cameras, interactive whiteboard devices, and multiple wireless mobile iPad and chromebook labs. In the computer lab, a full time certified instructional technology teacher works with students on curriculum projects that are aligned to state and national educational technology standards and objectives. Computers are used to enhance instruction in a number of ways at Buford Elementary School. Teachers create and use computer-generated assessments designed to provide timely feedback regarding student achievement. This allows teachers to focus on data when identifying students in need of early interventions. Team and grade level meetings are then devoted to discussing strategies identified as areas of concern.

Buford Elementary School maintains a school website for access by anyone interested in information about our school. In addition, grade levels have the ability to create websites for parents to access for grade-specific information. Newsletters are also distributed by teachers as well as the school. Our student management software (PowerSchool) enables parents to access their child’s grades, assignments and attendance through a password protected Internet website.

Every classroom is equipped with two desktop computers, multiple chromebooks, a ceiling mounted projector, an interactive whiteboard device, a ceiling speaker system, a networked printer, and one wireless teacher laptop.

Available software programs include but not limited to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microsoft Office Suite</th>
<th>Site Words</th>
<th>Accelerated Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain Pop</td>
<td>IXL Learning</td>
<td>Headsprout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PebbleGo</td>
<td>Kidspiration</td>
<td>Osmo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning A to Z Raz-Plus</td>
<td>Reading A to Z</td>
<td>Jumpstart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tumblebooks</td>
<td>ABCMouse</td>
<td>ABCYA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.T.A.R.</td>
<td>S.T.A.R. Early Literacy</td>
<td>Inspiration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Classroom/Google Apps</td>
<td>MimioMobile</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUFORD ACADEMY
Grades 2 - 5
https://www.bufordacademy.org/

All faculty, staff, and students at Buford Academy have access to a variety of technology devices and tools including but not limited to building wide networked computers, wireless access, projectors, digital cameras, color printers, network printers, DVD players, LCD TVs, video cameras, interactive whiteboard devices, and multiple wireless mobile iPad and chromebook labs. With two full-time certified technology teachers on staff, students consistently participate in technology classes with a focus on state and national technology standards.

Technology plays a vital role in the instructional process and student achievement. Devices are 1:1, one device per student, allowing teachers to develop lesson plans that are interactive, engaging and rigorous. Assessments created through technology tools provide teachers with timely feedback for differentiated instruction and student progress.

Buford Academy maintains a website with a wealth of information about our school. Teaching teams also manage websites for grade-level specific information. Google Classroom is a tool used to create and post classroom assignments. Students also have the capability to upload assignments for teacher review and peer collaboration. In addition, PowerSchool, the student information system, enables parents to access grades, assignments, and attendance.

Classrooms are equipped with a set of devices, Chromebooks or iPads, in addition to projectors, a speaker system, an interactive whiteboard, printer and wireless teacher laptop.
In grades 2-5, standards and objectives are supported by software programs such as IXL and Study Island. Many software programs available to teachers and students at BA are web-based and accessible on most technology devices.

Faculty, staff, and students are enthusiastic about the programs offered and integrate them into their daily instructional plans. The following programs are a sample of what is utilized at Buford Academy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microsoft Office Suite</th>
<th>Destiny</th>
<th>IXL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain Pop</td>
<td>Mathzor</td>
<td>MobyMax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explode the Code</td>
<td>Learning A-Z</td>
<td>edHelper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmentum (Reading Eggs)</td>
<td>Go Animate</td>
<td>I-Ready Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PebbleGo</td>
<td>Mystery Science</td>
<td>Exact Path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Island</td>
<td>SRC</td>
<td>Music Time 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Classroom/Google Apps</td>
<td>NearPod</td>
<td>Flocubulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyOn</td>
<td>Socrative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All students and staff at Buford Middle School have access to a variety of technology tools including but not limited to building-wide networked computers, wireless access, projectors, digital cameras, color printers, network printers, DVD players, LCD TVs, video cameras, interactive whiteboard devices, and multiple wireless mobile iPad and chromebook labs. Buford Middle School has two vocational labs, a research lab in the media center, and mobile wireless labs for teachers to check out. Students work on curriculum projects that are aligned to state and national educational technology standards and objectives. Technology plays a key role in helping the teachers at Buford Middle School meet their goal of improving student academic achievement by focusing on student learning. Teachers are using the 1:1 student devices to create lessons that allow them to get away from the board and to easily interact with their students. They are also using the student devices to quickly assess student understanding during lessons as well as to create content reviews. Teachers create and use computer-generated assessments designed to provide timely feedback regarding student achievement. This allows teachers to focus on data when identifying students in need of early interventions. Team and grade level meetings are then devoted to discussing strategies identified as areas of concern.

Buford Middle School maintains a school website for access by anyone interested in information about the school. In addition, teachers have the ability to create class websites for parents to access for classroom-specific information. Google Classroom is used to post assignments and resources online. Students can then work on assignments from home and upload them to the Google Classroom for the teachers to review. Newsletters are distributed by teachers as well as the school. Our student management software (PowerSchool) enables parents to access their child’s grades, assignments and attendance through a password protected Internet website.

Every classroom is equipped with a classroom set of devices (chromebooks or ipads), a ceiling mounted projector, a ceiling speaker system, a networked printer, and one wireless teacher laptop.

All students in grades 6-8 routinely use IXL, a software program that encompasses a wide variety of instructional reading and math skills. This software program is web based and is available on any computer with an internet connection. The teachers are enthusiastic about IXL and have integrated this software program into their instructional and assessment plans.
Available software programs include but not limited to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microsoft Office Suite</th>
<th>IXL</th>
<th>Schoology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain Pop</td>
<td>Destiny</td>
<td>Flocabulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAD</td>
<td>EdPuzzle</td>
<td>EMaze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enchanted Learning</td>
<td>FLIPP</td>
<td>Buzz Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Spark</td>
<td>Discovery Education</td>
<td>Gamemaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Sketchup</td>
<td>Greenfoot</td>
<td>Homestyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Classroom/Google Apps</td>
<td>icivics</td>
<td>JellyCam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahoot!</td>
<td>KUTA</td>
<td>Lizardpoint Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moby Max</td>
<td>Newsela</td>
<td>Pivot 3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiziz</td>
<td>Quizlet</td>
<td>Read Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silhouette</td>
<td>Adobe Creative Suite</td>
<td>TinkerCAD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Buford High School  
Grades 9 - 12  
http://www.bufordhs.org/

All students and staff at Buford High School have access to a variety of technology tools including but not limited to building wide networked computers, wireless access, projectors, digital cameras, color printers, network printers, DVD players, LCD TVs, video cameras, interactive whiteboard devices, ceiling mounted speaker systems, and multiple wireless mobile iPad and chromebook labs. Buford High School has a lab in the media center, a graphic arts lab, marketing lab, and a credit recovery lab. Students work on curriculum projects that are aligned to state and national educational technology standards and objectives. Technology plays a key role in helping the teachers at Buford High School meet their goal of improving student academic achievement by focusing on student learning. Teachers are using the 1:1 student devices to create lessons that allow them to get away from the board and to easily interact with their students. They are also using the student devices to quickly assess student understanding during lessons as well as to create content reviews. Teachers create and use computer-generated assessments designed to provide timely feedback regarding student achievement. This allows teachers to focus on data when identifying students in need of early interventions. Team and grade level meetings are then devoted to discussing strategies identified as areas of concern.

Buford High School maintains a school website for access by anyone interested in information about the school. In addition, teachers have the ability to create class websites for parents to access for classroom-specific information. Google Classroom is used to post assignments and resources online. Students can then work on assignments from home and upload them to the Google Classroom for the teachers to review. Newsletters are also distributed by teachers, as well as by the school. Our student management software (PowerSchool) enables parents to access their children’s grades, assignments and attendance through a password protected Internet website.

Every classroom is equipped with a classroom set of devices (chromebooks or ipads), a ceiling mounted projector, a ceiling speaker system, a networked printer, and one wireless teacher laptop.

Buford High School offers Georgia Virtual School (a credit recovery solution) as an alternate option for retaking failed courses. Georgia Virtual School allows Buford High School to offer a true second chance to students who connect better in a digital environment than they do in the classroom. Georgia Virtual School also can be used by students to take classes that aren’t offered by Buford High School giving students a chance to truly expand their curriculum opportunities.
Available software programs include but are not limited to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microsoft Office</th>
<th>Georgia Virtual School</th>
<th>USATestPrep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adobe PhotoShop</td>
<td>LoggerPro</td>
<td>Destiny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe InDesign</td>
<td>MovieMaker</td>
<td>Geometer’s Sketchpad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Illustrator</td>
<td>Automated Accounting</td>
<td>Adobe Dreamweaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Dreamweaver</td>
<td>English In a Flash</td>
<td>Schoology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Premier Pro</td>
<td>Turnitin</td>
<td>GCIS (online)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahoot!</td>
<td>Quizlet</td>
<td>Edmentum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Classroom/Google Apps</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Instructional Gap Analysis

Data was collected to determine gap needed vs. current reality of instruction at each school setting in relation to 21st Century technology equipment. Classrooms meeting the baseline standard for a 21st Century classroom have the following components:

- A class set of student devices
- A projector (ceiling-mounted or cart-mounted) with at least 2100 lumens and all necessary cabling to connect to instructional devices;
- Available Interactive whiteboard (mounted or hand-held) with accompanying software;
- Ceiling mounted speaker system
- Network printer
- Wireless access point in the classroom

While students and teachers are able to use 21st Century equipment at most locations, some classrooms were lacking some component of a 21st Century classroom. To equalize and to outfit all classrooms at all schools, portions of the local technology budget were used accordingly to address this gap.

Student to Computer Ratio
2017-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>BES</th>
<th>BA</th>
<th>BMS</th>
<th>BHS</th>
<th>System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Modern Computers</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1740</td>
<td>1761</td>
<td>6391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Population</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>1493</td>
<td>1124</td>
<td>1426</td>
<td>4808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Computer Ratio</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: The above data was compiled from the GADOE System/School Technology Inventory Survey completed Spring 2018.

Administrative Technology Use
The technology that Buford City Schools has in place assists the administration in carrying out numerous administrative functions such as communications, student information management, personnel information, district finances, purchasing, transportation and food service management; especially with the presence of a local area network within our school buildings and a wide area network linking each of our schools to our district office. Communication is also sought through voice mail, email, school notification system, twitter, and the system web page.

The student management web-based software (PowerSchool) enables parents, teachers, and administrators to have real-time access to vital data. Parents have immediate access to their
child’s progress and assignments. Our teachers have the ability to take attendance electronically from a computer; therefore our administration has instant attendance information on all students at their fingertips. Grades are also entered electronically to simplify compiling progress reports and report cards. Parents can see the results of tests and assignments as soon as they are recorded. All teachers have email so they can communicate with parents and other school personnel.

Special education teachers use PowerSchool Special Ed, a web-based special education program designed to manage data on special education students and electronically generate and document required paperwork such as Individual Educational Plans as well as parent contacts.

**Employee Childcare Facility**

BCS houses an on-site employee Child Care Facility that is equipped with computers and iPads providing toddlers with first hand experiences with technology before they start kindergarten. Kiddiecams are located throughout the child care for the employees who have children in the child care to view their child anytime during the day by logging in through a password-protected site on the Internet.

**Parent/Community Uses of Technology**

Buford City Schools utilizes email, websites, twitter, school notification system, and newsletters to promote better communication between schools, staff, parents and community members. Using a secured password parents can access their child’s grades, assignments and attendance. Research says parent-community involvement in student learning can have a highly positive impact through a variety of activities. Buford City Schools encourages parental support for children's learning which can occur through positive and ongoing parent-teacher communications, volunteer time at school, modeling use of technology resources and lifelong learning, and career mentoring. Buford City Schools has taken measures to accommodate parents with limited English skills by providing documents in Spanish as well as English.
## Goals, Benchmarks, and Strategies

### Instructional Goals

#### Goal 1: Continually update and improve 21st Century technology access.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Evaluation Method</th>
<th>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</th>
<th>Personnel Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide access to modern computer workstations, projectors, student response systems, and other multimedia equipment for instructional purposes</td>
<td>All schools will review, maintain, and acquire, as appropriate, 21st Century equipment for each classroom.</td>
<td>System Level Technology Inventory (annually)</td>
<td>Local Funds / $350,000 Title I Perkins Grant</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology School Tech Spec. Principals Dir. of Career and Technology Ed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide LAN/WAN and wireless access robust enough to handle streaming video, online testing, and distance learning</td>
<td>All classrooms have high speed access to online resources.</td>
<td>Annual technology inventory</td>
<td>SPLOST $50,000 Local Funds Amount: $10,000</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology Network Admin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-rate applications will be filed to apply for discounted rates on technology equipment and Internet connectivity</td>
<td>E-rate applications will be filed annually for any eligible services or equipment</td>
<td>Annual technology budget</td>
<td>Eligible E-Rate awards excluding end-user equipment. Local Funds Amt: awards contingent upon USAC</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology Network Admin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Goal 2: Improve student academic performance, technology literacy, and motivation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Evaluation Method</th>
<th>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</th>
<th>Personnel Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utilize motivational, instant feedback test practice materials both in print and online to assist students in preparation for state testing</td>
<td>Students passing the Georgia Milestones will increase 3% in all subject areas over the next three years.</td>
<td>Annual software / technology utilization report</td>
<td>Title I Local Funds $10,000</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology Curriculum Directors Asst. Superintendent Instructional Coaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilize software to disaggregate data for the purpose of differentiating instruction and increasing student achievement in all subgroups</td>
<td>The district will evaluate available software and implement by 2020</td>
<td>Annual gap analysis</td>
<td>Title I Local Funds Amt: $350,000</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology Curriculum Directors Dir. of Special Ed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Goal 3: Utilize technology to support the professional growth of all staff to maximize student learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Evaluation Method</th>
<th>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</th>
<th>Personnel Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Develop technology training courses that align with technology goals and teacher requests. The level of technology integration will increase by 50% by 2020.

Professional Development Registration Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title Funds / $6,000</th>
<th>Local Funds / $6,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Directors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Development Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dir. of Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Administrative Goals**

**Goal 4:** Increase the application and use of technology to enhance job performance and productivity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Benchmark</strong></th>
<th><strong>Evaluation Method</strong></th>
<th><strong>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</strong></th>
<th><strong>Personnel Responsibilities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining high levels of technology access for system members</td>
<td>85% of technology purchases will be coordinated by the Districts Technology Department.</td>
<td>System Level Technology Inventory (annually-Dec)</td>
<td>Local Funds / $20,000 Splost Funds / $20,000</td>
<td>Director of Technology Central Office Administration Principals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parent/Community Uses of Technology Goals**

**Goal 5:** Utilize technology to enhance community communication and provide additional standards based material.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Benchmark</strong></th>
<th><strong>Evaluation Method</strong></th>
<th><strong>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</strong></th>
<th><strong>Personnel Responsibilities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide Parents access to their child’s grades, assignments, and attendance (Real-Time data)</td>
<td>Monitor Student Management Software (PowerSchool) and School website updates on a regular basis.</td>
<td>Monitor content and access to PowerSchool</td>
<td>Local Technology Funds. $15,000</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology School Technology Coordinators Teachers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Benchmark</strong></th>
<th><strong>Evaluation Method</strong></th>
<th><strong>Funding Source / Estimated Amt</strong></th>
<th><strong>Personnel Responsibilities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt a “train the trainer” model to more fully implement the vision of the use of technology</td>
<td>Increase knowledge of the district’s vision for technology use on a regular basis.</td>
<td>Review of system website, newsletters, and training presentations</td>
<td>Local Funds Amt: $10,000</td>
<td>Dir. of Technology Curriculum Directors School Technology Coordinators Staff Development Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**III. Communication and Marketing Plan:**

Information about the technology plan is distributed throughout the school system. The community has access to the technology plan from the systems web site (www.bufordcityschools.org). The school newsletters will also serve as a means of communicating to parents and community the new and innovative ways Buford City Schools utilizes technology. Stakeholders (those who are affected by the project) are actively involved in planning and implementing technology integration. The school system implements specific strategies for ensuring the input and participation of stakeholders in technology integration.
Methods of showcasing the value of technology in the learning environment include technology demonstrations at PTO meetings, vendor demonstrations, plus classroom visits by parents, community members and business leaders and students. Buford City Schools will expand support for technology-rich learning environments by creating opportunities that promote awareness of, and increase knowledge about, educational technologies currently being used or will be used by students within the Buford City Community.

The parent portal allows parents and guardians real-time access to vital data. Parents/Guardians have immediate access to their child’s progress and assignments. Parents can see the results of tests and assignments as soon as they are recorded by the teacher. All teachers and administrators have email so they can communicate with parents/guardians.

Individuals from our school district (members of the Technology Team, the School Councils, principals, teachers, Director of Curriculum/Media, Profession Development, Special Education, ESOL and support staff) will work to identify outcomes that could be used to measure progress in Buford City Schools use of technology. We will brainstorm ideas for each of the six goal areas. This group and additional teachers will have the opportunity to rank the items in each goal area to help the district prioritize technology usage and long-range planning initiatives.

IV. Professional Development

Professional development activities for Buford City Schools focus upon improving student learning. Teachers and staff use technology that enables them to provide students with engaging standards-based content to enhance the learning process. Professional development is provided to teachers and staff through learning/sharing sessions during planning periods, staff meetings, teacher work days, after school, and offer individual assistance when necessary. Buford City Schools is committed to a long-term financial plan which provides students and teachers with suitable technology to support learning, and at the same time, protects the community’s investment. BCS understands that responding to the financial challenges presented by the need to make technology available to our students is multifaceted. This includes not only the initial purchase price of the equipment, but must also include the infrastructure to connect each school to the district and every student and staff member to the internet. Staff training is essential, both in the use of the equipment and software, as well as instructional strategies for the integration of this technology into the curriculum. Buford City Schools Board of Education realizes that technology is a fundamental requirement for the provision of a basic education and thereby allocated a dedicated ongoing source of revenue. Funding this effort will require multi-source approach. Buford City Schools will use the following sources to fund hardware and software purchases. These amounts do not represent staffing costs: Local Technology Funds, SPLOST Funds, E-rate Funds, and Title II D Funds (if allocated).
Appendix A
BOARD POLICY

Acceptable Use Policy

The Buford City School System information technology resources, including email and Internet access, are provided for educational purposes. Any use of the resources for any other purpose is prohibited.

The Buford City School’s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is intended to:
- prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful activities by internet users;
- protect sensitive information;
- provide parameters for appropriate use of school system IT resources;
- comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA);
- promote internet safety and appropriate use of BCSS technology resources.

Internet Safety

It shall be the policy of the Buford City Board of Education that the school system shall have in continuous operation, with respect to any computers belonging to the schools 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 said technology protection measure to protect against access through such computers to visual depictions that are obscene, as the term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code; child pornography, as the term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or harmful to minors, as those terms are defined in Section 1703(b)(1) and (2) of the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000.

Further, such procedures or guidelines shall be designed to:
- Provide for monitoring the online activities of minors and all users to prevent, to the extent practicable, access to inappropriate matter on the Internet and the World Wide Web;
- Prevent unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking:" and other unauthorized activities by minors and all users online;
- Prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors and all users;
- Restrict minors' and all users' 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;
- Educate minors and all users about their safety and security when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms Web 2.0 technology;
- Educate minors and all users about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals online;
- Educate minors and all users about cyberbullying; and
- Establish disciplinary consequences for users who violate the Acceptable Use Policy.

Appropriate Use of School System Technology Resources
The Buford City School System information technology resources are provided for educational purposes. Any use of the resources for any other purpose is prohibited.

The use of the school system's technology resources shall be regarded as a privilege; violation of this policy and associated procedural guidelines may lead to restriction or suspension of the privilege, as well as disciplinary and/or legal action.
Appendix B
BOARD POLICY

Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Policy

It is the policy of Buford City Schools to:

(a) prevent user access over its computer network to access or transmit inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications
(b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
(c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
(d) comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be used to block or filter electronic access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to child pornography or visual depictions of material deemed obscene, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Buford City Schools online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called ‘hacking,’ and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Buford City Schools 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: Below are key terms as defined by the Childrens Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE: A specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. OBSCENE, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. HARMFUL TO MINORS

HARMFUL TO MINORS: any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
   1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
   2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
   3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT: the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.
Appendix C

Procedures for Ensuring Technology Interoperability

It is both fiscally and operationally imperative that all technology related hardware, software, and peripherals of any Buford City Schools facility be interoperable with the computer systems of that location as a whole, unless very specific circumstances warrant otherwise and this deviation has been authorized by the building Principal and the Director of Technology. To achieve this goal, all technology purchases are to be sent to and authorized initially by the school Principal and then directed to the Director of Technology for final approval.

Procedures for Redeployment of Technology

As computer equipment becomes obsolete or the needs of any classroom, lab, or entire building change, it may become necessary to reallocate the technology used therein. Equipment may be redeployed to other areas, other roles, or retired from service altogether. The need for redeployment should be a joint decision of the user, the Principal, and the Director of Technology or as directed by the Superintendent or Board of Education.

Obsolete Equipment Replacement Procedures

Computer equipment becomes obsolete, either through raised expectations based on newer software, or by evolving industry standards. When equipment is no longer reasonably capable of supporting our educational goals, as decided by the technology coordinators with the approval of the Technology Committee, it is declared surplus. All school-licensed software and other useable parts are removed and the remainder is recycled. Equipment that is too old or is in need of repairs too expensive to be cost effective for the school is disposed of. Inventory numbers are recorded and the equipment stricken from the official inventory. Our goal is to replace 25% of our computers per year, and replace other equipment based on need.