

GCHS Three Year Technology Plan (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012)

School Mission Statement:

Gloucester Catholic High School empowers young men and women to become faithful citizens and to develop in all aspects of life: spiritual, intellectual, moral, emotional, social and physical.

Our goal is that our graduates continue their education and carry with them a guide for Catholic Christian living: vibrant faith, respect for human dignity, strong belief in the values of family, promotion of justice, service to community and country, and the desire to make a positive difference in society.

Gloucester Catholic High School is enriched by a legacy of Catholic tradition spanning four generations. We draw strength and inspiration from our past as we make an exceptional Catholic education available and accessible to our future leaders.

Technology Vision Statement:

Gloucester Catholic High School strives to help our students grow and succeed in all aspects of their lives. Our goal is that our graduates continue their education and carry with them a guide for Catholic Christian living: vibrant faith, respect for human dignity, strong belief in the values of family, promotion of justice, service to community and country, and the desire to make a positive difference in society.

Within the broader scope of this mission, Gloucester Catholic views this technology plan as one method of supporting, sustaining and challenging the students and faculty of GCHS in their ongoing efforts to become Catholic, vital and excellent. It is our desire that this plan provides the technology to enhance instruction and learning, while providing the Catholic, ethical framework in which to evaluate information and become true, life-long learners.

Technology Inventory:

Gloucester Catholic has a Windows-based local domain connected to the Internet with a 1.5 Mbps frame-relay T1 and a recently added 22 Mbps cable connection backup. Our annex (a building located approximately two city blocks from our Main Building and Dominican Center) is connected to our Main Building with a dedicated T1 PVC circuit. The local network has a DNS/authentication server, a file/print server, a proxy server, and a local web server. All servers and workstations have AVG network edition 8.0 anti-virus software. All switches are at least 100Mbps.

All classrooms at GCHS currently have a Gateway DX200S computer (2.9GHz Pentium 4 Processor, 2GB RAM, 80GB Hard Drive, DVD-ROM drive) with Windows XP OS and Microsoft Office Professional 2003 loaded on them. All of these computers have TV tuner cards with basic cable TV feeds to them. All classrooms have an LCD projector and a working network/Internet connection. Fifty percent of the classrooms currently have SMARTboard whiteboards in them.

There are two computer labs at GCHS. The primary lab has 33 Dell OptiPlex 330 computers (Dual Core 2.00GHz processor, 1GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, CD-ROM drive) with Windows XP OS and Microsoft Office Small Business Edition software. The secondary lab has 25 Dell OptiPlex 320 computers (Dual Core 1.6GHz processor, 1GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, CD-ROM drive) with Windows XP OS and Microsoft Office (various editions) loaded on them. There are also 10 older Gateway computers making up the remainder of the 35 workstations in the secondary lab. Each of these also has Windows XP OS, but have 1GB P4 processors with 512MB RAM.

There are approximately 6 computers available for student use in the Media Center, although there are more available once the logistics (electric, furniture) are worked out.

All office staff have newer workstations with Windows XP Pro OS and Office suites.

All network access is controlled with network logon credentials. All classroom, lab and Media Center workstations are monitored with real-time, visual monitoring software, as well as having Internet activity logged on a proxy server. The ISA proxy server is used to monitor/block/allow access to Internet locations (sites) and protocols.

Technology Implementation Plan

Gloucester Catholic High School (GCHS) has developed this technology plan in order to provide a set of guiding principles for the training of faculty and staff, refinement of instructional programs and teaching strategies, acquisition/maintenance of hardware and software, and utilization of resources within the arena of educational technology. A Technology Committee has been formed in order to help develop and refine goals and recommend specific actions that need to be taken in the short- and long-term to meet those goals.

Broad Technology Goals:

- Students will attain the educational technology and information literacy skills that will assist them in keeping pace with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and to succeed in the workplace of the 21st century.
- Educators will attain the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively use educational technology to assist students to achieve in a manner consistent with the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- Students, teachers and administrators will have access to educational technology in all learning environments, including classrooms and other educational settings such as media centers.
- GCHS will establish and maintain the technology infrastructure necessary for students and educators to access electronic information and to communicate via technology.

Preliminary Action Plan, 2009-2010

Following are the action steps which the Technology Committee believes can/should be started or completed during the 2009-2010 academic year. These actions lay the foundation for our other long-term plans.

- Develop a specific professional development plan based on the results of technology surveys.
- Encourage faculty and staff to attend technology-related seminars, workshops and conferences.
- Continue the Introduction to Computers mini-course currently being offered to all Sophomores
- Implement a new web-based Student Information System – i.e., PowerSchool
- Continue subscription to on-line video resource – UnitedStreaming.com
- Continue to apply for E-Rate discounts
- Re-new anti-virus software license
- Develop volunteer group of students/others to help with network and website support issues
- Disseminate the GCHS Tech Plan to faculty and staff.
- Post the GCHS Tech Plan on the gchsrams.org website
- Explore and possibly write grants to acquire computer equipment and software.

Action Plan for Years 2010-2011, 2011-2012

Following are the action steps which the Technology Committee believes can/should be begun or completed during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 academic years, in order to reach our long-term goals:

- Advance faculty and staff computer literacy for classroom instructional purposes.
- Provide continued technical assistance and hardware service to keep existing computer resources functional.

- Increase the number of computers in the library/media center available for student use.
- Develop a procedure for evaluating and implementing software products for integration into classrooms
- Establish partnerships with businesses and the community to acquire and maintain equipment and software and to utilize any and all human and technological resources available to GCHS.
- Continue to revise curricula to reflect increased technological objectives.
- Continue to apply for E-Rate discounts

Plan for Monitoring and Evaluating

The GCHS Technology Committee (current membership listed below) will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the progress of this Technology Plan. To accomplish this task, the Tech Committee will meet at least 2 times per school year, once in each semester. During these meetings, the Committee will:

- evaluate the implementation of the plan
- re-assess goals and refine/change activities needed to ensure continued progress in light of new information and/or developments
- review and update the current inventory of equipment, software, and services
- assess the progress of staff development with regard to computer literacy and technology-integration
- assess the degree to which technology is actually being integrated into normal classroom teaching
- assess the degree to which technology has improved communication between the school and the community at large

Funding

The GCHS Technology Plan will have the following funds available for support:

- 2009-2010 - \$26,100 GCHS technology budget; any equipment donations we can secure; any grants we can secure; possible federal program dollars (unknown); funds from Guidance Dept budget for PowerSchool
- 2010-2011 - \$26,100 GCHS technology budget; any equipment donations we can secure; any grants we can secure; possible federal program dollars (unknown); funds from Guidance Dept budget for PowerSchool
- 2011-2012 - \$26,100 GCHS technology budget; any equipment donations we can secure; any grants we can secure; possible federal program dollars (unknown); funds from Guidance Dept budget for PowerSchool

GCHS Technology Committee

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