Saint Joseph Parish School

Google Apps for Education (G-Suite)
Strategic Plan
2017 through 2019

SUMMARY

To incorporate the technology curriculum requirements for elementary school (K-8) set forth by the Diocese of Cleveland for the 2016-2017 school year; technology cannot be taught as a stand-alone subject. There has been a dramatic shift from technology being a novelty tool to a must-have for learning. Thus the new curriculum calls for technology tools to be integrated throughout all classes. This implies all elementary school teachers -- not just the computer teacher -- learn and be able to proficiently teach these tools to their students.

This proposal outlines an approach to integrating technology tools through upgrading infrastructure, providing teacher education, and purchasing the appropriate hardware as well as online subscriptions to meet curriculum needs.

These recommendations are made by the Saint Joseph School Technology Team, which reviewed and interpreted the curriculum; evaluated and prioritized the needs to meet the curriculum; and investigated tools to meet the needs as well as be cost-effective for the school. The team consisted of five teachers representing grades K-8, the IT administrator, and the principal.

PRIORITIES

Below are the priorities identified by the Technology Team.

All Grades
Internet Safety
Productivity Tools

Grades K-2
Keyboarding
Presentations
Email
QR Coding

Grades 3-5
Keyboarding
Presentations
Websites
Videos
Blogging

Grades 6-8
Google Chrome
Websites
Videos
Blogging
Coding

COST-EFFECTIVE OPTIONS TO MEET NEEDS

Google Chrome
Nearly all priorities can be met with the use of a tool SJS has already begun to use -- Google Chrome. Google Chrome provides a multitude of application software to meet the following priorities:
- Productivity tools
- Presentations
- Email
- QR coding
- Websites
- Videos
- Blogging
- Coding

It can be accessed from any computer, notebook, or tablet. A perpetual license (3 year) must be purchased for each Chromebook

COST: $35 each

Chromebooks
SJS has a 30-computer lab, and although this was sufficient for technology classes, it is no longer sufficient for integrating technology into all subject areas. Students will still be able to use the lab for Google Chrome, however, there will not be enough computers for all students. The technology team suggests investing in Chromebooks to meet the increased demand for hardware. They are less costly than computers and more portable throughout the school. Also, the school is already set up with routers that are capable of connecting all wireless devices to the internet.

COST: $200/Chromebook

Carts & Cases
When adding Chromebooks, there needs to be a place to store and charge them. Grades K-5 will need Chromebook carts for the Chromebooks will always remain in the classroom. Additional cases will need to be purchased for grade 6, so they can be safely transported between classes as well as between home and school.

COST: $12/Case; $2,000/Cart

Online Internet Safety Resources
Internet safety is important for a students and adults to understand in this age of cyberbullying, identity theft, phishing, scamming, etc. There are a number of websites devoted to internet safety that teachers can use as resources when teaching this topic. These resources would also be provided to parents.

COST: FREE

COST-EFFECTIVE OPTIONS TO MEET NEEDS (cont'd)

Printers & Copiers
Although Google Chrome works to create a paper-free environment, there will still be occasion to print assignments, tests, etc. Chromebooks can be set to access current school printers, however these printers need to be new enough to be compatible and only 100 chromebooks max can be linked to each printer. Minimally, the school will need three printers/copiers for students.

COST: $600/printer

Teacher Training
Training is important on two levels: 1.) homeroom and specials teachers are new to Google Chrome and 2.) homeroom and specials teachers are new to teaching computer skills. Fortunately Google provides a wide variety of training tools from online programs to youtube videos to certified trainers who can meet with teachers in person. As long as we invest in the training options that best suit the needs for SJS teachers, they can easily learn Google apps and be quickly ready to teach them to SJS students.

COST: $135/hr for a class size 1-20

TOTAL PROJECT COST SUMMARY

Equipment

Chromebook Licenses- 1:1 K-8 ($35 x 180)	$ 6,300
Chromebooks- 1:1 K-8 ($200 x 180)	$36,000
Chromebook Cases- gr 6 ($15 x 32 students)	$ 480
Chromebook Carts- K-5 ($2,000 x 7 homerooms)	$14,000
Printers/Copiers 1/100 users ($600 x 3 printers)	$ 1,800

SUBTOTAL   **$58,580**

Training

Teacher Training- 20 hrs/teacher	$ 4,050

Infrastructure

Electric	$ 2,500
Wi Fi- increase Bandwidth ($100/mo)	$ 2,400
Air Conditioning	??????

GRAND TOTAL $67,530+

TIMELINE

Year 1

July 2017 -- Upgrade Electric	$ 1,250
July 2017 -- Upgrade Wi Fi	$ 1,200
January - May 2017 -- Train Teachers on Google Chrome Apps	$ 2,050
July - August 2017 -- purchase Chromebooks (80 x $200),	$16,000
July - August 2017 -- purchase Google licenses (80 x $35) $ 2,800	
August 2017 -- purchases 32 Chromebook cases ($15 each)	$ 480
June - August 2017 -- Order & Install Chromebook Cart (3 x $2,000)	$ 6,000
August 2017 -- purchase printer ($600)	$ 600

Year 1 TOTAL: *$30,380*

Year 2

July 2018 -- Upgrade Electric	$ 1,250
July 2018 -- Upgrade Wi Fi	$ 1,200
June-December 2018 -- Train Teachers on Google Chrome Apps	$ 2,000
June - August 2018 -- purchase Chromebook Carts (4 x $2000)	$ 8,000
July - August 2018 -- purchase Chromebooks (100 x $200)	$20,000
July - August 2018 -- purchase Google licenses (100 x $35) $ 3,500	
August 2018 -- Printers/Copiers ($600 x 2 printers)	$ 1,200

Year 2 TOTAL: *$37,150*

STEPS FOR SUCCESS

1. **Create Working Infrastructure** Ensure school building electrical system is capable of charging 150 notebooks nightly. Ensure wifi bandwidth and speed is capable of supporting 300+ users at a time. Initial review by technology vendor indicates there is minimal infrastructure work that needs to be done. May need special outlets for carts. May need to upgrade bandwidth from internet provider. Everything else is in good working order.
2. **Teach the teacher:** Nearly all software being introduced to the students will also be new to the teachers. This is an entirely new approach to teaching for elementary school, truly integrating technology tools into everyday teaching. Have to ensure it is not overwhelming to teachers who already have a multitude of subjects to teach. Ensure teachers have access to training throughout summer and school year.
3. **Purchase hardware and online subscriptions:** Work with Technology vendor (BPI) on these purchases to ensure compatibility with current SJS infrastructure.
4. **Make this technology plan the focus of the Blue & Gold Gala**: The Blue & Gold Gala is an annual event designed to raise money for Saint Joseph School's technology needs. In 2016, the Gala raised more than $24,000 with limited marketing and without having a prime target or a plan for the funds raised. By more aggressively promoting the event, adding some additional activities besides auction items, and by having a very specific plan for the monies raised; SJS can surely reach its goal of $30,380 the first year. Additional ideas for Blue & Gold include:
   a. Have homerooms create *personalized* items for auction. These items have to represent the students of that specific homeroom. Using art elements like handprints, signatures, silhouettes of students, etc, will accomplish this goal.
   b. Each auction item should raise money for a specific technology item. For example, when auctioning the first grade homeroom item, let participants know the money raised from this item will purchase a workstation consisting of six chromebooks, a table, & chairs for the first grade.
   c. Instead of just having all high ticket items at the auction, allow families to donate a single chromebook to the technology library. Chromebooks will be labeled with name of donor and donor will know they are helping a student with their education for 3+ years.
   d. Have a POWER UP station that sells scratch-off tickets. All proceeds go to the electrical & wifi needs.
   e. Have a chromebook at each table that allows guests to participate in Google classroom where they can send messages and photos to other tables or to one another. You can also set up trivia games in classroom so that tables can win prizes.

WHY PURSUE THIS STRATEGY?

1. Implementing technology across the curriculum now, via Chromebooks, will give Saint Joseph School a significant competitive edge over other Catholic Schools in the area, which can be heavily publicized throughout the 2017-2018 school year to increase enrollment.
2. SJS computer equipment, software, and operating systems have become obsolete making SJS' static software incompatible with the dynamic web browsers and online applications suggested by the diocesan curriculum.   As well, all of the SJS computer equipment is 5-12 years old, so it is time to replace quite a bit of the SJS computer hardware. It is the ideal time to make a switch.
3. It is becoming cost-effective and more convenient to subscribe to online textbooks. This strategy will already provide students with the vehicle to use online subscriptions with no additional cost to parents.