TECHNOLOGY

TECHNOLOGY VISION

There are a lot of important priorities in educational technology. Thanks to our incredible staff of educators and support at all levels, we are able to advance learning in Perry Township to new heights while always keeping the classroom in mind.

Over the past several years we have embarked on a program to modernize and shift our priorities from computer labs, fixed stations to being completely 1:1 grades 3-12. Our students face a world where computing devices are dominant and are now a primary element in assessments. It is critical that our students are comfortable and able to use devices on a daily basis in a responsible way.

We also recognize the importance of these devices working in a reliable way for our classroom teachers. It is for this reason that we are pushing the envelope searching for dollars to maintain and upgrade infrastructure as well as adopting more robust, faster systems like our Chromebooks.

Not to forget the important foundational skills laid down early, we strive for improvements in our non-1:1 grades as well. All K-2 classrooms were surveyed and outfitted with a minimum of 5 student learning stations. Additionally, we are piloting the use of 1:1 tablets in all second grade classrooms at JG and RP.

All of these hardware investments have been made with a strong eye looking towards usage and teacher desires in the classroom. This year we shifted to new learning programs in IXL, Waterford, PearDeck, and now Canvas LMS. We are already seeing 1:1 devices becoming intrinsic to daily learning and look forward to continuing to support that endeavor.

Over the coming years, you'll see our financial priorities continue towards investment in connectivity, 1:1 devices, SmartBoards, and online learning resources that help augment our amazing teachers.

Thank you all for a great first semester and we look forward to so much more to come.

— Matthew Willey

NETWORK UPGRADES

This year, nearly $1 million dollars have been invested in network upgrades in our 6-12 buildings. Every access point and network switch in those buildings have been replaced. They now support the latest technology and we were able to greatly expand our wireless coverage.

SERVER UPGRADES

A major project is winding down to increase efficiency and reliability in our network center. Dozens of old servers have been taken offline and replaced with a handful of modern blade systems. The entire network core has been replaced and sped up over ten times its previous capacity. We expect this project to pay dividends for years to come.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

A key element to the success of any hardware project is strong software support. We need to ensure that we have systems and software in place to support the amazing work done by our educators in the classroom.

With the proliferation of 1:1 computers in our schools, it is important that effective learning management platforms are in place.

For over a year, we have supported Google Classroom, and its ever-growing learning management capabilities. We are also excited to announce that Canvas is now available for all grade levels with your classes already created and ready. Both of these platforms will be strong partners in the foreseeable future.

Perry Township Schools
Technology Services

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helpdesk@perryschools.org

Growing…
Enhancing…
Simplifying

http://
websites.msdpt.k12.in.us/
technology

Did you know?

Our Google Drive environment now holds over 1.8 million user files. Over 112,000 are shared collaborative documents and the rest are held in private.

WE LOVE CANVAS

Canvas is our new online course system. Staff and students access Canvas by using your Google login! https://perryschools.instructure.com/

Some of the great features include:

Online Discussion Forums (Gradable)

Equation Editor

Multimedia Integration

Grouping for Differentiation

Amazing Online Assessment Tool

- Numerous Question Types
- Easily Import ExamView
- Control Number of Attempts
- Shareable Assessments

MYON READING CONTEST

From September 14th to October 31st, Elementary buildings participated in our Fall myOn Reading Contest. During that time, our students read a combined 13,289.73 hours in myOn. We are thrilled with the participation and amazed at the reading occurring in our classrooms.

Congratulations to Clinton Young Elementary whose students read 3.5 hours per student. They took the first place school prize and all of their staff have earned a Chromebook to use at school and home. Mary Bryan's fourth grade students read a whopping 6.39 hours per student. They won the top grade level prize and 12 sets of Cubelets are now at Mary Bryan for their use.

MAKER PROJECT

We recently launched our Maker Initiative with 24 of our visionary educators in Perry Township. These teachers will have the opportunity to pilot STEM based tools in the classroom across all subjects.

Video Makers: Each classroom received sets of 6 GoPro cameras for various productions, editing, and documentation projects.

Program Makers: Each classroom will receive 4 programmable Sphero SPRK robots and tablets to control them.

Robot Makers: Each classroom received 6 sets of 12 Cubelets. Cubelets combine in numerous ways to solve and test problems.

Circuit Makers: Each classroom received 6 sets of LittleBits Student Sets. They can create simple and complex circuits for various tasks.

We are very excited at this amazing opportunity and appreciate all of the applications received for the program.

For more information and to follow along with the program, visit our Maker Initiative Site.