

***St. Peter School***  
***Technology Plan***  
***2013***

St. Peter School  
Pre-K3 ~ Grade 8  
120 Mayfair Road  
Warwick, RI 02888

## Table of Contents

Statement of Goals, Beliefs, Objectives and Recommendations

Objective 1: Expand the role of technology throughout the school

Objective 2: Integration of Technology and Learning

Objective 3: Professional Development

Objective 4 – Green Initiative

Current Technology Landscape

Assumptions

Givens

Technology Needs

Recommendations

Technology Committee Members:

Greg Birmingham	(parent)
Lisa Der Manouelian	(Computer teacher, parent)
David Langevin	(parent)
Gareth Tracy	(parent)
Susan Unger	(Teacher)

## **GOALS, BELIEFS, OBJECTIVES and RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Overarching Goal**

All students and educators will benefit from a learning environment that integrates and utilizes technology throughout the school. The focus of the technology plan is to ensure St. Peter School is continually evaluating and improving its technology landscape.

As part of this technology plan, the Technology Committee discussed the use of technology with the computer teacher as well as other members of the faculty. The purpose of the discussion was to gain an understanding of how technology is currently used throughout the school as well as the technology needs going forward. It was clear, that the teachers recognize the important role technology has in the students' education. It was also clear that the more technology was available, the more the teachers would use technology as a teaching tool.

### **Beliefs**

St. Peter School should strive to integrate modern technologies into meaningful learning experiences. Although technology is available in various places throughout the school, it must be expanded to make it more pervasive.

The Technology Committee has identified 4 objectives that capture the technology needs for St. Peter School. The objectives are listed here and expanded upon later on in this document.

#### **Objective 1: Expand the role of technology throughout the school**

This objective is to build upon the technology already in place and ensure technology continues to evolve at the school.

#### **Objective 2: Integration of Technology and Learning**

This objective is to leverage technology to improve the teacher's ability to educate the students.

#### **Objective 3: Professional Development**

This objective involves providing opportunities for the teachers and administrators to increase their knowledge and understanding of technology.

#### **Objective 4 – Green Initiative**

This objective is directed towards reducing the amount of paper the school uses to communicate with the school families.

## Current Technology Landscape

The school is currently equipped with the following computer related hardware:

Computer Room/Library/Teacher's Lounge		
Hardware	Quantity	Notes
Dell R610 Server*	1	Dual Processor, 16GB RAM, 4-500GB HDs
Workstations*	26	Dell Optiplex P4, 2.8GHz, 2MB RAM, 80GB HD.  One is the teacher's workstation (250GB hard drive).
Network switch	1	Dell PowerConnect 3448, 48 port switch (approx. 20 spare ports)
Laptop	1	Dell Latitude
Printer	1	Savin (Laser) CLP270N
Scanner	1	Epson GTS600
Copier	1	Mita Kyrocera
Projector	1	Dell
Smartboard	2	
Cable Modem	2	Scientific American, Webstar
Router	1	Juniper
TV	1	Panasonic 32"

Classrooms		
Hardware	Quantity	Notes
Workstations*	6	Mainly HP/Compaq, some Dell P4, 512MB RAM, 40GB HDs  1 iMAC
Printers	4	Various manufacturers
Projectors	5	Epson 3LCD, Epson EX5200
Whiteboards	7	
Copier	1	Kyocera Taskalfa 42i
Smartboards	1	Science Room

\*All workstations have monitors, mostly Dell.

**Assumptions:**

- The school will work with the financial board and parent guild to provide the funding necessary to meet, at least some of, the recommendations made by the technology committee.
- The faculty and staff will continue to bring technology into the school. This includes technology in the classroom as well as integrating technology into administrative functions.
- The technology committee will evaluate the review plan each year to ensure goals are being met.

**Givens**

- Although the school currently has a respectable number of computers in the computer room and in various classrooms, a certain number computers must be replaced each year to ensure the equipment remains current. Most of the computers are over 6 years old and approaching the end of their useful life. It is imperative the school makes the investment to purchase new computers.
- The school needs to add more workstations in the computer room as class sizes expand.

## Technology Needs

Upcoming 2013-2014 school year			
Hardware	Quantity	Cost per unit	Total cost
Computer workstation with monitor	26	\$399.63	\$10,390.31*

\*Assume 17% Dell employee discount is used

### Replacement Cost Analysis

BASE PRICE	TAX	SUB-TOTAL	DISCOUNT	LESS DISCOUNT	TOTAL
\$ 449.98	31.4986	\$ 481.48	17.00%	\$ 81.85	\$ 399.63
\$ 499.98	34.9986	\$ 534.98	17.00%	\$ 90.95	\$ 444.03
\$ 549.98	38.4986	\$ 588.48	17.00%	\$ 100.04	\$ 488.44
\$ 719.98	50.3986	\$ 770.38	17.00%	\$ 130.96	\$ 639.41

TOTAL	DESKTOPS	EXTENDED COST
\$ 399.63	26	\$ 10,390.31
\$ 444.03	26	\$ 11,544.84
\$ 488.44	26	\$ 12,699.37
\$ 639.41	26	\$ 16,624.77

\*\* Using 26 for quantity; assume all desktops would be replaced

Dell Inspiron 660s, 18.5 in HD Monitor, Intel Pentium Processor, Windows 8, 4GB Mem, 500 GB Drive  
 Dell Inspiron 660s, 18.5 in HD Monitor, Intel Pentium Processor, Windows 8, 6GB Mem, 1 TB GB Drive  
 Dell Inspiron 660s, 18.5 in HD Monitor, Intel Core i3 Processor, Windows8, 6GB Mem, 1 TB GB Drive  
 Dell Inspiron 660s, 18.5 in HD Monitor, Intel Core i5 Processor, Window 8, 8GB Mem, 1TB Drive

Employees get 17 % off a Dell Desktop Computer.



## **Objective 1: Expand the role of technology throughout the school**

Goal: Increase the availability of technology throughout the school.

Students currently have varying levels of exposure to various technologies throughout the day. Some classes have computers; the computer lab has the school's highest concentration; students who participate in the Robotics program are certainly not strangers to technology.

These levels, and the needs of each class, vary. Kindergarten needs are different from that of the Eighth grade. A lesson on Shakespeare could use technology on a complementary basis but a lesson on the Space Program would benefit from a visit to a leading Aerospace company's website to discuss the latest trends in aerospace engineering.

The teachers and students currently use many different web-based applications as part of the curriculum. Some of these applications include SkyDrive, VoiceThread, BitStrips and Glogster. These are tools the teachers and students use to create documents and presentations as well as upload voice clips and drawings. The tools help make learning fun for the students. The school is evaluating RILINK which is a cooperative effort by Rhode Island school libraries to share resources through an interactive web site.

Teachers and administrators will also benefit from an expanded role of technology. Based upon our discussions, there is a willingness to adopt new technologies, provided the appropriate level of training. Technology can streamline processes that are heavily manual. Increasing the access to technology throughout the school would be welcomed by many teachers and allow them to use technology to improve the educational experience.

Tactically, we propose the school adopt a replace and recycle policy for hardware. The Technology Committee recommends replacing the computers in the computer lab as soon as possible. Most of the computers are over 6 years old and are in constant need of repair. The PCs in the lab serve students' needs today and for the foreseeable future. When the replacement computers arrive, the old computers can be moved to some of the classrooms to be used in class.

We also recommend that the school explore administrative tools such as online, hosted solutions provided by companies like Veracross and edline. These companies offer end-to-end solutions for schools to spend less time on the business of education. While many of these solutions are more powerful engines than St. Peter School needs today, they provide a framework to identify services that would be impactful.

## **Objective 2: Integration of technology and learning:**

Goal: Re-affirm our commitment to following the ISTE National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers.

The technology department forms its curriculum around the ISTE National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS). We recommend that these standards continue to be followed. Among these standards are guidelines for Digital Citizenship, levels of fluency with technologies and other conceptual areas that provide a framework for technological knowledge expectations among students, teachers and administrators.

The curriculum design ensures that when students leave St. Peter School they possess a technological literacy that is applicable to the world today.

### **Objective 3: Professional Development**

Goal: Identify and recommend opportunities for technology training for teachers and administrators.

If teachers and administrators are not aware of technology or do not know how to effectively utilize tools at their disposal, then many opportunities are missed in the educational process. Fortunately, based upon our discussions, it was clear that the teachers were receptive to expanding the breadth of their technology knowledge.

Our recommendation is to expand training opportunities for teachers and administrators, not only in widely available tools (e.g. Word, Excel, Powerpoint) but in lesser known or emerging technologies (cloud technology, collaborative tools, etc.).

The purpose of this education should not purely be a How To for teachers but should enable teachers to apply these tools in ways that they see fit.

The computer teacher has introduced the students to WindowsLive@edu. As part of computer class, she has integrated various classroom assignments so students can work at home and at school. We recommend extending the use of this technology with more classroom assignments.

We also recommend that St. Peter School seeks out individuals within the Parish willing to participate in mini-workshops to provide training in various areas of technology. The cost savings of this approach make this a palatable approach.

### **Objective 4 – Green Initiative**

Goal: Less paper by leveraging the school website (<http://www.stpeterschoolri.com>).

Currently, teachers and administrators spend a good deal of time copying and placing documents into Friday folders on a weekly basis. The cost of paper, copying and time adds up over the course of the year.

We recommend that, where possible, St. Peter School adopts a policy of posting general distribution items on the website, <http://www.stpeterschoolri.com> , on a weekly basis. Additionally, each grade should utilize the classroom pages on the website to post general information items. This policy is similar to one in place at LaSalle Academy and Bishop Hendricken.

The tactical approach involves a notification going out to families at the beginning of the year that indicates this change and if families wish to opt out and receive paper, they must return the form. On a weekly basis, via the e-newsletter, a link is posted to the Friday Folder online and easy navigation to classroom sites.

We, by no means, recommend that personal, student specific information be posted online but foster a change in how public, general information is communicated. Parents and other contacts already provide email addresses for receiving school communications and the use of online tools is significantly more prevalent than it was even 5 years ago.

## **Recommendations**

Technology is and must remain an important part of the curriculum at St. Peter's School.

The Technology Committee strongly recommends the school makes the investment to purchase new computers for the computer lab. Most of the computers are over 6 years old and approaching the end of their useful life. It is imperative the school makes the investment to upgrade the computers. This will help expand the role of technology throughout the school.

The Technology Committee also recommends the continued use of online teaching tools, such the one's mentioned earlier, and the use of new ones.

By continuing to expand technology throughout the school, the students will be better prepared as their education evolves at St. Peter's School and beyond.