



**Scottsdale Unified School District**

# **Technology Plan 2005**

**Framework  
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# Technology Plan Framework

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## Introduction

Scottsdale Unified School District has made a significant investment in technology over the past several years. And although this investment has fallen short of the promise to make SUSD a technologically vibrant organization, the assets in place are considerable and provide a sound springboard for accomplishing our next technology goals.

### 1. Staffing:

- ◆ Technical staffing has been reduced by recent budget cuts. But those that remain are dedicated to the District and dedicated to providing the best service that they can. The daily workload to maintain the current level of technology is overwhelming; so additional staffing will be required. And additional training will need to be a priority.
- ◆ There is a cadre of Campus Technicians that are also dedicated and hardworking. As with the technical staff above, they are understaffed and mal-trained.
- ◆ There are a number of classified and certified staff in schools that have taken it upon themselves to learn technology and are assisting in an informal way.

2. A more robust and more reliable network has been recently implemented to connect all schools and administrative locations. This network has sufficient bandwidth to support our present and near future needs. Of course, as our needs increase, especially with the need to transport video content, this network will need to grow or be replaced.

3. There are currently over 11,000 client workstations and printers in use on the network for both instruction and administration. Most of these are still viable, and many will have a useful life extending for two to three more years.

4. Every elementary school has at least one modern computer lab and most have two. All Middle Schools have at least two modern computer labs. And each High School has been equipped with multiple labs. Additionally, nearly every classroom has at least one (or more) computer.

5. The District has standardized on Microsoft Windows 2000 and Microsoft Office 2000 office automation environment for the Intel based workstations, implemented an enterprise level electronic mail, calendar, and task management system with Microsoft Outlook Exchange.

6. District-wide access to the Internet is available to all students and staff, through a very robust 45 Mbps connection. Additionally, the District has a vibrant, flexible, and informative web presence that is continuing to grow and develop.
7. A comprehensive telephone and voice mail system has been implemented, placing telephones in every office and classroom in the District.
8. A significant investment has been made to deliver video to every classroom in the District. Each campus has a “head end” room to provide centralized services, and each classroom has a television set.
9. The State School Facility Board has made a significant commitment of funding to the District’s technology plant. The most important assistance provided by the SFB has been to upgrade the campus area networks at all 37 District sites. Completion of this project insured that all District “networkable” devices had a high-speed connection to the District Wide Area Network (WAN) and to the Internet. The number of data cabling drops at each site was significantly increased.
10. The biggest asset that we have is the general overall enthusiasm for technology in the District. This is reflected in District employees at all levels, parents and students, community leaders, and the Governing Board.

The purpose of this Technology Framework is to identify the primary initiatives needed in support of technology integration into instruction and those that will assist all staff in administrative duties to improve productivity. This Framework will evolve into a Technology Plan that prioritizes the initiatives, identifies budgetary costing, and general implementation plans.

The Technology Plan itself is intended to be a dynamic plan subject to continuous evaluation and modification. This will require an annual review and re-adoption. All aspects of the stakeholders in the District will have input into the plan.

## **Technology Initiatives**

It is important that the District build upon its existing technology assets, replacing older technology and acquiring new technology to achieve the following initiatives:

### **1. Web Based Systems**

Migration of administrative systems and instructional delivery systems to Web Based software systems in order to reduce the District's reliance on client based software. All new systems should be Web Based. Additionally, new Web Based software systems should be purchased to replace the aging mission critical administrative systems now in place:

- ◆ Student Information System to replace SASIxp.
- ◆ Finance and Accounting System, including Human Resources and Payroll, to replace CIMS.

### **2. Data Storage Environment**

Establishment of a data storage environment that will allow universal access to data regardless of application system or physical location, in order to provide management information to District leadership:

- ◆ Commitment to an enterprise level database for administrative systems.
- ◆ Implementation of a data warehouse and data warehousing tools and techniques for use by administrators.
- ◆ Implementation of a shared storage environment through implementation of Storage Area Network (SAN) and Network Attached Storage (NAS) technologies.

### **3. On-Line Learning**

Establishment of On-Line Learning opportunities consistent with District and State Standards. This will include video streaming capabilities.

### **4. Distance Learning/Teleconferencing**

Implementation of Video Technologies to deliver training, instruction, and link offices and schools for teleconferencing and Distance Learning opportunities.

### **5. Technology in the Classroom**

Design and implementation of the "Technology Enabled Classroom." Eventually, every classroom in the District should be equipped with full multimedia capabilities.

## **6. Enhance Communication with the Community**

Extend access to data and information to parents and the community, including those parents that do not have access to technology in the home.

## **7. Technology Refresh**

Continue to keep the existing technology plant state-of-the-art and vibrant:

- ◆ Establishment of a Technology Refresh Program in order to replace aging hardware.
- ◆ Continue to upgrade Campus Networks to insure reliable high-speed access, including opportunities to deploy wireless communications.
- ◆ Implementation of a new District wide voice system, exploring both digital and voice over IP technologies.
- ◆ Implementation of an automated software distribution and inventory system.

## **8. Paperwork Reduction**

Implementation of an Electronic Document Management Systems to reduce the handling and storage of paper systems.

## **9. Collaboration**

Provide a set of computer based collaboration tools to allow school administration, faculty, students, and external groups to better communicate and share information through a set of computer-based tools.

## **10. Security**

Provide for physical security and security surveillance measures where ever students will be to help ensure a safe learning environment.

## **11. Staffing**

Provide for adequate staffing in order to implement new technologies and maintain existing technologies.

## **12. Training**

Provide adequate training to all staff on the use of technology:

- ◆ Provide training for all certified staff in the use of new and existing Instructional Programs.

- ◆ Provide a training program for all District staff in the use of administrative systems.
- ◆ Provide training for technology staff in the support of all instructional and administrative systems.

**13. Explore Technology Based Opportunities:**

- ◆ Collaboration with other entities to establish a Wireless Communications network within the District and City boundaries.
- ◆ Generate instructional and training programs that would be of interest to organizations outside the district. Design, build and implement a distance learning facility for “export” of instructional and training programs.
- ◆ Explore eBusiness opportunities.