

School Board Special Meeting
Monday, April 22, 2024 4:00 PM

District Office Conference Room, Room 164
Austin High School
401 3rd Ave. NW
Austin, MN 55912

Agenda

1. Call to order/roll call
Speaker(s): Chair Dube
2. Approval of agenda (Action)
Speaker(s): Chair Dube
3. School Perceptions survey results
Speaker(s): Superintendent Dr. Page and School Perceptions Project Mgr. Daren Sievers
4. Overview of telephone VOIP proposal
Speaker(s): Technology Director Amy Thuesen
5. Technology Plan review
Speaker(s): Technology Director Amy Thuesen
6. Review response to American Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee's vote of non-concurrence
Speaker(s): Chair Dube
7. Board compensation discussion
Speaker(s): Chair Dube
8. Adjournment (Action)

3-Year APS Technology Plan – 2024-2027

District Mission: Inspire, Empower, and Accelerate

District Vision: Preparing all learners to make a difference in the world.

District Technology Vision Statement: APS uses technology to inspire, empower, and accelerate students to become lifelong learners and productive global citizens. Technology enhances learning, fosters inquiry-based and hands-on experiences, supports collaboration and communication, and prepares our students for future careers. We are committed to providing equitable and secure access to technology that facilitates learning for all.

Data Analysis

Bright Bytes Survey – The district conducted a Clarity CASE Framework survey in the spring of 2023 to identify areas of strength and need in classroom technology, technology access, technology skills, and environmental supports for technology. This survey provided a district wide score of 1081, which places us in the "proficient" category. However, as you can see from the chart below, we scored lower overall and in specific categories than we did in previous years.



CISA Survey and Review -- The district engaged the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to conduct two reviews during the 22-23 school year: a Ransomware Readiness Survey and a Cyber Resiliency Review. These surveys revealed areas of preparedness and opportunities for improvement to prepare APS for future cyber events.

Facilities Survey – The Facilities Department of Austin Public Schools engaged ISG to conduct a study of APS facilities, part of which included an analysis of the physical technology and security structures.

Staff Input – Formal and informal conversations between staff and their tech coach or staff and the Director of Technology.

[APS Desired Daily Experience](#)

APS Priority: Support and resources to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment

Technology Objective: Develop and implement technology policies and practices that safeguard data, privacy, security, and accessibility.

Goal #1: By the fall of 2024, create a centralized technology documentation center accessible through the School District website. This should include the following resources/links.

- The APS Technology Plan
- Acceptable Use Policy(ies)
- Digital Learning Ecosystem - description
- Student, Staff, and Parent/Family Support Documents and Links (password protected where necessary).

Goal #2: Starting in the 24-25 school year, with a goal of full implementation by the end of 26-27, develop a district team that will oversee the following:

- Acceptable Use Policy
- Group policies and access controls
- Identity management
- Retention policies
- Network filtering guidelines
- Tools and conventions for district staff documentation and collaboration
- Standards for community partner and vendor technology access

Goal #3: Using the CISA CRR results and the guidelines of the NIST framework, advance all CRR categories into Domain 1 by the end of the 2028 School year. This should include:

- Use the NIST Security Framework 2.0 to analyze and improve cybersecurity and risk management.
- Use appropriate tools, including those provided for free and low cost from MS-ISAC, to improve the district's cybersecurity posture.
- Participate in local, state and national cybersecurity partnerships and alert groups.
- Apply for federal, state, and local grants and programs that can support an improved cybersecurity posture.
- Evaluate and select a data privacy analytic to assure student and staff privacy is monitored and reviewed regularly.
- Partner with District Security Team to conduct once yearly cybersecurity table exercises.
- Require once yearly Internet Safety training for all staff and share monthly Cybersecurity micro lessons in the staff newsletter.
- Provide technology skills and safety assessments for students at appropriate grade levels and transitions.

Goal #4: Partner with APS Departments to ensure safe and welcoming practices with technology.

- APS Facilities Department: Update crossover servers and technology by the end of the 25-26 school year.
- Activities, Facilities Depts: By the fall of 2025, select and implement an events/facilities reservation system that protects the privacy of organizations and events
- Human Resources Dept: By the fall of 2024, develop and implement a system for deployment/collection of staff devices.

Commented [TA1]: Thoughts on this?

Commented [TA2]: Can we do this?

Commented [TA3]: Thoughts?

- *Cross-Departments: Deploy upgraded VOIP telephony system by the fall of 2024.*

APS Priority: District-wide multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) for all learners

Technology Objective: Equip educators and families with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to promote safe, effective, and responsible use of technology for all students.

Goal #1: In partnership with the Office of Teaching and Learning and Info Services, provide appropriate coaching and learning platforms for professional development – to be in place by the beginning of the 25-26 school year. The following components are desired:

- *Establish clear roles and responsibilities for educational technology integration and support.*
- *Update the APS Essential Technologies Outcomes document to reflect current information and technology literacies. Prioritize the following:*
 - *Alignment with standards and curriculum*
 - *Sequenced according to child development and technology access*
 - *Components that support the district's core values*
- *Provide regular opportunities for technology-specific professional development that aligns with the District's Strategic Priorities, Enterprise Systems, Instructional Model, and Essential Technology Outcomes.*
- *Deploy a staff resource and learning platform that includes:*
 - *a variety of in-person, online, and self-paced options for learning*
 - *ability to easily track success and completion*
 - *Training and support for Artificial Intelligence (AI) literacy.*
- *Appropriately leverage Microsoft 365 for file sharing, collaboration, and other productivity tasks.*
- *Determine methods for measuring the effectiveness of adopted technology tools and incorporate those metrics into coaching and curriculum cycles.*

Goal #2: Foster strong relationships and communication among school, family, and community regarding student technology behaviors and safety at school, at home, and in the community. Approaches should include:

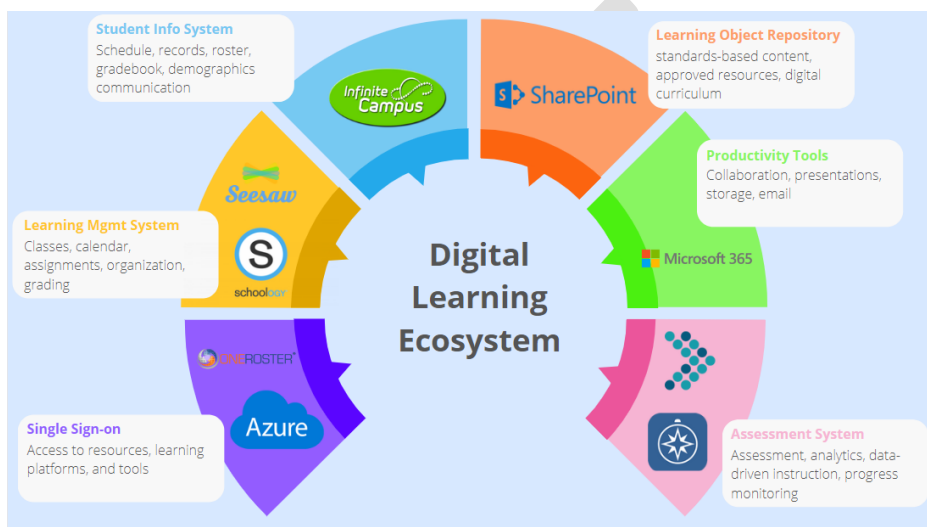
- *Provide at least quarterly family technology-communication in the district's Austin Packer Bulletin*
- *During registration and other appropriate checkpoints, provide families with technology-related information that supports school and home use.*
- *Engage with local partners/guest speakers to sponsor and promote safety events and information sessions related to internet safety at least once per year.*
- *Collaborate with District Leadership team to leverage technology tools to further focus community and family communication into fewer "touchpoints"; prioritizing language support for non-English speakers – to be in place by fall of 2025.*

APS Priority: Packer Profile for All Learners

Technology Objective: Advance a digital learning ecosystem that encourages responsible and resilient learners who can communicate with and contribute to the world.

Goal #1: To be fully in place by the fall of 2027, establish a digital learning ecosystem that promotes student success, career readiness, and responsible use.

- Ensure that the digital learning ecosystem supports the standards, curriculum, and district Instructional Model.
 - As necessary, evaluate and adjust enterprise tools in the ecosystem.
 - Close any gaps in the ecosystem.



- Provide appropriate coaching for staff in district technology integrations:
 - Educational Technology Specialist
 - Professional development platform, resources, knowledge base
 - Student device processes
 - Support of enterprise technologies for all staff
 - Collaboration with Instructional Coaches
 - District Media Specialist
 - Information and digital literacies
 - Instructional Coaches
 - Align outcomes with Minnesota State Standards
 - Support technology that is selected during curriculum cycles
 - Support new teachers in using enterprise/curricular technology tools
 - Building Tech Team/Reps
 - Meet regularly w/ Ed Tech Specialist
 - Provide feedback for selection/evaluation of tech
 - Innovation and trials of new technologies

- *Packer Profile and Pathways Coordinators*
 - *Technology-related skillsets and literacies for post-secondary life.*
 - *Collection and publication of learning artifacts.*
- *Develop expectations/policies/best practices for AI use by students and staff, to include the following:*
 - *Appropriate and effective use of AI in the classroom, especially in relation to assessments.*
 - *Using AI to improve efficiency in business and teaching tasks.*
 - *Ensuring that all use of AI is unbiased, equitable, and balanced with human decision-making.*

Goal #2: Ensure that all students have the technology skills and opportunities needed for their Pathway and Portfolio work for when the Packer Portfolio is fully implemented in the 26-27 school year.

- *Determine evidence/artifacts required for support of Packer Portfolio K-12 and how current (or future) tech tools can help to gather and store these artifacts.*
- *Incorporate Essential Technology Outcomes into Packer Profile instruction.*
- *Grow use of technology that reflects real-world experiences and encourages career readiness.*
 - *Ensure equitable access to technology resources.*
 - *Use technology tools for collaborating with partners in the community and beyond.*
 - *Assist with alignment of 5-12 computer science/technology-focused courses*
 - *Support technology-related extracurricular activities in K-12*

APS Priority: Excellence in Resource Management

Technology Objective: Establish a cost-effective technology management strategy that prioritizes efficiency, maximizes ROI, and minimizes maintenance and support costs.

Goal# 1: Ensure that all technology assignments, cycles, and management practices enhance the goals of the district and make responsible use of district funding.

- *Develop standard technology hardware assignments and cycles for positions and locations, to be approved by fall 2024.*
- *By the fall of 2024, establish and communicate technology management practices to all sites.*
- *Updated for fall of 2024, clearly define and communicate the selection, evaluation, and approval process for software and hardware.*
- *Prioritize hardware and software tools that fulfill multiple needs in one tool.*
- *Adjust student technology devices and/or ratios to better align with the district's strategic priorities, to be fully in place no later than the 27-28 school year (See Appendix B).*

Goal #2 -- Maintain and improve practices that reduce district costs for support, maintenance, and repair of devices.

- *Regularly evaluate technology fees and fines for students and staff.*
 - *Develop, communicate, and follow through on procedures for staff and student laptop damage and fees – to be fully realized by fall 2025.*
 - *At the beginning of each school year, appropriately communicate all technology related fees and fines to staff and students/families.*
- *Starting in the fall of 2024, provide structured device care training for students and staff when they are issued their brand new take-home device.*
- *To be fully in place by the 26-27 school year, develop a "digital skills and responsibility" assessment that must be completed before students use devices at home.*
- *Continuously ensure that vendors for repairs and parts are competitive in pricing; give priority to local vendors when possible.*
- *Continue to be a licensed repair office for student laptops and, by fall 2025, transition from purchasing iPad warranties to instead find an iPad repair solution.*

Evaluation & Measurement of Goals

Cyber-Resilience Assessments

- Every year = [Complete the Cybersecurity Rubric for K-12 Schools](#)
- Every three years = CISA assessment

Current/Future Analytic Tools

- Incident IQ – inventory management, costs, ticket count, loss, etc.
- District and state learning assessments
- Data privacy and software/learning analytics
- CIS Budget worksheet
- Network and System Analytics
- Smart EdTEch Evaluation Assessment Tool
- [Technology assessment | i-Tech Support | Orlando, Florida](#)

Stakeholder Feedback

- Professional Development platform data/evals/reflections
- Student focus groups (Tech Director "sub" days)
- Community surveys (add questions to one that's already done?)

Appendix A:

YEARLY WORK PLAN (learning/implementation/standard work timelines)

| APS TECHNOLOGY PLAN GOALS | 23-24 | 24-25 | 25-26 | 27-28 | 28-29 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.1 APS Tech Website | L | I | I | S | S |
| 1.2 District Governance Team | L | L/I | I | S | S |
| 1.3 NIST Framework | L | L/I | L/I | I | S |
| 1.4 APS Dept/Tech Crossovers | L/I | L/I | I | I | S |
| 2.1 Coaching and Learning Platforms | L | L/I | I | S | S |
| 2.2 Family/Community Support | L | L/I | I | I | S |
| 3.1 Technology Integration Model | L | L | I | I | S |
| 3.2 Pathway/Tech Skill Crossovers | L | L | L/I | I | S |
| 4.1 Tech Assignments & Cycles | L | L/I | L/I | I | S |
| 4.2 Finance Management | L | L/I | L/I | I | S |

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Appendix B:

APS STUDENT TECHNOLOGY DEVICES AND RATIOS

SCHOOL YEAR 24-25

| Grades K-4 | Grades 5-6 | Grades 7-8 | Grades 9-12 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1:1 iPad access at school only | 1:1 laptop access at school only | 1:1 take home laptops, returned at end of year | 1:1 take home laptops, returned at the end of the year Graduated seniors receive end-of-life laptop in July (sunsets) |

SCHOOL YEAR 26-27

| Grades K-4 | Grades 5-6 | Grades 7-8 | Grades 9-12 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| TBD REVISIT MODEL | 1:1 laptop access at school only | TBD REVISIT MODEL | 1:1 take home laptops, returned at the end of the year |

SCHOOL YEAR 27-28

| Grades K-4 | Grades 5-6 | Grades 7-8 | Grades 9-12 |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| TBD | TBD | TBD | 1:1 take home laptops, returned at the end of the year |