



# Melrose Public Schools

## SUPERINTENDENT GOALS & OBJECTIVES – 2009-2010

### SUPERINTENDENT GOAL #5

**GOAL:** DEVELOP A PLAN TO INFUSE THE CURRICULUM OF THE MELROSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH TECHNOLOGY IN SUPPORT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.

**OUTCOME:** ALL STUDENTS WILL ACCESS, LEARN AND MASTER THE INFORMATION LITERACY AND TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS THEY NEED TO EVOLVE FROM A CONTENT-BASED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TO AN INQUIRY-BASED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WITH THE INTENTION OF GRADUATING STUDENTS WHO ARE PREPARED TO SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE POST-SECONDARY CHALLENGES THAT INCORPORATE A SOLID TECHNOLOGICAL FOUNDATION.

1. **Goal/Objective.** Briefly describe each goal/objective and when the goal/objective should be met or accomplished.
2. **Course of Action.** Steps taken to accomplish goal/objective.
3. **Status.** Rank the goal as Completed, In Progress, or Under Development

### Objective #1 – Identify & Address Current Technology Needs

**Description:** Progress continues to be made across the district in the following areas:

- Infrastructure - data drops and electrical upgrades continue to be made by district staff
- Connectivity– fiber optic network installation due to be completed early in 2010
- Equipment – Every elementary school now has access to SmartBoards technology and each school has an updated computer lab.
- Professional development – district lead but building based
- Curriculum integration– district lead but building based – e.g. United Streaming @ Winthrop
- Assessment – district lead but building based – TestWiz used to score student assessments at elementary level
- Communication – Green initiative to place more district and school based notices on the web sites
- Distance Learning – Virtual High School being reviewed through partnership with neighboring district

**Course of Action:**

Administration continues to work with IT Director and the city to develop, fund and build out fiber optic network city-wide with Verizon funding.

Administration continues to work with district principals as well as IT Director to plan for professional development for school staff in the use and operation of SmartBoards as an instructional tool.

Administration continues to work with principals and Director of Curriculum to begin to address other professional development needs as well as how best to integrate technology appropriately in the areas of curriculum and assessment. (See Objective #4)

Administration participates and supports Melrose School Committee sponsored City-wide Technology Council chaired by Mr. Lehman

**Status:**             **Completed**             **In Progress**             **Under Development**

**Objective #2 – Continue to Support Technology Goals of the District**

N.B.- the following information is drawn from the *Education Technology & Electrical Upgrade Study*

Description: Three main components are as follows:

A. Improve the information technology infrastructure (computer network cabling and network switches) throughout the district.

- Enhance access to curriculum digitally, locally produced, or from online content providers.
- Expand access to computers in the classroom and other areas for research; multimedia learning experiences; directed and enhanced online activities; writing tutorials; skill development; testing; etc.
- Utilize network computers and other resources more effectively, with greater reliability and consistency.
- Expand the number of reliable data outlets for each type of learning and administrative environment, to accommodate expanded use of both data and voice technology throughout the school.
- Increase network reliability and performance through the deployment of new network switch electronics, so that teachers and administrators can systematically rely on information technology.
- Facilitate telephone system upgrades through the use of new network hardware and VOIP equipment.
- Enhance network reliability and thereby reduce time and money associated with supporting network resources and users.

B. Add advanced audio/visual presentation systems capability to all classrooms as budget allows.

- Allow concepts to be presented in alternative ways using the new presentation technologies.
- Allow all students to work in a medium in which they are already immersed and engaged.
- Regularly use advanced audio-visual multimedia technology to teach with online resources and to make accommodations for individual learning as needed.
- Project data, web or video source content to illustrate new concepts, provide examples or lead students in inquiry based activities.
- Introduce innovative uses of technology in the classroom, and share these with colleagues and impact teaching school wide.
- Furnish new audio/visual systems including data projectors and interactive smart boards in all teaching and educational environments.

C. Provide expanded electrical capability to support and serve new technology.

- Furnish new accompanying electrical circuits and receptacles required to adequately support the new technologies that have been identified.

**Course of Action:**

Continue to work with school principals, Director of Curriculum, Administrator of PPS as well as IT Director to communicate shared expectations regarding identified technology goals.

Continue to work with school principals, Director of Curriculum, Administrator of PPS as well as IT Director and high school principal to monitor ongoing integration of technology into the classroom and in support of administrative needs.

Continue to work with school principals, Director of Curriculum, Administrator of PPS as well as IT Director to support teachers by providing ongoing training integrating technology in the classroom.

**Status:**

Completed

In Progress

Under Development

**Objective #4 – Professional Development**

**Description:** Continue to discuss and develop tiered professional development offerings for staff and departments to meet the needs of staff and students as well as allow for targeted curriculum integration and support. This model has been in place since the 2007-2008 school year.

**Course of Action:**

- In the summer of 2009, close to 50 of our teachers from all levels participated in the Reading Public Schools Seminar on Integrating Smartboards into Instruction.

- In the fall of 2009, the IT department offered an on-site series of professional development workshops to elementary teachers and paraprofessionals focused on integrating the Smartboard and Interactive Response Systems into curriculum and assessment.
- In the summer and fall of 2009, the director of curriculum worked with staff members to create Instructional Technology Benchmark assessments. These will be refined and distributed to staff in the winter of 2010.
- Participated in Administrative workshop hosted at Reading High School this Fall on integrating Google Docs into curriculum and how they can meet administrative needs.

**Status:**

**Completed**

**In Progress**

**Under Development**

**Summary:** The administrative team recognizes and supports the use and integration of technology as it reflects the way the world works today. The following excerpts from the book by Bernie Trilling and Charles Fadel *21st Century Skills: Learning for Life in Our Times give us food for thought as we move forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:*

- Digital Learners: "The illiterate of the 21st century are not those that cannot read or write, but those that cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn." - Alvin Tofler
- On Personalization: "How to personalize learning and how to differentiate instruction for diverse classrooms are two of the great challenges of the 21st century."
- Bloom's Taxonomy in the 21st Century: Remember; Understand; Apply, Analyze. Evaluate; then Create.