

Executive Summary

The Plano ISD technology plan calls for emphasis to continue on the **integration** of:

- curriculum and technology
- professional development
- information management
- facilities design and preparation
- networks (voice, data and video)

Additionally, the 2003-2006 technology plan provides a clear focus on the desire of Plano ISD to provide a more personalized learning environment for students, a more efficient management environment for teachers and other staff members and a more comprehensive information management environment for all stakeholders.

Status of initiatives prior to the year 2000 can be found in the 2000-2003 planning document. The following initiatives were identified as needs to be addressed as part of the 2000-2003 technology plan update. The status of those needs is illustrated below:

		In Progress	Completed
	Integration of Curriculum and Technology		
2000-03	implement technology replacement plan for existing technology investment as presented in the 2000 bond proposal		✓
2001-02	implement standard middle school classroom technology model including distributed computers and video projection capability		✓
2001-02	implement standard 9-12 classroom technology model for video network access and display		✓
2001	implement current audio/video standard in remaining elementary special use classrooms		✓
2001	update visual imaging technology for 6-12 art courses		✓
2000-01	update existing and install new labs to allow courses in multimedia, web mastering, desktop publishing and internetworking to be offered		✓
2001-02	install distributed computers and printers in 6-12 English classrooms		✓
2001-02	replace existing ESOL Macintosh computers with Windows-based PCs and implement Ellis software		✓
2001-02	implement technology in middle school foreign language to assist in improving oral proficiency		✓



		In Progress	Completed
	Integration of Curriculum and Technology		
2001-02	implement distributed classroom computers and video devices in 6-12 Health classrooms		✓
2001-02	implement distributed classroom computers in 9-12 Health Science Technology		✓
2001-02	install computers and scanners in 9-12 journalism classrooms		✓
2001-03	upgrade current Dynix library system to new server and Horizon software		✓
2001-02	install portable video broadcast carts at each campus site to allow for program origination via the private video network		✓
2001-02	install video image displays and palmtop computers in 6-12 mathematics classrooms		✓
2001-02	install additional distributed computers in K-8 PACE classrooms		✓
2001-02	install distributed computers in 6-8 Reading classrooms		✓
2001	install computers and peripheral devices for the ROTC program		✓
2001-02	upgrade Skills for Living labs at middle schools		✓
2001-02	upgrade and replace Special Education assistive technology devices		✓
2001-02	Install distributed computers in 6-12 Speech classrooms		✓
2001-02	Install distributed computers in 6-12 Social Studies classrooms		✓
2001-02	install computers and lab devices in 6-8 Science labs		✓
2001	install A/V bundles in 6-12 music classrooms		✓
	Professional Development		
2000-03	continue to expand and improve staff development initiatives to support technology use	✓	
2000-03	continue to develop campus-based technology/curriculum support	✓	
2000	review/assess needs for support and staff development in existing and emerging technologies using online survey technology		✓
2000-03	review current staff development delivery structures and design alternatives such as computer-based training (CD-ROM and Internet delivered) and local video origination segments.		✓
2000-03	continue and expand current online courses for staff	✓	



		In Progress	Completed
	Network Infrastructure		
2000	implement gigabit ethernet backbone in all facilities		✓
2000	upgrade LAN electronics at all sites to switched 10/100 capability down to each desktop PC		✓
2000	upgrade LAN servers to Novell 5.X operating system		✓
2000-01	completion of ATM-based fiber optic wide area network		✓
2000-01	upgrade and expand analog video network capabilities in each classroom		✓
2000-01	expand use of ZenWorks tools to support remote maintenance of network PCs		✓
2001-03	implement WAN management tools to provide Quality of Service levels to sites and applications	✓	
2000-02	expand initial implementation of MetaFrame XP remote access to include all administrative and teaching staff		✓
2001-02	upgrade LAN servers as part of replacement plan		✓
2001-02	upgrade PC operating system to Windows 200X as appropriate		✓
2001-02	upgrade standard PC memory configuration to 128 megabytes		✓
	Administrative Initiatives		
2001-03	replace hardware systems as part of district replacement plan		✓
2000-01	continue implementation of district designed time and attendance system to all sites	✓	
2000-02	implement imaging system with links to CIMS administrative applications	✓	
2000-01	implement improved call tracking and accounting system for voice network		✓
2000-03	continue and expand the publishing of district department information via Internet and Intranet servers		✓
	Future Design and Development		
2000-03	produce comprehensive online curriculum center to distribute K-12 curriculum, staff development, resources, student activities and assessments		✓
2001-02	implement campus-based video broadcast systems for distribution and interactive communications		✓
2000-03	study next iteration of administrative systems for migration from CIMS	✓	
2000-03	pilot site applications for School Interoperability Framework systems		✓



		In Progress	Completed
	Future Design and Development		
2000-02	implement bond-based three year replacement plan (if voter-approved) by direction of Board of Trustees		✓
2000-03	investigate and design web-based interfaces for staff access to administrative databases	✓	
ongoing	technology steering committee meets monthly for tactical and strategic planning	✓	
ongoing	maintain existing hardware/software standard configurations at high quality support level	✓	
ongoing and monitored	continue to improve maintenance and repair of hardware and software	✓	

Since the writing of the 2000-2003 technology plan, the district has identified these additional technology initiatives as part of its continuous improvement in student achievement, instructional design and delivery and support services. The Board of Trustees has directed new technology developments to include a source of return revenue in consideration of our investment of funds and intellectual property.

- Web-based development for information systems. Since 2001, systems have been developed for benefit enrollment, employee application, employee hiring and e-payments, all with direct interfaces to our current suite of applications provided by NCS/Pearson. Future plans include the acceleration of this web-based development to provide for replacement and enhancement of all business processes currently provided by CIMS. Additionally, the development process will include auxiliary systems such as time and attendance accounting and substitute calling. This accelerated development process is expected to complete major system enhancements by Fall 2005. The intent is to produce a set of tools specific to the state of Texas that other school districts will purchase.
- Replacement of the Abacus student assessment and mastery database with a web-based, classroom accessible data warehouse from EdSoft.
- Completion of web-based curriculum development and delivery tools for all K-12 classrooms. These tools and our curriculum content are generating revenue as other school districts in Texas purchase them.
- Development of a web-based tool for the Western States Benchmarking Consortium. This tool functions as a school improvement tool by tracking evidence provided by schools as they self-assess over four strategic areas and 16 benchmarks. In addition, the tool allows for the archiving of best practices and the production of the yearly SBIC school improvement plan.



- Development of a classroom-based web page authoring tool for teachers along with a web-based survey tool.
- Development of an eList tool that supports districtwide eNews delivery from the school and district level via email to interested stakeholders.
- Development of the Plano ISD eSchool virtual high school. This web-based delivery program enables students to take a wide variety of courses, both credit and enrichment, at the place and time of their choice via an Internet connection. Students from as far away as Tanzania, Africa have participated in courses during the first two years of the eSchool.
- Continued development of internal and external web sites to allow more efficient access to district information and resources including such areas as employment opportunities and procurement processes from our purchasing department.
- All district sites have video conferencing capabilities for internal and external connectivity.
- Significant digital video libraries have been put in place for classroom access via our high-speed internal network. These libraries are also accessible to students at home via our remote access program.
- Availability of remote access for teachers, students and parents through myPISD.net. This first generation portal uses a combination of web-based and thin-client technology to allow access to software and personal network directories via Internet connections.
- Development of Computers@Home, a program that provides computers and related software and equipment to educationally disadvantaged students using surplus and donated equipment as allowed by Texas law.
- The most significant initiative in the next three years will be the development of a second-generation portal that will enable full access to network services via e-directory services. This portal will be the foundation that allows greater individualization of instructional activities to students, teaching and management activities to staff and information activities to parents and other stakeholders. All new system development will include opportunities to interface with the portal to provide customized information on network login based on user preferences.
- Finally, input received during the months of November and December 2002 from focus groups and online surveys influenced the concepts presented throughout this technology plan update and are reflected in more detail on page 18 and in Appendix B.

