

Ludlow Public Schools

Transitional Technology Plan

School Years 2012 – 2014

Submitted by:

Lorraine M. Boucher

Director of Technology

Ludlow Public Schools

Ludlow Public Schools

Ludlow, Massachusetts

District Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Ludlow Public Schools to provide a quality education for every student by working in partnership with parents and community to assist each student in realizing his/her full potential.

We believe that ALL students are capable of learning and achieving his or her highest potential.

Information and Instructional Technology Goal

It is the goal of the Ludlow Public Schools to use current and future technologies to increase student achievement and develop true 21st Century literacy.

Information and Instructional Technology Mission

The Ludlow Public Schools will provide leadership in the use of district and building-based technology resources and services that support the Strategic Plan. The mission of the Technology Department is to provide reliable, efficient and effective access to information, applications, the Internet and the tools necessary to facilitate an informed and progressive learning environment.

CIPA (The Children's Internet Protection Act) Compliance

The Ludlow Public Schools are CIPA compliant. As part of the implementation of the current Internet safety policy, The Ludlow Public Schools does maintain CIPA compliant internet content filtering through two Astaro firewalls.

With Superintendent Todd Gazda now onboard, a new technology plan is under development. The plans and progress indicated below, apply through June 30, 2014.

On behalf of the Technology Committee for the Ludlow Public Schools, we do propose that a sound and viable technology plan must include these benchmarks, and we list them below.

Commitment to a ...

○ **Clear Vision and Implementation Strategies**

The Ludlow Public Schools will endeavor to unify communication, collaboration and learning among all stakeholders.

○ **Technology Integration and Literacy** (Area of Focus: Curriculum)

GAFE

The Ludlow Public Schools will implement a broader use of Google Apps for Education, not only for staff but for students as well.

June 2012- Adopt GAFE for staff, primarily for email, calendar

2012- Begin student Google Docs pilots Grades 4 and 5

2012- Begin BYOD pilots Grades 4 through 12

2013- Begin student Google Docs pilots Grades 6, 7 and 8

Use in Grades 4 and 5 fully embedded in all classrooms

Mid 2013- Begin student Google Docs pilots Grades 9 - 12

2014- Embed use at all levels, technology skills not taught in isolation

Aspen Student and Parent Online Portal

The Ludlow Public Schools will expand access to the portal in order to facilitate greater teacher, student, and family interaction. This will also broaden the possibilities for the adoption and integration of Aspen CL.

2012- Parents have access to student accounts upon request

2013- Migrate to true parent accounts and separate student accounts

Mid 2013- Issue accounts to all students in Grades 4 through 12

2014- Grow portal use in conjunction with Aspen CL

Aspen CL

The Ludlow Public Schools will leverage Aspen Curriculum and Learning, an online platform with its foundation on our student information system. This will serve to improve student learning and strengthen the curriculum, by further developing a standard virtual learning environment.

Internet

2013- The Ludlow Public Schools will increase use of Internet resources and Web 2.0 tools with expanded Internet bandwidth.

2014- Internet bandwidth may increase from the 100Mbps currently available to the district pending MassBroad installation and activation at Town Hall anchor.

○ **Technology Professional Development** (Area of Focus: PD)

GAFE

2012 – 2014 The Ludlow Public Schools will provide ongoing professional development in the use of Google Apps for Education in a variety of ways, from small group instruction with the District Instructional Technology Specialist, to building based PD with the Library Media Specialists or other teachers, even the building Principals.

Summer/ Fall 2013 The “Teacher to Teacher Institute” course was offered to, and taught by Ludlow Public Schools Teachers. This course also included Google Apps.

Aspen CL

Fall 2012 – Adopt Aspen Curriculum and Learning

Winter 2013 – Curriculum Instructional Leaders (CILs) receive vendor training on the new Aspen CL features available to staff and students They will introduce the learning platform and its integration with their Gradebook and new online Planner to their colleagues. (Note: Google Docs are embedded in Aspen CL.)

2013 – Pilot use of Aspen CL, particularly at secondary level

2014 – Grow then use of Aspen and Aspen CL

○ **Accessibility of Technology** (Area of Focus: Infrastructure)

2012- Veterans Park Elementary School (Grades 4 and 5) WiFi installed throughout the building (Note: Enterprise level, secure wireless availability is necessary to increase student access to the Internet and 21st Century learning tools.)

2012- 85 Lenovo Netbooks purchased (55 ASUS netbooks available prior year purchase)

2012- As part of the BYOD initiative and to provide access for mobile users, WiFi was installed in pilot areas at all other schools.

2013- Paul R. Baird Middle School (Grades 6 – 8) WiFi installed throughout the building

2013- \$25,000 Capital Request Funded to replace key network switches

2013- 45 Lenovo Netbooks purchased

2013- 10 Samsung Chromebooks purchased for review

2013- Chapin Street and East Street Schools WiFi installation to be completed throughout remaining areas of the building

2013- East Street server to be replaced

2014- Ludlow High School (Grades 9 -12) WiFi installation to be completed throughout remaining areas of the building

2014- Propose Capital purchases of 550 Chromebooks at \$249 each \$136,950
Distributed by building: 200- Ludlow High School, 150- Baird Middle School,
100- Veterans Park and 100- to be distributed in Grades PK – 3
While we will never be truly 1:1, this would bring us to a functional level needed for
both student learning and assessment.

○ **Virtual Learning and Communications** (Area of Focus: Web-based Tools)
2013-2014 While we continue to use wikis and other free collaborative tools, the
GAFE and Aspen CI platforms will be our primary area of growth for virtual learning.

○ **Safety, Security and Data Retention**
The Ludlow Public Schools will continue to review all safety and security measures
regarding data as information is accessed by more diverse users.