

# **Old Colony R.V.T.H.S. Technology Plan**

**FY 2012-2014**

## **Executive Summary**

This document, the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School Technology Plan, has been developed with the purpose to guide us as we incorporate appropriate technologies to accomplish the business and practice of education in our district. These technologies incorporate the administrative functions of student information management as well as those that provide a rich platform for teaching and learning. This plan will serve to acknowledge our current status, prioritize our needs and set our direction.

## **District Mission**

The mission of Old Colony R.V.T.H.S. is to prepare students for ever changing demands of society and the workforce, in a safe environment that values diversity and equity. Through vocational-technical and academic courses students attain the skills necessary for successful employment and career and/or educational advancement. This foundation enables students to be responsible members of the community and encourages a continuation of learning throughout life.

## **District Improvement Goals FY11**

- Continue to review curriculum in correlation with MA frameworks and implement instructional changes to support the curriculum.
- Increase student performance with vocational, academic & technology integration
- Improve instruction and assessment practices.
- Utilize technology to enhance the educational experience and effectively use technology to manage the business of education.
- Increase parent/guardian involvement through improved communication between school and home.

## **Technology Vision**

A mutual commitment to development between administration, faculty and students is crucial to fostering an organization driven to excellence by all parties. While the goals and ideals of education have remained constant through the years - to prepare the students for responsible citizenship and develop critical thinking skills through facilitated learning experiences, a dramatic evolution has occurred with the methods and media to most effectively enable the process. Our challenge at Old Colony lies in utilizing the latest and most practical technologies available in both our academic and vocational subject areas to effectively access and share information to create an engaging educational environment and provide powerful learning experiences thus producing the most capable and prepared graduates.

Our vision utilizes a truly integrated model, where students and teachers across the grades and content areas are using technology to enhance the educational experience at Old Colony. It is our goal to have information technology woven in to the very fabric of teaching and learning. It is an essential tool to aid us in our mission to raise the technical and academic achievement of all students and to achieve our district improvement goals. We envision technology to be the vehicle that helps our students develop the 21st century skills that they will need to utilize throughout their careers.

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## Technology Goals

- Empower educators to take the initiative in developing the potential of technology.
- Increase engagement in the educational experience for all students through the use of 21<sup>st</sup> Century tools thus improving technical and academic achievement of all students.
- Employ integrated model for technology curriculum (including common strands 4, 5, & 6 of the Vocational Frameworks).
- Effectively use technology to manage the business of education.

## Current Status

**Infrastructure:** The district has a high speed network infrastructure that provides Internet access to all classrooms, labs and offices. The district has an Acceptable Use Policy for users of the district network. Grant funds have allowed for the acquisition of a 30 unit network cart as well as projectors and speakers in each academic classroom.

**Curriculum Development:** The district is committed to a strong and vibrant curriculum, aligned to the state frameworks in the area of Academics, Instructional Technology and the Vocational Technical Education Frameworks, with technology integrated as both a resource and a mode of instruction. Individual instructors utilize computer activities in a variety of ways. Additionally, Old Colony has implemented a school-wide technology integrated curriculum. The integrated curriculum started as a response to address the common strands of the vocational curriculum frameworks. It started with two school-wide projects in 2006 and has grown to nine projects in 2011. The intent is to expand the program so that all common strands are covered, instructional technology standards are addressed and technology integrated projects are included in all grade and content areas.

**Professional Development:** In a June 2010 survey, 51% of Old Colony faculty self reported as “Proficient” or “Advanced” users of technology as defined by the MA StaR chart. 25% reported as “Developing” and less than 25% as “Early Tech”. This is a substantial improvement in the last 3 years. We recognize a strong professional development program continues to be an essential element to achieve our technology vision. We will focus on the continued growth of teacher confidence and skill in using technology to enhance instruction and student learning. Additionally we will focus on using technology tools to facilitate the administrative functions of educational planning, student data tracking, and communications.

**Administration and Support Services:** The district enjoys the support of a single technology specialist to support all administrative and educational computer systems including all specialized software, servers, PCs, wireless access points and peripheral devices. The technology specialist has a student assistant. In FY10 the half-time integration specialist position was increase to 1 FTE.

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## Implementation Strategies

To reach the above stated goals, the following action items will be the focus of Old Colony's IT initiatives for FY12-14:

### Infrastructure:

- As district and grants funds allow, the district will strive to keep technology resources current by providing Class A equipment as defined by the MA DESE. The district will implement an equipment refresh policy that will allow for replacement of outdated equipment.
- As district and grants funds allow, the district will plan to acquire technology equipment and develop a plan to support BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) to enable a 1:1 environment.
- The district will create and maintain a robust infrastructure (switching, wiring, wireless access points and firewall) to support intensive use of Internet resources, Web 2.0 tools and the creation of a 1:1 environment.

### Curriculum Development:

- The district will encourage the development of new curriculum that is aligned with the new MA Frameworks aligned with the Common Core, with attention to the infusion of technology to address the new digital literacy skills requirements.
- The district will increase the use of alternate instructional resources which allow alternate access to the curriculum through the use of multimedia and internet-based educational resources.
- The district will increase the use of Web 2.0 tools emphasize course content and develop students' technical skills.

### Professional Development:

- The Library/Media specialist will work with faculty to help ID quality resources
- Regular embedded tech PD with Integration Specialist

### Administrative and Support Services:

- The district will improve support for technology users by implementing a Support Center within the Computer Information Systems (CIS) technical program. This support center will be the first level of support. Students can provide "just in time support" for minor issues. They will log and report larger issues to the District Technology Specialist. They can also provide student assistants for classroom/lab technology activities.