Strategic Technology Plan

St. Michael School
Louisville, KY

The Technology Committee formulates the Strategic Technology Plan, intended to support the vision of technology at St. Michael School, and revises the plan annually.

School Mission Statement

In partnership with our spirit-filled, Gospel-directed, life-giving parish family, St. Michael School is dedicated to Christ-centered education. We foster a nurturing environment of mutual respect where children celebrate their God-given talents. Through academic excellence, we inspire lifelong learners who live their Catholic faith.

Vision Statement for Technology

Technology will be used throughout our school as we acquire new and exciting ways to meet the needs of all of our students and to enhance student outcomes. We will strive to use the most up-to-date technology tools in order to:

• design learning environments that will reach out to a diverse learning community,

• gauge and monitor our students' individual levels of achievement, using that information to make important decisions about our programs and our support for student learning,

• model and encourage collaboration between and among us all: teachers, students, parents, administrators and the global community.

In our classrooms, teachers will be confident and knowledgeable about the range of technology tools that can assist them in making effective choices in designing learning experiences. Supported by accessible technology and professional development, teachers will develop and share authentic and engaging learning activities that require students to hone problem-solving skills.

 Through this creative and collaborative environment St. Michael School teachers will use technology to:

• promote intellectual experimentation,

• provide options that match learning experiences to the individual learner,

• promote the development of higher order thinking and creative problem solving

• redefine and transform learning tasks to create authentic learning experiences.

All students, administrators and teachers will be accountable for basic technology skills while continuing to develop their technological literacy.

As 21st century life-long learners, the students of the St. Michael Schools will:

• understand the ever-evolving ways in which technology can challenge our personal safety,

• develop literacy skills that require them to identify reliable and credible sources,

• use those sources to develop their own distinctive voices,

• demonstrate responsibility for the ethical use of technology,

• engage in the use of technology to promote participation in the global learning environment,

• distinguish and demonstrate the appropriate technological applications.

In all of our classrooms, and offices, we will use technology to enhance interactions and understand that technology will never replace our human need for each other. Fine motor skills and handwriting will still be emphasized and are considered essential to the overall development of the child.

BELIEFS

• Technology allows us to better serve the diverse learning needs of our students.

• Skillful use of technology supports the development of process skills such as flexibility, adaptability, critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration which are essential to success in our rapidly changing information age.

• Our school must prepare students to be lifelong learners who are responsible for their own learning, skilled in accessing and processing information, confident in using technological tools, able to solve complex problems alone or collaboratively, capable of being creative and innovative, and able to communicate locally, nationally, and globally.

Adapted from Barnstable Public Schools, Hyannis, Massachusetts Strategic Technology Action Plan
http://www.barnstable.k12.ma.us

Strategic Technology Plan Goals

A. Equip St. Michael School with quality technology resources that support and enhance teaching, learning, and administrative processes.
B. Provide a safe, flexible, authentic learning environment for all students.
C. Engage students in meaningful curricular content through the purposeful and effective use of technology.
D. Provide the training and support for teachers to become competent and confident in using the full range of technology resources to deliver effective curriculum, instruction, and assessment.
E. Encourage and support innovative uses of technology.
F. Assess technology plan progress annually and revise technology plan as necessary to stay current and relevant.

Strategic Technology Plan Implementation Strategy

A. Equip St. Michael School with quality technology resources that support and enhance teaching, learning, and administrative processes.
   1. Infrastructure (electrical, network, telecom)
   2. Hardware (desktop, laptop, printers, AV equipment)
      a. Device simplification (1 teacher laptop per classroom)
      b. Reduce paper consumption (printing, copying)
      c. Develop system to track hardware purchases, estimated end of life
      d. Develop hardware standards for new purchases
   3. Software
      a. Use of MERAKI cloud management of devices/ tablets
      b. Transition to Sycamore Education cloud-based administrative management system
   4. Technology support (maintenance, response time, support staff)
      a. Use of FacilityOne or Sycamore for work orders
      b. Server room workshop to fix own equipment, before calling OCI
B. Provide a safe, flexible, authentic learning environment for all students.
   1. Revise Acceptable Use Policy.
   2. Establish student accounts through St. Michael domain.
   3. Establish and enforce security protocols for wireless networks (STM Faculty, StMichael, STM Guest).
   4. Students will become proficient in safe and productive Internet use, including safe and responsible use of social media.
   5. Install Analog Camera System for campus safety.
C. Engage students in meaningful curricular content through the purposeful and effective use of technology.
   1. Provide access to digital tools to gather, evaluate, and process information intelligently, creatively, and ethically.
   2. Enable use of technology to generate new ideas, products, or processes. (e.g. word processing, presentations, note taking, projects)
   3. Ensure that students are able to select and use applications appropriately.
   4. Ensure that students can perform essential troubleshooting functions.
   5. Provide access to digital tools to facilitate communication and collaboration with their peers within St. Michael School and around the world.
   6. Provide cloud-based solutions for document storage and sharing for students.
D. Provide the training and support for teachers to become competent and confident in using the full range of technology resources to deliver effective curriculum, instruction, and assessment.
   1. Encourage teachers' use of productivity and class management tools to facilitate lesson development, instruction, assessment, communication, and grade reporting. (Sycamore)
   2. Encourage teachers' use of digital tools for student/ teacher communication and to promote student collaboration.
   3. Ensure that teachers support the use of technology in student assignments (research, analysis, writing and presentation).

4. Look for evidence of technology integration in lessons and student work through periodic classroom observation.
5. Teachers will attend training and professional learning sessions and complete a minimum of six hours of technology-related professional development (Technology Thursdays, Archdiocese of Louisville Summer Institute, Technology Conferences).
6. Invite guest speakers to demonstrate uses of technology in the classroom.
7. Provide training to ensure teachers can perform essential troubleshooting functions.
8. Provide cloud-based solutions for document storage and sharing for teachers.

E. Encourage and support innovative uses of technology.
1. Initiate STEM initiative by utilizing parents/ community members for guest presentations, enrichment opportunities.
2. Implement student broadcast program for morning announcements.
3. Display student work online (St. Michael YouTube channel, webpage blog)
4. Identify ways to engage talented students in technology innovation in and outside of the classroom.
5. Recognize and reward innovative and effective uses of technology and digital tools.
6. Establish a forum for sharing ideas and professional development opportunities.
7. Establish guidelines and funding for exploration of new and innovative technologies.

F. Assess technology plan progress annually and revise technology plan as necessary to stay current and relevant.