2013-14 Technology Plan Assessment

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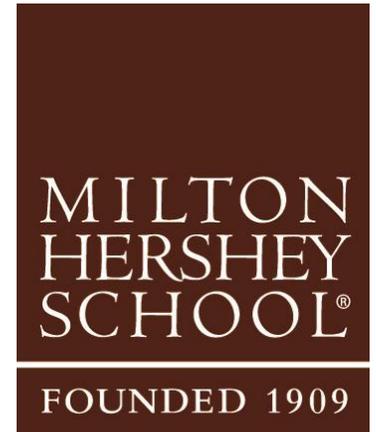
Introduction/Overview:

The Milton Hershey School recognizes its valuable role in the development of 21st century global citizens and leaders. We respect and accept the fact that our technology integration plan impacts stakeholders within our school, community and world:

- Students, parents, and house parents
- Teachers, administrators, and support staff
- Community members and business leaders

The knowledge and skills that our students develop today will provide students with valuable skills to live in an ever-changing digital world. In order to develop these valuable skills, The Milton Hershey School has aligned its instructional goals and strategies with ISTE's NETS Standards. For the 2013-14 school year, we have identified several key areas of emphasis:

- Creating a Culture of Creativity and Innovation
- Excellence in Communication and Collaboration
- Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership

The following assessment plan will address how our school plans to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan

Nature/Scope of the Technology to be Assessed:

Each stakeholder has a role in determining the overall effectiveness of our technology plan and vision. Our plan will not be complete without fully assessing the performance of each key stakeholder.

- Creating a Culture of Creativity and Innovation
- Excellence in Communication and Collaboration
- Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership

I. Creating a Culture of Creativity and Innovation

a. The Milton Hershey School respects the need to implement the latest technologies into our classrooms to enhance student learning. Our goal is to double the accessibility of iPads to students from 120 to 240. This will lead to an increased demand on our wireless networks, which have recently been upgraded to keep up with this increased demand.

b. **The following table describes how MHS will assess and implement this plan:**

Stakeholders:	Student	Teachers	Administration
Nature of the Technology to Be Assessed:	• Students will use iPads and a variety of Apps	• Teachers will facilitate and inspire student learning and creativity through the utilization of iPads and various Apps	• Administration will provide visionary leadership
Criteria for Assessment (Projected Benefits):	• Students will demonstrate higher level thinking through demonstrating creative and innovative thought through the product of high quality work.	• Teachers will demonstrate instructional techniques that require students to use iPads to creatively express knowledge, solve problems, and demonstrate higher level thinking.	• Acquisition of 120 iPads and provide high quality staff development, which will encourage student learning, creativity, and innovative thought.
Measurement Tools:	• Student grade analysis • Student interviews / surveys	• Teacher interviews / surveys • Analysis of student scores before and after teacher professional development	• Administrator interviews / surveys • Analysis of student scores before and after teacher professional development
Plans for Dissemination or Utilization:	• Several classrooms of students will initially serve as pilot classrooms during the fall of 2013 • Additional classrooms will be added to pilot in the spring and fall of 2014	• The Learning Technologies Department will begin training teachers how to implement iPads into their classrooms through mini-trainings offered during department meetings and staff development days.	• The Learning Technologies Department will attend various training events during the spring of 2013 to gather resources and knowledge to train staff

II.   **Excellence in Communication and Collaboration:**

a. In the fall of 2013, teachers will begin transitioning into using a free educational social network called Edmodo to serve as a communication and collaboration tool among students, house parents, staff, and administrators. All students in grades 9 – 12 will use Edmodo as a way to communicate, access, and upload assignments.

b. **The following table describes how MHS will assess and implement this plan:**

Stakeholders:	Student	Teachers	Administration
Nature of the Technology to Be Assessed:	• Students will use the social network Edmodo	• Teachers will facilitate and inspire student learning through Edmodo	• Administration will provide visionary leadership and high quality training to staff
Criteria for Assessment (Projected Benefits):	• Students will use the social network Edmodo to communicate, collaborate, and hand in assignments	• Teachers will demonstrate instructional techniques that require students to Edmodo to communicate, collaborate, and hand in assignments	• Management of transition from server to Edmodo social network
Measurement Tools:	• Analysis of completed assignments, number of teacher student communications, and student to student communications • Analysis of student grades • Student interviews / surveys	• Teacher interviews / surveys • Analysis of assignments, number of teacher student communications, and student to student communications • Analysis of student scores before and after teacher professional development	• Administrator interviews / surveys • Analysis of Edmodo site and server activity • Analysis of student scores before and after teacher professional development
Plans for Dissemination or Utilization:	• All students in grades 9 – 12 will use Edmodo as a way to communicate, access, and upload assignments.	• In the fall of 2013, teachers will begin transitioning into using a free educational social network called Edmodo to serve as a communication and collaboration tool among students, house parents, staff, and administrators. • Several staff members will be trained to use Edmodo. Each trained staff member will be responsible for training members within their department, during the summer of 2013 staff development day.	• Each member of the Technology Planning Committee will be trained by the Learning Technologies Department in the spring of 2013.

Goal # 3 - Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership:

a. Developing 21st century learners requires an investment in staff though opportunities to enhance student learning through the infusion of technology and scientifically-researched instructional methods. Carefully developed professional development and PLC's are necessary to accomplish this goal.

b. **The following table describes how MHS will assess and implement this plan:**

Stakeholders:	Teachers	Administration
Nature of the Technology to Be Assessed:	• Teachers will continuously develop as 21st century educators through the development of effective 21st Century instructional techniques	• Administration will provide visionary leadership and promote an empowering environment of professional learning
Criteria for Assessment (Projected Benefits):	• Teachers will continuously develop as 21st century educators through the development of effective 21st Century instructional techniques through valuable PLC's, which exhibit growth in the leadership and implementation of technology in the classroom.	• Administrators will provide staff with opportunities to enhance student learning through the infusion of technology and scientifically-researched instructional methods. • Administration will develop opportunities for staff to collaborate and experiment with 21st Century technologies with the expectation of use in the classroom.
Measurement Tools:	• Teacher interviews / surveys • Analysis of teacher evaluations	• Administrator interviews / surveys • Analysis of teacher evaluations
Plans for Dissemination or Utilization:	• Engaging in professional growth and leadership will require supporting staff, which may have a varying range of experience with technology—from beginner to intermediate to advanced—by offering courses at varying levels. The short-term goal is to enhance users' skills to make them more efficient in using the technology their jobs require. The long-term goal is to encourage users to be life-long learners who embrace technology and use it to best serve our students.	