**District:** Western Local School District

**District IRN:** 049155

**Plan Name:** Western Local School District Technology Plan 2017-2020

**Period Coverage:** 2017-2020

**Date Created:**  10/12/2017

**Date Last Modified:** 11/21/2017

**E-Rate Account Manager:** Strategic Management Solutions

**Technology Coordinator:** Garrett Stevenson

**Superintendent:** Brock Brewster

**Our Vision:**

*We envision schools and families, community members and partnering agencies working together to educate and inspire students toward future success and productive citizenship.*

**Our Mission:**

*We will strive every day to provide high quality educational experiences that prepare and inspire students to achieve.*

**Acknowledgments:**

Brock Brewster

Brian Birkhimer

Lynn O’Dell

Tracy Collins

Western Staff/Teachers

**Phase 1. Technology Infrastructure Management and Support**

**Goal:** Implement Local Firewall w/ Installation & Management

***Type:*** Networking and Security

***Description:*** Demo local Firewall options and products to install.

***Supporting Strategies:*** With districts offering open Public WiFi to their communities, they are increasing chances of security risks and breaches within their own networks. While districts are behind META-Piketon’s Firewall and protected from the outside world (Internet), they are still a threat to infect each other without their own local Firewalls.

***Process Assessment:*** The Technology Coordinator will test and demo suitable firewall options and appliances and will collaborate with vendors and colleagues to fully analyze the district’s needs and wants.

***Professional Development:***

**Methods / Formats:** Technology Coordinator will receive training from the vendor to properly use and manage the Firewall.

**How to Measure:** The initial installation and configuration of the Firewall will meet the district’s requirements without any issues/errors.

**Support Goal:** The Technology Coordinator will be experienced with the technology on hand and will provide management and support for the district. The Technology Coordinator will be a more valuable member for the District’s future.

**Positions Involved:** Technology Coordinator

***Evaluation:***

**Description:** Evaluation of implementing a Firewall will be the increased level of security and assurance of protecting for the district networks. The district’s data will be protected in the event another local district may become at risk of infection.

**Outcome:** The outcome of the goal is to provide another level of security for the district’s network.

**Positions Involved**: Superintendent, Tech Coordinator

**Phase 2. Technology Server Hardware Configuration**

**Goal:** Configure existing Server Hardware/Software for Failover Clusters and Backup’s.

***Type:*** *Server Hardware*

***Description:*** Create and configure district’s server for failover clusters and backup redundancy.

***Supporting Strategies:*** Due to increasing demand of Server and Networking services it is important to limit the amount of downtime the district may have in the case of Software/Hardware failures. It is important to create redundancy within the hardware of the district as well as create an adequate Backup/Recovery solution when the need arises to restore impacted data.

***Process Assessment:*** The Technology Coordinator shall configure existing Server Hardware to effectively provide necessary services for staff and students with limited downtime and provide effective backup solutions based on the required terms of the district.

***Professional Development:***

**Methods / Formats:** Technology Coordinator will research and test the Server Hardware/Software configuration to verify the district’s needs are met with no complications.

**How to Measure:** The Technology Coordinator will measure this goal by determining if the goal has been met by the requirements of the district.

**Support Goal:** The Technology Coordinator will acquire adequate knowledge of the intended hardware/software. The Technology Coordinator will be prepared and ready with spare parts should the need arise.

**Positions Involved:** Technology Coordinator

***Evaluation:***

**Description:** Evaluation of this goal will be by the district responses to the completed process.

**Outcome:** The goals outcome will be to provide necessary failover redundancy for Server Hardware/Software services and provide safe and secure Backup Solutions.

**Positions Involved**: Technology Coordinator

**Phase 3.Technology Policy, Leadership and Administration**

**Goal:** Provide Assistance with Online State Testing

***Type:*** Providing District Leadership

***Description:*** As online state testing becomes more prominent and paper/pencil tests are becoming less of an option, Test Coordinators, Guidance Departments, and staff need to have proper experience and training to administer and coordinate an online test environment. The Technology Coordinator's goal is to assist these three entities to develop a method for conducting online tests.

***Supporting Strategies:*** Supporting strategies include working with Testing Coordinators and Guidance Departments by scheduling meetings when ODE releases new material and testing requirements. In order to prepare students with the knowledge on how to use tools regarding each online subject area, staff will need to be advised on how to administer an online test session as well as how to answer students’ questions during a test.

***Needs Assessment:***  In order to fully assist district wide online testing, technology will need to be in place to provide enough testing sessions for all students in the district. This means preparing a testing schedule for each grade level during the testing window. The goal is to use Google Chromebooks in classrooms and computer labs to ensure that all students have a reliable and available testing device.

***Professional Development:***

**Methods / Formats:** Methods for preparing staff include conducting practice test sessions with staff and assigning staff to take the Test Administrator Certification Course.

**How to Measure:** Preparation will be measured for Staff by the completion of the Test Administrator Certification Course as well as by staff experience with the practice test sessions.

**Support Goal:** In order to support professional development, staff will earn CEU’s for taking the Test Administrator Certification Course.

**Positions Involved:** Tech Coordinator, Building Administrators, Staff

***Evaluation:***

**Process:** Evaluating the goal of providing assistance for online state testing needs to be evaluated by the Technology Coordinator, Test Coordinator and Guidance Departments. The process for evaluation includes the actions taken to prepare the district for online state testing.

**Outcome:** The outcome of providing assistance for district wide online testing will be a reliable environment for students to successfully take online test assessments.

**Positions Involved**: Tech Coordinator, Building Administrators, Staff

**Future Goals for Western Local School District:**

**Phase 1. Technology Hardware Refresh**

**Goal:** Update and Replace Teacher Computer Machines within classrooms.

***Type:*** *Upgrade Computer Hardware*

***Description:*** Purchase and Replace Teacher Machines

***Supporting Strategies:*** The district’s current computer machines for the classroom teachers are coming EOY and are having limited failures.

***Process Assessment:*** The Technology Coordinator will test the brand/model of computer(s) intended to replace the outdated. The Technology Coordinator will make decisions based on hardware and software capabilities and notify the district moving forward.

***Professional Development:***

**Methods / Formats:** Technology Coordinator will demo and test the necessary hardware/software to be knowledgeable and support the district needs accordingly.

**How to Measure:** Measurement will be determined by the confidence and experience gained by the Technology Coordinator.

**Support Goal:** The Technology Coordinator must acquire adequate knowledge of the intended hardware/software. The Technology Coordinator will be prepared and ready with spare part should the need arise.

**Positions Involved:** Technology Coordinator

***Evaluation:***

**Description:** Evaluation of refreshing teacher classroom machines will be based on the teacher’s response and cooperation.

**Outcome:** The outcome of the goal is to provide the necessary technology for teachers and students to increase their educational options.

**Positions Involved**: Teachers, Staff and Tech Coordinator

**Phase 2.Technology Infrastructure Management and Support**

**Goal:** IP Telephony

***Type:*** Networking, Internet and Telecommunications

***Description:*** Replace analog phone system with IP based phones.

***Supporting Strategies:*** The district’s current phone system is outdated and requires an upgrade. Noticing wear and tear with headsets for staff members. Voicemail server is crashing sporadically.

***Process Assessment:*** Replace district phone headsets and voice server.

140 - Phones

1 -Voice Gateway

\* Licenses, SmartNet, Configuration, Installation, Management “Adds/Moves/Changes”

***Professional Development:***

**Methods / Formats:** After the installation of the VOIP system, the Technology Coordinator will meet with each of the building administrators and secretaries to train each member on the new phone system. There will also be instructions sent via email to all staff.

**How to Measure:** In order to verify knowledge of the phone system, the Technology Coordinator will answer any questions from staff members to ensure operations of the new phones are completed.

**Support Goal:** To support the transition from the analog phone system to the IP based phone system, staff are more than welcome to contact administration or the Technology Coordinator if an issue using the system arises.

**Positions Involved:** Tech Coordinator, Principals, Building Secretaries

***Evaluation:***

**Process** Evaluation of this process will be the district’s understanding and representation of the VOIP upgrade/install.

**Outcome:** With IP based phones in place, we will be able to use unified communication technologies to enable more convenient ways of staying connected. The IP based phones will also have a longer lifespan than the current analog phones in place.

**Positions Involved**: Superintendent, Treasurer, Tech Coordinator