



Edgemont UFSD

Smart Schools Investment Plan

Public hearing:
2016

May 10, 2016

Approved by Board of Education: May 10,

SmartSchools Bond Allocation: \$302,038.00

Instructional Technology Plan Survey Approved by NYSED. [State-approved technology plan survey](#)

PLAN OVERVIEW

This plan will benefit approximately 1,900 students and 300 staff working in all three school buildings. Its focus is two-fold: continuing to build a network infrastructure that will support fast, ubiquitous access to technology by many students and teachers at once and outfitting classrooms with sufficient devices (Chromebooks and interactive displays) to provide access to digital content whenever and wherever it is needed. Some of the funds will be used to replace legacy equipment and some to deploy new devices/infrastructure in order to extend access around the district.

DEMONSTRATION OF NEED

These projects directly support the district's technology action plan, which is one of the main focuses of the overall strategic plan developed in 2015. The action plan, in turn, was used to design the technology plan survey that was approved by the state education department last spring. Planning was informed by two years of administration of the BrightBytes Clarity technology assessment, which uses surveys of students, teachers, and parents to determine needs surrounding technology use to support learning in the district. The Clarity data were shared in meetings with teachers and in public Board of Education meetings. A primary challenge identified through the Clarity process is extending access to technology in the district so it is more readily available whenever and wherever it is needed. Our planned use of the Smart Schools Bond Act fund will directly address this need. All projects comprising this work are named in and supported by the district's strategic plan, technology action plan, and technology plan survey.

TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE PRECONDITIONS

The Federal Communications Commission stipulates that school districts should provide 100mbps of bandwidth per 1000 students and achieving this level of connectivity is a precondition for receiving Smart Schools Bond funding. Currently, Edgemont does not meet this standard but during the summer of 2016 we plan to increase our internet bandwidth to 200mbps. Additionally, the Wide Area Network connections between the three buildings and the wireless network will be improved to support this level of throughput in all locations.

Edgemont currently has in place a fairly wired and wireless network that extends to all locations in all three buildings. Access to technology resources is available in the form of laptops/Chromebooks/iPads on rolling carts, desktop computers installed in each classroom, and computer labs (EHS only). A "tech support team" comprised of district personnel and two technicians from the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center is in place to maintain the infrastructure and respond to requests for assistance.

SMART SCHOOLS INVESTMENT PLAN GOALS

The district's overall goals for the next three years, which are outlined in the state-approved technology plan survey, include:

- Increasing access to technology within the three schools by provisioning additional computers, with an eye towards eventual rollout of a one-to-one computing program in the middle grades (5-8)
- Providing better technical and instructional support for the use of technology to enhance learning, including professional development
- Revising curriculum and instruction to prepare students for the technology-rich global economy of the 21st Century

PURCHASE PLAN & ALLOCATION OF FUNDS (USE TABLES AS PROVIDED BY NYSED)

Overview

Category	Sub-Allocations
School Connectivity	\$79,922
Connectivity Projects for Communities	\$0
Classroom Technology	\$222,116
Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms	\$0
Replace Transportable Classrooms	\$0
High-Tech Security Features	\$0
Totals:	\$302,038

School Connectivity

Category	Sub-allocation
Network/Access Costs	\$0
Outside Plant Costs	\$0
School Internal Connections and Components	\$79,922

Professional Services	\$0
Testing	\$0
Other Upfront Costs	\$0
Other Costs	\$0
Totals:	\$79,922

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY

Category	Sub-allocation
Interactive Whiteboards	\$74,765
Computer servers	\$36,755
Desktop Computers	\$25,155
Laptop Computers	\$85,441
Tablet Computers	\$0
Other Costs	\$0
Totals:	\$222,116

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The district will offer professional development through several programs:

- We will continue to participate in the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center's "Model Schools Core Plus" program to prepare teachers in grades 5-8 for an upcoming one-to-one computing rollout. In this program, a trainer from the LHRIC works over the course of a semester with a cohort of eight teachers to develop lessons based on their students' needs and interests. The theme has been and will continue to be using Google tools to support collaboration, creativity, and communication in the classroom. Over the next three years, we hope to put at least 48 Edgemont teachers through this program.
- Teachers in all grades will continue to be invited to attend the LHRIC's regular Model Schools courses. The course catalog includes a wide variety of topics, from use of the SmartBoard to iPads and use of Google tools to support instruction.

- We will continue to offer a lunchtime “Bytes and Bites” program for teachers in all three buildings. Teachers can elect to spend a lunch period learning about a new tool or piece of software that is available in their school.
- Part or all of upcoming Superintendent’s Conference Days will be devoted to technology. This will be particularly important as we prepare for the eventual roll-out of devices on a one-to-one basis towards the end of this technology plan. The focus will be on teaching and learning in a classroom with everyday ubiquitous access to technology.
- Many Edgemont teachers take advantage of courses that are available to them through the Scarsdale Teachers Institute. Course offerings include several courses on the Google tools, iPads, Edmodo, and many others.
- Building on the Model Schools Core Plus work, we will hire a “technology coach” who can work with teachers individually and collaboratively on integration of technology in the classroom.

SUSTAINABILITY

The networking equipment that we purchase (servers and wireless APs and controllers) will be covered by service contracts for at least three years. The service contracts will be purchased separately using district funds. Device purchases will be covered by the manufacturer’s warranty. Additionally, we participate in a “LAN Support” CoSer with the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center. Two on-site technicians will provide break-fix support for these devices.

In creating this plan, we have been mindful of the need to eventually replace the equipment. We are working to create a replacement schedule that will ensure that the costs of replacement will be spread out over several years so as to minimize impact on the budget and stay under the 2% tax levy cap.

INVESTMENT PLAN TIMELINE

We plan on completing all of the Smart Schools Bond projects during the summer and fall of 2016:

July-August, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Install interactive whiteboards ● Install ESX servers ● Complete replacement of wireless controllers and access points
August-October, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provision and roll out replacement desktops and new Chromebook carts