Lakeland Central School District
1086 East Main Street
Shrub Oak, NY 10588

Smart Schools Bond Investment Plan

Plan Overview:

The Lakeland Central School District has long been an advocate for the integration of technology into instruction. Our vision and goals for instructional technology align with our district mission statement:

> *The Lakeland Central School District accepts the challenge of preparing students for a rapidly changing world, and provides the opportunity for all students to learn and succeed. We encourage, promote and develop lifelong learning and educational excellence in a safe, secure, student-centered environment. Our practices and policies are shaped by mutual respect, open and honest communication, ethical behavior, and personal responsibility. We aim to provide opportunities for our students to learn and succeed in a secure and safe student-centered environment to prepare them for success in a rapidly changing world.*

Student-centered, self-directed learning is facilitated through the use of technology. Since information is only a click away, rote learning and memorization is obsolete in today's classroom. Instead, we want to empower students to find information to build knowledge and better understand their world. The teacher's role in this new learning environment changes from that of a tutor and sage to one of a facilitator and guide, helping students navigate the vast sea of knowledge available today. Teachers also play a key role in helping students understand the challenges and benefits of learning in the digital age; becoming good digital citizens, acting responsibly and ethically when using technology, is crucial for all learners today. Lakeland aspires to prepare students for these new challenges to guarantee success in our rapidly changing world.

Technology can play an important role in meeting the District's mission when it is integrated with our district-wide curriculum and the New York State and Common Core Learning Standards.

Justification of Need:

The availability of inexpensive small, mobile devices makes it possible to put technology in the hands of more of our students than ever before. With effective utilization, the classroom becomes a center of creativity, collaboration and communication. Higher order thinking naturally ensues when students are navigating their own knowledge, with the expert guidance and support of teachers trained to help them problem-solve and learn independently. Students learn best when they are active learners. Today's technology provides the opportunity for active learning in classrooms where students collaborate on tasks together, call upon expert advice from people outside of the classroom, and communicate their own knowledge to outsiders as well, through avenues such as websites, blogs, discussion boards, video channels, social networks and more. When provided with authentic audiences, students are motivated and empowered to produce high quality work that becomes part of a vast, global information network.

The implementation of this plan funded by the Smart Schools Bond Act, will provide access to technology for ALL learners on a regular basis. Teachers will no longer have to reserve computer lab time or sign up for laptop carts to insure that their students will have access to technology.

Preconditions:

As a precondition to any purchase of devices using a Smart Schools allocation, a district must increase the number of school buildings that meet or exceed the Federal Communications Commission minimum speed standard of 100 Mbps per 1,000 students.

The Lakeland Central School District's plan is in alignment with its NYSED approved Technology Plan Survey. NYSED approved the Technology Plan in October 2015.

Purchase Plan:

The Lakeland School District intends to purchase enough devices over the next five years to ensure that every student has a device available to them to use to enhance the learning experience. In addition to mobile devices, Lakeland will make upgrades in key specialized areas, including Music, Art, and Physical Education. Finally, our current interactive whiteboard technology will be upgraded to make them more compatible with newer technologies.

Any tool is only effective when used appropriately. Professional development is a key component of this plan. Administrators and teachers will continue to evaluate new programs, ensuring that our students are using the most up-to-date technologies to be successful in the 21st century.

Allocation of Funds:

Classroom Learning Technology	Sub-Allocations
Interactive Whiteboards	
Computer Servers	
Desktop Computers	$ 272,500
Laptop Computers	$ 280,000
Tablet Computers	$ 500,000
Chromebook Computers	$1,981,465
Other Costs	$ 614,740
Totals	$ 3,648,705

Plan Goals:

The following goals will help us attain our vision for the student-centered classroom:

- Increase the number of devices available to students to lower the ratio of device to student
- Provide a variety of software tools and online resources that are vetted by experts and are aligned with district and state learning outcomes and standards
- Provide systemic and continuous professional development for teachers to hone technology skills
- Provide professional development and curriculum planning time for teacher to redesign and redefine lessons
- Integrate digital citizenship and digital literacy into all technology professional development activities

Professional Development:

The deployment of new hardware and software must coincide with a comprehensive professional development plan that meets the needs of all district employees: administrators, teachers, and support staff. The goal common to these groups is identical: the effective utilization of the relevant tools that empower individuals to be productive, efficient, and creative in their work.

Administrators set the example and provide vision for success in Lakeland. Proactive leaders who demonstrate the willingness to embrace and encourage innovation provide the momentum needed to move teachers forward with technology enriched learning environments. With this in mind, Lakeland provides ongoing professional development for administrators in areas relative to their role in the district. This professional development is provided in-house, by BOCES and by outside vendors. During the Administrative Retreat, time is dedicated to technology professional development and throughout the year, the administrators meet regularly; these meetings often include training in technology tools.

The support staff keeps our schools running smoothly and efficiently and provides accurate and timely communications to the outside world. Ongoing professional development for support staff includes training in productivity apps (Office) and in the specific software packages that our clerical staff uses every day (Finance Manager, Kronos, etc.) The training is offered as daytime classes, one-on-one support, and customized classes, based on need.

Our teachers are the key to transforming technology devices into useful teaching tools. The training provided to teachers helps them develop a vision that is built on the understanding that technology is a tool that can offer solutions to longstanding teaching and learning challenges. They are encouraged to "think with technology" in order to approach old problems in new ways. Our staff development program focuses on how to use technology tools, and how to implement learning environments that effectively leverage these tools in today's changing world.

Technology staff development is offered through in-service classes (face-to-face, blended, and online), through workshops on Superintendent's Conference Days and small group and individual meetings. We participate in the Model Schools program through the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center and send teachers to local conferences and workshops as needed. We plan to expand our professional development to webinars and online tutorials for more flexible and independent learning opportunities.

The professional development for the teaching staff includes, but is not limited to mastery of web-based programs, curriculum integration, best practices, and meeting the needs of all learners through technology.

During the spring of 2016 we will begin a "Google Ambassador" program through the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center's Model Schools Program. This program will involve 20 teachers (6 high school, 4 middle school and 10 elementary) who will receive targeted professional development in Google Apps and will become turnkey trainers during the next school year as we expand our program.

Sustainability:

Each year, Lakeland allocates a portion of its technology budget for the repair and the replacement of aging equipment. The equipment purchased through the Smart Schools Bond will be spread out over several years. As this equipment ages, it will be worked into the district's replacement schedule. Lakeland will continue to invest district funds towards technology and professional development as it has done so in the past. Lakeland will continue to use its partnership with the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center. Through our partnership, the district is able to take advantage of consortium pricing on technology, benefit from professional development opportunities, receive state aid where possible and enter into an "Installment Purchase Agreement" (IPA), if necessary.

Timeline:

Once our Investment Plan is approved by the state, we will begin purchasing devices according to the District's purchasing policies. Our timeline for implementation is as follows. This plan is subject to change based on market costs at time of purchase and the introduction of newer technologies. All equipment purchased will be installed according to district standards and will be tagged and added to the district's inventory database.

Year 1

- Devices for teachers and administrators
- Desktop and laptop computers for Special areas
- iPads/Carts for K & 1 iPads
- Shared Chomebooks for classrooms districtwide
- Carts to secure and recharge Chromebooks
- Projectors, mounting plates and HDMI cables
- Professional Development for teachers, administrators and computer facilitators in GAFE (Google Apps for Education) This training has already begun.
- Begin Google Ambassador Program, through Model Schools Core Plus program.
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation of technologies to support needs of Special Education department
- Evaluation of Learning Management System for adoption by district
- Ongoing evaluation of technology plan through technology survey administered in Spring 2016, meetings, observations and walkthroughs
- Reevaluate technology plan for 2016-17

Year 2

- Introduction of Grade Level Chromebooks
- Carts to secure and recharge Chromebooks
- Projectors, mounting plates and HDMI cables
- Ongoing professional development for teachers, administrators, computer facilitators
- Google Camp for teachers during Summer of 2016
- Possible roll out of Learning Management System, if adopted

- Ongoing assessment and evaluation of technologies to support needs of Special Education department
- Ongoing evaluation of technology plan through technology survey, meetings, observations and walkthroughs
- Reevaluate technology plan for 2017-18

Year 3

- Continued introduction of Grade Level Chromebooks
- Carts to secure and recharge Chromebooks
- Projectors, mounting plates and HDMI cables
- Ongoing Professional Development for teachers, administrators, computer facilitators
- Evaluation of implementation and modifications where needed
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation of technologies to support needs of Special Education department
- Evaluation of existing technologies in terms of changes that have ensued from deployment of Chromebooks

**Lakeland projects that by Year 5 all Lakeland students will have a device to use to enhance and support their learning.

This document has been posted to the Lakeland Central School District's website as required by the Smart School Bond Implementation Guidance   The District welcomes community feedback before final approval by the Lakeland Board of Education. Comments can be emailed to district at smartschoolsbond@lakelandschools.org .