

The Rome City School District is identified as a Focus District with five school buildings identified as Focus Schools: Bellamy, Joy, and Ridge Mills Elementary schools as well as Staley Upper Elementary School, and Rome Free Academy. This Learning Technology project targets students in these five schools as well as Rome Catholic School, a K-5 nonpublic school within the district's boundaries.

Rome is using NYS Smart Bond funding to augment its K-12 technology infrastructure. This technology will only be successful in impacting student achievement if the district is able to implement a comprehensive professional development plan that enables teachers and library media specialists to effectively integrate the technology into instruction.

The focus of this Learning Technology project is to deliver that necessary professional development, providing opportunities for teachers to integrate technology into classroom instruction, collaborate with experts and colleagues to develop lesson plans, online learning, and develop instructional leaders to serve as mentors and resources to other teachers and librarians. Over the course of three years, more than 100 teachers will engage in 27 hours of face-to-face, online and blended professional development activities that result in a digital library of instructional materials and technology-integrated lesson plans across grade levels and subject areas.

The objectives for this three-year Learning Technology project are to:

1. Increase capacity for technology and learning through the integration of 1:1 mobile technology in the classroom into project-based interdisciplinary learning infused with NYS Learning Standards (including Common Core) and 21st century skills.
2. Use the technology tools and project process to increase collaboration among the teachers and librarians and support student achievement.
3. Improve student performance on district and state assessments in ELA and math.

Through this LTG project, educators will create learning opportunities for students that will directly support district technology standards, student achievement objectives, and multiple NYS Common Core Learning Standards in ELA and math. Project activities will also support the development of 21st Century and ISTE Skills in terms of collaboration, team development, problem solving, and critical thinking.