BRONXVILLE UFSD TECHNOLOGY

Bronxville Union Free School District

177 Pondfield Road, Bronxville, NY   10708

Bronxville UFSD Technology Website

Smart Schools Investment Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. PLAN OVERVIEW

 In May of 2014 The Bronxville School identified technology as an essential tool in ensuring that each student develops to the best of his or her ability. The district acknowledged that while there were numerous examples of effective and creative uses of technology in Bronxville classrooms, there was a need for a more consistent approach so that we prepared all of our students well for the responsible use of technology tools that they would need upon graduation. The emphasis on a consistent approach for integrating technology was not tied to any single piece of equipment or particular platform but an effort to move from individual teacher interests to a flexible, coherent, system-wide plan. The approach called for several shifts in practice:

- from acquisition of new gadgets to matching devices to specific instructional purposes
- from stand-alone lab-centered experiences to classroom experiences that are closely connected to the curriculum;
- from specialized software to universal productivity tools that have staying power outside the world of school;
- from using technology as a supplemental resource to using technology as an essential tool for learning and collaboration.

The first phase of technology integration has shown strong results. With a theory of "let a thousand flowers bloom" we had many teachers become early adopters who frequently use Google classroom to have students collaborate on written documents and presentations, conduct formative assessments via surveys, and use add-ons such as Flubaroo to give students feedback.

The Leadership Team has identified a continuum of levels of integration for technology and find that some of our teachers are in the Adoption or Adaptation phase of integrating technology into curriculum. We are pushing forward for teachers to use technology in more transformative ways on a regular bases, defined by the use of technology to facilitate higher order learning activities that are likely impossible without the use of technology. Additionally, the Leadership Team has worked with groups of teacher leaders to collaboratively analyze student work to determine what are priorities for the district. That language has developed into the Bronxville Promise that clusters around the dispositions of Critical Thinking, Innovation, Engaged Citizenship, and Leadership. Technology will play a critical role in achieving this Promise for all students.

## II.	JUSTIFICATION OF NEED

The Bronxville UFSD IT Infrastructure was updated recently to support our instructional technology integration as well as our BYOD initiative in the High school.   However, updated switches as well as consolidation are needed, to ensure that we have enough bandwidth and solid connections within our District to maintain a more efficient level of use and integration of our resources. One of the goals is to have more mobile technology for our elementary students. Therefore in alignment with this goal, we will use the Smart School Funding to procure approximately new iPads and iPad Minis for our youngest learners. In addition, to increase our use of devices in the classroom and continue our use of Google Apps for Education, approximately 250 Chromebooks will be purchased for our upper elementary as well as Middle School.

## III.	PREREQUIREMENTS

As per NYSED Smart Schools Bond Guidance a precondition to utilize the incoming funding is that the district has adequate internet access of at least 100 Mbps per 1,000 students to supply for the increased number of devices in the classrooms.

This plan is in direct alignment with our NYSED approved Technology Plan Survey 2015-2018 Vision and Goals for Technology for Instruction.

## IV.	INVESTMENT PLAN

The District plans to purchase approximately 60 iPad minis to create centers for our K-1 students. In addition, 20 iPads iPads will be purchased for learning, reading and collaboration in the Elementary Library. For the upper Elementary, Middle School and High School, the District plans to purchase Dell 11 Chromebook Carts (approximately 250 Chromebooks). This will also help to offset our future Hardware Replacement Cycle. In order to ensure the infrastructure is up to date, the District plans to purchase 1 new core switch as well as consolidate the switch closets.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

SSBA CATEGORIES	SUB-ALLOCATIONS
School Connectivity	$0
Connectivity Projects for Communities	$0.00
Classroom Technology	$141,945
Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms	$0.00
Replace Transportable Classrooms	$0.00
High-Tech Security Features	$0.00
Unallocated Funds/Non Public Schools	$30,686.14
TOTAL	$172,631.00

Classroom Learning Technology Investment Sub-Allocation

Category	Sub-Allocation
Interactive Whiteboards	$0
Infrastructure	$21428
Desktop Computers	$0
Laptop Computers/Chromebooks	$74730
iPads & iPad Minis	$32091.75
Other Costs	$13500
Sub-Total	$172,631

V. PLAN GOALS

The purchase of these new Chromebooks and Ipads as well as technology infrastructure upgrades will significantly increase student access to technology, online access, and collaborative student-centered learning opportunities. Students in a particular class can access independent content and contribute at their own pace to classroom discussions and activities. Teachers and students will be able to leverage online content that appeals to the individual abilities, need, and interests of each student as each student will have access to their own device during a class sessions. Additionally, students will be able to share findings and thoughts in a collaborative environment in real-time.

This year the State Education Department has asked districts to volunteer to participate in mandated field testing of the math and ELA state tests on-line beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. Consequently, the District needs to work toward becoming compliant with incoming computer based testing (CBT). This expenditure plan will help us to meet this mandate.

VI. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The District recognizes the importance of ongoing and sustained professional development for staff and students. In 2015 the District hired a Director of Technology as well as an Instructional Technology Support Specialist to ensure all our teachers, school administrators and staff will be empowered to best utilize these new technologies for instructional purposes. In addition, with the increase of technology in the classroom and different types of devices, the home-school connection is also important and more parent informational sessions are occurring.

VII. SUSTAINABILITY

The District will integrate the Smart Schools Bond purchases into the existing district's equipment replacement cycle. Each year the district allocates funds for the normal repair cost of a percentage of the total learning devices in the district. In addition, we have contracted with our BOCES/LHRIC for ongoing technical support for our IT Infrastructure and devices.

VIII. TIMELINE

Once the **Investment Plan** is approved by the State, equipment will be purchased in agreement with the District's purchasing policy. The district will include this new equipment in its existing inventory database and monitor it to ensure equipment is securely maintained in its designated locations. The District's comprehensive asset insurance policy will be updated to reflect the additional equipment as well.

This document has been posted to the District's website as required by the Smart School Bond Implementation Guidance by the New York State Education Department in order to invite public input prior to the adoption of this plan by the Bronxville Union Free School District Board of Education.   Public   input   can   be   submitted   to   the   following   e-mail   address: bxvsmartbond@bronxvilleschool.org