# Updated Technology Plan Technology Strategy

Immaculate Conception School's Technology Plan is flexible, focused on the curriculum, and tailored to create a learning environment that appropriately integrates technology to support learning in the 21st century. The increased engagement of the students in the learning process with a variety of methods increases the retention and application of the material. The ICS faculty molds the curriculum around the implemented technology to allow the students to apply the latest tools and information available to enhance the learning objectives. The faculty members are continuing to update their own skills and knowledge to make the class material more interactive and provide a 21st century learning environment that is interactive and focuses on the creation of independent thinkers who are able to collaborate and successfully navigate the world around them.

Immaculate Conception School is a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School. ICS follows the standards of the International Society of Technology Education (ISTE), the State of Maryland Department of Education, and the Archdiocese of Baltimore Division of Schools. Therefore, the technology plan must also meet or exceed the stated requirements in order to continue to lead in the quality of education.

In addition, ICS seeks to increase the involvement of students and parents in the learning process by using distance learning platforms, including eChalk, and other web-based applications. Ethical use of the technological resources is to be agreed to according to the Acceptable Use standards adopted for the faculty and students/families. Access to the tools is dependent upon individual acceptance of the policy. In this way, ICS forges a partnership of faculty, family, parish, and community to promote the highest achievement each student is capable of attaining.

The school's strategy is continuing to use technology across the curriculum to enrich the learning experience. It has become a continual focus to challenge ourselves as a school community to look past what we are doing and create relationships with others and other schools and organizations. It is through these relationships that both faculty and administration can better understand available resources, collaborate with others, and create new ideas and new resources. The strategy of creating relationships with others will help to not limit our learning opportunities and strengthen areas within our community.

 In addition to the use of laptops and SmartBoards, ICS is transitioning faculty and students to use mobile devices which will enhance and broaden student awareness of the global world through a 1:1 device integration with back office support This transition was initiated with faculty and staff members, then moved into the classrooms starting in the middle school and is continue to grow with expose moving to lower grades.

One strategy that ICS is set to use as a way to better understand what is available in regards to technology and best practices for implementation is through the development of relationships with other schools and organizations. This strategy will help administration, faculty, and staff to better support student learning and create an environment that appropriately integrates technology.

Another strategy that ICS includes in their technology implementation is the use of distance learning platforms and other web-based applications to support collaboration among students, parents, and teachers. Teachers are able to provide class instruction, review their lessons, and provide resources with the individual students or the entire class as needed. The added flexibility brings immediate attention to

the student to improve the learning process. Each subject is addressed with technology and applications that are grade appropriate learning goals. The laptop computers and iPads on the carts use wireless technology for maximum coverage and movement within the school. These resources are spread across the bandwidth and back office for support purposes. These allows for students and teachers to take learning outside of the classroom and even to global applications.

The technology supporting the Immaculate Conception School includes a robust suite of network systems, computer hardware, and software. The Technology Director and school administration develop the Technology Plan and deploy the resources accordingly.

If a need develops that can be addressed without reworking the technology plan and the budget is available, those needs may be addressed within the school year. Prior to identifying the appropriate solution, other requests may require a review by the Technology Director and school administration. That may be followed by further investigation within the faculty and with outside vendors.