

Technology Plan Cover Sheet
2013-2015 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015)

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION	
District/Agency/School (legal name):	North lakes academy
District Number:	4053-07
Technology Plan Status	The District/Agency/School has an approved 2012 technology bridge plan: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2013-2015 Technology Plan Date of Creation:	February 27, 2012
Identified official with authority INFORMATION	
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TECHNOLOGY CONTACT INFORMATION	
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2013-15 Technology Plan Template

Instructions: Use the format below to complete your responses.	
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1. **Technology Needs Assessment:** Describe the processes(s) used to determine the technology needs for the LEA for 2013-2015 and briefly summarize the needs that have been determined. Make sure to include any technology needs that will be supported through E-rate discounts, such as telephone, telecommunications access, Internet, and other E-rate eligible services.

North Lakes Academy believes it is important to match technology goals to its vision statement. We believe the overarching purpose of technology in our district is to give students and staff the tools (hardware, software, network and internet connectivity, training and support) necessary to be as efficient and effective as possible. Ultimately, the objective is to increase student achievement.

DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY VISION STATEMENTS

- Equip and train all teachers, administrators, and staff with the technological tools and skills required to improve the quality and effectiveness of instructional and administrative responsibilities.
- Provide the district communities with a vehicle for communication and parental involvement as well as provide a model for the use of emerging technology.

After completing the Full Technology Inventory Collection Tool, and an Instructional Practice Survey, we were easily able to identify areas that are strengths and weaknesses in our district in regards to technology. We also compared a “technology demographics” snapshot of our district in 2007 compared to today to see where we have improved and where more work is still needed.

The areas of strength in our current technology at North Lakes Academy relate to infrastructure and support. When we compare our network today with 2007, the last time a comprehensive technology plan was written, it is evident that we do many more tasks with centralized, server based technology. These servers now do the tasks of centralized operating system updates, desktop security, antivirus and application monitoring. Our servers are all RAID configured and have a robust backup protocol. Our wiring has been upgraded in many areas to Cat5E offering 100 MB connections to all desktops. Some areas of the district now have 1 GB connections. Our wiring

closets and buildings all now have at least 1 GB connections between them. The phone system has been upgraded and now allows interconnectivity between of our buildings. Our firewall is much more robust today, offering policy based content filtering, intrusion prevention, and antivirus and spyware protection. We have a cloud based file access solution, offering anytime, anywhere access to user shares. We have also implemented a wireless network which affords user access to the internet through his/her own devices. All parents can be easily reached through an automated system that sends out important messages to phones and email addresses. Our teachers all now have access to a data warehouse, where student test performance, grades, and attendance can be easily tracked. By looking at these recent enhancements using technology, the strength of North Lakes Academy where it applies to technology is that we do a good job of using technology as a tool for making our school district more secure, more accessible, and more efficient in the way it is managed.

As we looked at areas where improvement is needed in regards to technology, a main theme stood out in the collected data. We noticed that we have not shown much growth in incorporating technology into the individual classroom curriculum. Due mainly to budgetary constraints, the availability of classroom technology (interactive whiteboards, fixed mount LCD projectors, student devices, wireless slates, document cameras, etc.) has not really improved as we would have liked it to in the past 4 years. Most classrooms in the district still only claim a desktop computer as the main piece of technology. Our projectors are still largely on carts, and we only have interactive peripheral technology in 10 % of our classroom. Not surprisingly, most of our teachers responded that they were largely “unprepared” to use these newer methods of technology. There was also a general state of disinterest reflected in teacher responses when asked on the survey if they would like additional technology training offerings on classroom technology. It was the feeling that this was perhaps due the overall lack of availability, rather than an actual state of apathy regarding training. In any event, it is apparent that our main need in regards to technology is to have classrooms better equipped with peripheral technology incorporated into the curriculum by a teacher with enhanced technology skills.

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- 2. Goals and Strategies:** List the specific goals and strategies for 2013-2015 that address how your LEA will use technology to deliver education and assist with school administration:

The North Lakes Academy has identified the following 5 goals for the 2013-2015 Technology Plan:

Goal #1: Digital learners at North Lakes Academy will create, analyze, collaborate, and communicate using digital environments and media via an expanded use of evolving technology.

Goal #2: Teachers or groups of teachers (via PLC's) will identify annual technology goals and utilize support from the Technology Coordinator, who will provide professional development to assist in the meeting of the goals.

Goal #3: North Lakes Academy will utilize a grant program that will support staff members who wish to incorporate innovative technology into their curriculum.

Goal #4: North Lakes Academy will continue to make user satisfaction a primary goal by employing a capable, well trained staff who responds to user needs on a consistently efficient and positive basis.

Goal #5: North Lakes Academy will continue to discuss and research new technologies that are available, forward looking, and suitable for the students and staff of the school district as an effort to incorporate more technology into the classroom curriculum.

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3. **Professional Development Plan:** Describe the professional development strategies you have in place for 2013-2015 to ensure LEA staff are prepared to use the technology infrastructure, software programs, and online resources provided:

North Lakes Academy is currently revising curriculum and one of the recommendations is that teachers increase the delivery methods that include technology. The teachers are currently required to review their curriculum with their teams and report to administration. The plan by 2013 is that all teachers will need to submit a professional goal that involves the inclusion of technology. This will also give baseline data that can be applied for the ensuing year. We encourage staff to take technology training courses. We encourage the district to promote more workshops and inservice on the uses of technology in specific curriculum areas. Communication within the district is essential. In-service training needs to continue on programs such as SpEd Forms. Staff will also continue to be in-serviced on the use of the district's website and how to use the valuable information contained on the website.

Support staff utilizing technology for administrative reporting need to be trained to make efficient use of hardware and software specific to their responsibilities.

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4. **Evaluation:** Explain the evaluation process for your technology plan for 2013-2015, including timeline, roles and responsibilities, and information gathered to assess how the technology plan goals and strategies are being met.

The North Lakes Academy staff will be surveyed again at the end of this technology plan with the same survey that was given in April of 2011. This will provide a benchmark to measure the growths, strengths and/or weaknesses in our hardware/software and technology integration. It will also provide guidance in the implementation of technology

training needs for staff. The results will be presented to the technology team, staff development committee, and the school board. The results will also be shared with the staff at their monthly high school and elementary meetings to address the different technology issues.

- The technology staff and team will meet yearly or as needed to address the technology needs and requests from staff and students. The technology team will also continue to explore and research the new trends and opportunities in technology.
 - The technology staff and team will continue to informally survey staff and students for changing needs as technology advances become available.
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5. **Optional Links:** Provide links to district strategic planning documents, survey instruments, policies, or other resources that were used to provide data and help prepare the technology plan.

- [Teacher Technology Survey Results](#)
 - [Full Technology Inventory Collection Tool](#)
 - [Acceptable Use Agreement](#)
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6. **Link to Current Technology Plan:** Provide the link on the LEA website where the technology plan will be posted and updated throughout the planning period.

North Lakes Academy 2012-2015 Technology Plan

7. Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

This LEA has an Internet Safety/Acceptable Use Policy in place.

Yes

No

If yes, please provide a link to access the policy at the LEA website.

- [North Lakes Academy Acceptable Use Agreement](#)

This school district deploys an Internet filter to protect minors from material that is pornographic or otherwise harmful to them.

Yes

No