

Strategic Technology Plan

2014-2019



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Introduction

In the 2014 Florida Legislative Session, Section 1001.20, Florida Statutes, was updated to require the Florida Department of Education to develop a five-year strategic plan for assisting districts in establishing Florida Digital Classrooms. This plan supports the vision and mission of the department as described below.

Mission

The mission of Florida's K-20 education system is to increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless efficient system, by allowing them the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents and communities.

Vision

Florida will have an efficient world-class education system that engages and prepares all students to be globally competitive for college and careers.

Goals for Florida

In addition to supporting the mission and vision of the department, this plan will support the strategic goals of the department as defined in s. 1008.31, F.S. Through the implementation of the district digital classrooms plan, districts shall work towards the following:

- **Highest Student Achievement**

Student Performance Outcomes:

Districts shall improve classroom teaching and learning to enable all students to be digital learners with access to digital tools and resources for the full integration of the Florida Standards.

- **Seamless Articulation and Maximum Access**

Digital Tools:

Districts shall continue to implement and support a digital tools system that assists district instructional personnel and staff in the management, assessment and monitoring of student learning and performance.

- **Skilled Workforce and Economic Development**

Professional Development:

Instructional personnel and staff shall have access to opportunities and training to assist with the integration of technology into classroom teaching.

- **Quality Efficient Services**

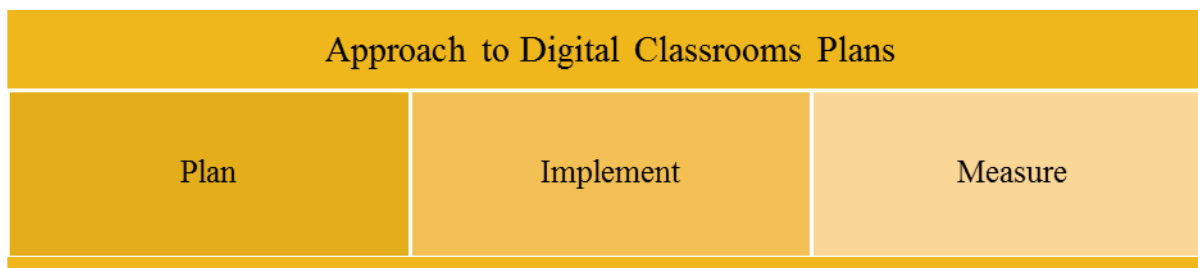
Technology Infrastructure:

Districts shall create a digital learning infrastructure with the appropriate levels of bandwidth, devices, hardware and software so that students in all classrooms.

Online Assessment Readiness:

Districts shall work to reduce the amount time used for the administration of computer-based assessments.

Approach



- Plan – Districts will complete a Digital Classrooms Plan as required by s. 1011.62, F.S. The department shall provide a format to the districts as well as guidance for completing the template for this plan. The goal of the district plans will be to collaborate with multiple stakeholder groups, identify district digital learning needs, plan an implementation process to achieve the goals established in the plan, and monitor progress and success on the deliverables.
- Implement – The department will assist districts where possible in their implementation of the Digital Classrooms Plan.
- Measure – Districts will use the bi-annual Technology Readiness Inventory (TRI) to measure progress for implementation of the components of their Digital Classrooms Plans.

Technology Requirements

FDOE has established specifications for district technology that districts should strive toward through planning and implementation of the Digital Classrooms Plan.

Districts shall identify current infrastructure needs including bandwidth, hardware, software, networking and security through the annual Digital Classrooms Plan. Districts shall determine infrastructure needs based on requirements of the level of digital learning implementation and the growth expected so that implementation is successful and meets the needs of stakeholders. FDOE guidelines on networking can be found at http://www.fldoe.org/BII/Instruct_Tech/.

FDOE is modeling its recommended specifications on those advanced by the State Educational Technology Directors Association in its May 2012 publication *The Broadband Imperative: Recommendations to Address K-12 Education Infrastructure Needs* (<http://www.setda.org/web/guest/broadbandimperative>).

Recommended Bandwidth Specifications	
External Connection to Internet	100 kbps per student or faster
Internal School Network	1000 kbps per student or faster

Schools' eligibility for E-Rate funding is contingent on compliance with several federal laws designed to ensure student privacy and safety on the Internet. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires any school that funds Internet access or internal network connections with E-Rate money to implement filters that block students' access to content that may be harmful to minors, including obscenity and pornography.

Technology specifications for devices such as desktops, mobile computers and tablets have been published by FDOE at http://www.fldoe.org/BII/Instruct_Tech/. These specifications are provided for districts to ensure that basic specifications are met for high-stakes computer-based assessments. Additional requirements of district digital learning implementation may require other specifications that are not covered here.

Districts are encouraged to have the appropriate ratio of students per device to meet the current levels of instruction. The device must be multifunctional and meet the standard for the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards End-of-Course assessments. Additionally, the device should meet the specific instructional needs of the student and level of digital learning implementation in the classroom. A student should be able to meet all educational needs with a single device to avoid the costs caused by the duplication of utilizing multiple devices to meet instructional and assessment requirements.

- Florida Standards requirements
- Grade-level and course appropriate access for technology skills
- Appropriate access to digital content and instructional materials

Professional Development

State recommendations for digital learning professional development include at a minimum, – High Quality Master In-service Plan (MIP) Components that address:

- School leadership “look-fors” on quality digital learning processes in the classroom
- Educator capacity to use available technology
- Instructional lesson planning using digital resources
- Student digital learning practices

These MIP components should include participant implementation agreements that address issues arising in needs analyses and be supported by school level monitoring and feedback processes supporting educator growth related to digital learning.

More information on the Master In-Service Plans can be found at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/profdev/MasterInservicePlan.asp>.

Each district should determine its needs for the professional development through the Technology Integration Matrix. The Florida Center for Instructional Technology developed the Technology Integration Matrix (TIM). The TIM illustrates how teachers can use technology to enhance learning for K-12 students by defining the levels of technology integration into the curriculum (i.e. entry, adoption, adaptation, infusion and transformation). Aligning professional development plans with the levels of technology integration will facilitate identifying and planning for the varying levels of professional development needs. The TIM can be found at: <http://fcit.usf.edu/matrix/matrix.php>

Digital Tools – Digital tools system and CAPE digital tools

Districts will be required to maintain a digital tools system that is intended to support and assist district and school instructional personnel and staff in the management, assessment and monitoring of student learning and performance. The digital tools system is be categorized into the following component areas:

- The system will enable teachers and administrators to access information about benchmarks and use it to create aligned curriculum guides.
- The system will provide teachers and administrators the ability to create instructional materials and/or resources and lesson plans.
- The system will support the assessment lifecycle from item creation, to assessment authoring and administration and scoring.
- The system will include district staff information combined with the ability to create and manage professional development offerings and plans.
- The system will include comprehensive student information that is used to inform instructional decisions in the classroom, for analysis, and for communicating to students and parents about classroom activities and progress.
- The system will leverage the availability of data about students, district staff, benchmarks, courses, assessments and instructional resources to provide new ways of viewing and analyzing data.
- The system will house documents, videos and information for teachers, students, parents, district administrators and technical support to access when they have questions about how to use or support the system.
- The system will include or seamlessly share information about students, district staff, benchmarks, courses, assessments and instructional resources to enable teachers, students, parents and district administrators to use data to inform instruction and operational practices.
- The system will provide secure, role-based access to its features and data for teachers, students, parents, district administrators and technical support.

Additionally, s. 1007.2616, F.S., outlines the requirements of districts for computer science and technology instruction. Digital tools may also include purchases and activities to support CAPE digital tools opportunities and courses. A list of currently recommended certificates and credentials can be found at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/workforce/fcpea/default.asp>.