

Introduction to Goals, Strategies and Metrics

West Noble School Corporation serves over 2400 students in the rural community surrounding the town of Ligonier. Approximately 300 staff work with a diverse enrollment including significant populations of language minority students and those eligible for the free lunch program. The district is made up of four schools: West Noble Primary (K-1), West Noble Elementary (2-4), West Noble Middle (5-8), and West Noble High (9-12).

West Noble's vision is to see our entire educational community be active, engaged learners who effectively use technology resources to become complex problem-solvers, natural critical thinkers, multimedia communicators, and effective collaborators throughout their lives.

Our technology goals follow from the belief that

- West Noble students should have an engaging environment, tools, and skills for personalized learning experiences that help each individual to grow, achieve, and adapt to change.
- West Noble educators should be supported with relevant professional development, connections to good resources, and collaboration forums with other professionals in order to inspire more effective teaching for all learners.
- West Noble should continually improve the comprehensive infrastructure needed to involve and support our diverse community of learners, including students, educators, parents and community members.

We believe that to fully support teaching and learning, technology resources must be **relevant** (evidence exists that curriculum and instruction are enhanced), **reliable** (resource is dependable and available when needed), and **realistic** (easily used without intervention and can be sustained). All decision-making should be informed and guided by questions of relevance, reliability, and reality. As the hardware infrastructure is continually evaluated and upgraded, the role of our human infrastructure becomes even more important for guiding how we use technology to support teaching and learning. Our greatest resource is not *having* technology, but *using* technology.

Plan Governance

West Noble has created a *human* infrastructure to provide a system for identifying and meeting the technology needs of our educational community as an on-going process. Our human infrastructure is responsible for developing technology-related policies, processes, and sustainable models for continuous improvement. The overall direction of the technology program at West Noble is a combination of efforts including those of administration, technology staff, and the school-based Digital Learning Teams. Additionally, any member of the West

Noble educational community has a chance to be part of this human infrastructure by contributing to the online conversation regarding technology. The processes of school improvement planning, curriculum development, professional development, and budgeting will inform both instructional and management issues involving technology.

The technology staff will also be involved in the assessment process. Members of the technical staff are expected to not only be in regular communication with the population they serve, but also to be involved with professional development of their own by participating in training sessions, reading professional literature, and attending area technology meetings and conferences. As new technology becomes available, the technology staff should be well informed of potential applications as well as potential deterrents.

Professional Development Strategies

Professional development for educators is imperative if technology is to be effectively used in the teaching and learning process. We believe in encouraging and promoting staff development, while also inspiring staff to learn and explore on their own. Opportunities offered at West Noble will be supported by research: peer-led, voluntary, site-based, sustained support, curriculum-centered, practical content, part of a bigger picture, and supported by administration. Professional development opportunities are designed to support the States Standards, our School Improvement Plans, and the National Technology Standards.

Learning opportunities for educators will promote the theory that technology is a tool to support learners in solving problems, developing critical thinking skills, communicating ideas, and working collaboratively. It is a tool to encourage active, engaged learning.

Goals, Strategies and Metrics

Goal 1: West Noble will provide an engaging classroom environment for students of all learning styles.

Strategies

- All instructional areas will be equipped with large screen projection, interactive control of the visual image, and audio capabilities enhanced for easy listening by students and teachers.
- Teachers will have a variety of peripheral equipment available for enhancement of instruction and increased student learning.
- Professional development opportunities will be available to teachers to learn the successful operation of classroom technology tools including strategies for their effective use.
- Innovative instructional strategies using technology will be promoted and supported to the extent possible.

Metrics for 2015-16

- Audio and video equipment/capabilities for classroom use will be explored. The need is for a solution to allow teachers and students to communicate and collaborate with those outside of the classroom (i.e. video chatting, creating instructional videos)
- Options will be explored and tested for projection of images (from devices other than the teacher desktop) to the classroom screen.
- Options will be explored and tested for monitoring of students' mobile device screens by teachers.
- Projectors will be replaced at HS and WNE. All classroom projectors corporation-wide will be networked.
- Additional document cameras will be purchased for classroom use particularly with writing instruction.
- Teachers will have opportunities to collaborate with peers to investigate and experiment with forms of Blended Learning and a Flipped Classroom.
- Multi-session professional development will be offered for at least two groups during the school year for exploration of instructional strategies and best use of technology tools in support of those teaching practices.
- Digital display options for large group areas will be explored. Hardware and display content management system found and purchased.
- Professional development for teachers regarding new audio and video equipment/capabilities will be arranged jointly by the Technology Dept staff and the school's Library Media Center staff.
- Digital Learning Teams at each school will be formed and tasked with developing technology-related policies, processes, and sustainable models for continuous improvement.

Goal 2: West Noble will make student assessment data accessible in order for teachers to adjust instruction.

Strategies

- West Noble will participate in student assessments appropriate to our student population.
- West Noble will continually update and improve our Student Information System (SIS) and other management systems in order to provide better access to student data helpful for effective decision-making.
- Professional development will focus on analysis of data and development of improved instructional strategies based on the data.
- Administrators will use technology-based assessment tools for classroom observations and feedback to teachers as well as for communications with parents and community members.

Metrics for 2015-16

- On-going professional development for analysis of student assessment data will occur during collaboration time and Data Team time as scheduled by the building principal.
- Learning Connection website will be updated each grading period for educator access to student growth data for instructional planning purposes.
- Teacher collaboration time will be used at all grade levels for the analysis of student assessment data and planning for instructional adjustments and interventions.
- INOW, InFOCUS, and INOWHealth will be updated on a continuing basis and training opportunities will be coordinated by the Data Services Technician.
- Mobile devices for administrators to use in classroom observations will be provided.
- An assessment tool for use by administrators will be determined and training will be collaborative.
- Headsets will be evaluated & purchased in sufficient quantities for WIDA testing.
- Student Information System (Chalkable INOW) will be transitioned to a vendor-hosted model for better performance and to accommodate growth of data storage requirements.
- Data uploads/imports will be conducted for all online assessment systems at relevant intervals in order to provide accurate, current, and accessible data for teachers.

Goal 3: West Noble will build capacity for reliable access to computing resources for all learners.

Strategies

- West Noble will sustain a student to computer ratio that supports an engaging learning environment and is consistent with instructional best practices and research for age appropriate use.
- West Noble will provide robust building-wide wireless LAN access in all schools.
- West Noble will leverage personally-owned student devices for learning purposes.
- Planning conversations will focus on potential models for achieving and sustaining appropriate student to computer ratios in light of limited funding sources.
- Computing resources for special programs (CAD, Physics, Business, etc.) will be maintained and upgraded as necessary.

Metrics for 2015-16

- WN will sustain a 2:1 ratio of students to computing devices in grades K-4 (WNE & WNP) with the addition of student devices.
- WN will sustain a 1:1 ratio of students to computing devices in grades 5-8 (MS).
- Teachers in 1:1 learning environments will also be provided with access to a mobile device like that of students.
- The stationary labs at WNE will be upgraded with new computers.
- Additional computers will be added to the MS Tech Ed lab to accommodate larger class sizes.
- HS CAD Lab will be upgraded with new hardware and software.
- WN will implement a 1:1 program in grades 9-12 (HS). The goal of the “Charger Up” program is to create a personalized, engaging digital learning environment based on best instructional practices and the needs of WN students.
- As new devices are purchased, licensing for management, antivirus, web filtering, and other per unit licensing costs will be included in the total cost of the device.
- Storage and charging of mobile devices will be made accessible and manageable for building staff.
- Robust building-wide wireless access (access point in every classroom and instructional area) will be installed at WN Middle (grades 5-8), WN Elementary (grades 2-4) and WN Primary (grades K-1) for the 2015-16 school year. All access points are powered over ethernet (POE) and are controlled by a centralized management wireless controller. E-rate funding will be leveraged.

- A 10-gig fiber backbone will be installed to support the wireless network. E-rate funding will be leveraged.
- WN wireless virtual network (wn-guest) will be configured and maintained to allow personally-owned internet capable devices to access the internet at each school.
- A wireless virtual network (wn-mobile) will be configured and maintained in response to increased need for network/internet access for school-owned devices that are not joined to the active directory domain (Chromebooks, Apple products, etc.)
- On an on-going basis, WN educational community will conduct online conversations and share ideas for achieving internet access at home with consideration for the demographics of our WN student population.

Goal 4: West Noble students will access relevant digital content and develop the skills necessary to direct their own learning.

Strategies

- Assessment data will be used to target instructional resources for individualized student learning.
- Curriculum teams will consider various blends of print and online content for instruction.
- Technology Standards (ISTE) and Literacy Standards (AASL) will inform curriculum development.
- Digital citizenship will be purposefully taught to all students and promoted and modeled by all staff.
- Technology tools will be adopted that promote increased productivity, communication, and collaboration in an anytime and anywhere environment.

Metrics for 2015-16

- Professional development will be provided for teachers on new student assessments yet to be determined.
- Decisions regarding curriculum materials, in print or online, will be made by the corporation determined deadline and guided by the ideas of relevance, reliability, and realistic sustainability.
- Technology standards will be indicated in the curriculum guides as guides are updated.
- Literacy standards will be indicated in the curriculum guides as guides are updated.
- Digital citizenship objectives will be developed and embedded in existing courses that reach all students.
- Google Apps for Education (GAFE) will expand to include accounts for all WN students (K-12) with components and functionality appropriate for age level.
- WN teacher leaders will provide professional development for other staff by modeling, team-teaching, and mentoring the use of GAFE tools in instruction.
- To increase communication with the student body and building visitors, digital displays will be installed at WNE and WNHS in areas designated by the principals. Principals will determine who will be content managers and provide time for them to learn the system and create content.

Goal 5: West Noble will maintain and sustain equipment, programs, processes, policies, staffing, and infrastructure for existing successful technology implementation efforts.

Strategies

- WN will increase internet bandwidth ahead of demand.
- WN will stay current with software and subscription licensing renewals.
- WN will upgrade or replace hardware on a realistic cycle that considers functionality foremost.
- WN will increase and upgrade LAN/WLAN capacities as the number of devices increases in order to prevent loss of or decrease in functionality.
- Maintenance schedules will be developed and implemented for all school-owned technology devices.

Metrics for 2015-16

- Internet bandwidth will increase from 100 mbps to 300 mbps to accommodate expected increased demand (e-rate funding will be leveraged).
- Technology Director will complete paperwork to renew existing licensing for software and subscriptions for online services as they come due.
- VMWare/SAN hardware and software (the virtual server environment) will be upgraded during summer of 2015.
- Switches for wired network will be evaluated for functionality and upgraded/replaced as necessary (e-rate funding will be leveraged).
- Summer and student help will be requested in order to accomplish maintenance routines on devices despite limited Technology Department staff.
- Repairs to, and emergency replacements of, existing equipment will be performed as necessary.
- Existing mobile devices (netbooks) will be reimaged with upgraded Windows OS.
- Additional PC/monitor/desk units will be installed in the MS Tech Ed Lab to accommodate larger class sizes.
- 80 computers in labs at WN Elementary will be replaced with new computers before start of 2015-16 school year.
- 17 computers in HS CAD Lab will be replaced and new software installed.
- Teachers' desktop computers will be reimaged where necessary before start of 2016-17 school year with upgraded Windows OS.

School Level Implementation

West Noble Primary (grades K-1) Educators at WNP are allowed and encouraged to use technology tools appropriate for our very youngest students. “Excitement about learning” is a school theme that carries through to the use of technology as well.

Every classroom is equipped with a networked teacher computer, monitor, phone, interactive white board and document/web camera. Networked printing is available throughout the building. A common suite of productivity software is standard on every computer. WNP has one 28-unit stationary computer lab and two mobile labs of 32 netbooks each. A growing fleet of Apple devices has been purchased with grant funds. Network access, including filtered internet access, is available to all students and staff. Wireless access is building-wide and centrally managed. A guest wireless network allows for internet access by Apple and personally-owned devices. Network resources include individual file storage space as well as public shared space. Automated management systems are used for student management, library automation, lunch program automation, and security camera surveillance.

Administrative support for the use of technology is strong. A part-time computer lab para-professional is available for assistance in many facets of technology support.

As indicated in the corporation plan, professional development for staff is varied and, whenever possible, local and led by local leaders. Collaboration time built into the school day makes sustained professional development possible. Professional development takes place in small groups during the regular school day.

West Noble Elementary (grades 2-4) Educators at WNE are allowed and encouraged to use technology tools appropriate for upper elementary age-level students. Technology tools are strongly focused on curricular goals and providing assessment data for teachers to use to effectively adapt instruction.

Every classroom is equipped with a networked teacher computer, monitor, phone, ceiling-mounted projector, interactive tablet, and access to document/web cameras. Networked printing is available throughout the building. A common suite of productivity software is standard on every computer. WNE has two stationary labs, each capable of accommodating current class sizes. There are eight mobile labs of 32 netbooks each and one mobile lab of 30 Chromebooks. Network access, including filtered internet access, is available to all students and staff. Wireless access is building-wide and centrally managed. A guest wireless network allows for internet access by personally-owned devices. Network resources include individual file storage space as well as public shared

space. Every staff and student has a WN-managed Google account providing email and many other productivity, communication, and collaboration tools. Automated management systems are used for student management, library automation, lunch program automation, and security camera surveillance.

Administrative support for the use of technology is strong. A part-time computer lab para-professional is available for assistance in many facets of technology support.

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West Noble Middle School (grades 5-8) WNMS operates in many practical ways as two schools in one, with a grade 5-6 and 7-8 split. These two groups operate on different bell schedules, providing the ability to better target the needs of each age group. Teachers have worked very hard over the last several years, under the strong leadership of the administrative team, to use assessment data effectively to inform instruction and allow increased options to specifically address each child's needs. These changes have also provided for increased teacher collaboration time that allows teachers to also focus on our special populations – English Language Learners, Special Education, and High Ability, in particular.

Every classroom is equipped with a networked teacher computer, monitor, phone, ceiling-mounted projector, interactive tablet, and access to document/web cameras. Networked printing is available throughout the building. A common suite of productivity software is standard on every computer. WNMS has three stationary labs, each capable of accommodating current class sizes. Every regular and Special Education classroom has a mobile lab of at least 30 devices (netbooks or Chromebooks). The Library Media Center provides additional stationary and mobile student computers and encourages use of eReaders, both personal and school provided. Network access, including filtered internet access, is available to all students and staff. Wireless access is building-wide with an access point in every classroom that is centrally managed. A guest wireless network allows for internet access by personally-owned devices. Network resources include individual file storage space as well as public shared space. Every staff and student has a WN-managed Google account providing email and many other productivity, communication, and collaboration tools. Automated management systems are used for student management, library automation, lunch program automation, and security camera surveillance.

The WNMS Administrative Team strongly supports the use of technology and purposefully models it every day. The school emphasis on student engagement and accountability for learning is supported by technology decisions.

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West Noble High School (grades 9-12) WNHS is now a 1:1 school with each student having a personal internet capable computing device (Chromebook) and the Google suite of educational tools. Additionally, WNHS allows students and staff to bring their own devices and connect to the wireless guest network.

Every classroom is equipped with a networked teacher computer, monitor, phone, ceiling-mounted projector, interactive tablet, and access to document/web cameras. Each teacher is issued a mobile device like that provided to students. Networked printing is available throughout the building. A common suite of productivity software is standard on every computer. WNHS has four specialty labs: CAD, Physics, Writing, and Business. The Library Media Center provides additional stationary and mobile student computers. Network access, including filtered internet access, is available to all students and staff. Wireless access is building-wide and centrally managed. A guest wireless network allows for internet access by personally-owned devices. Network resources include individual file storage space as well as public shared space. Every staff and student has a WN-managed Google account providing email and many other productivity, communication, and collaboration tools. Automated management systems are used for student management, library automation, lunch program automation, and security camera surveillance.

The WNHS Administrative Team strongly supports the use of technology and purposefully models it every day. Core curricular areas are considering more online content and digital resources as they transition to new state standards and increased digital learning.

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