

District Information

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Prior Plan Narrative

To a large degree, City Charter High School has succeeded at the goals stated in its original technology plan. All of the technology that was described in the initial technology plan was implemented as described.

Goal 1 - Academic Achievement: Indications from our first graduating class (2006) are that students are achieving academically at City High.

- Met overall and subgroup goals on the 2006 PSSA in math, reading, and writing
- Consistently meets or exceeds national norms on the rigorous New Standards examination
- 89.4% graduation rate for the first graduating class
- 79 out of 93 graduating seniors were accepted into a 4 year, 2 year, or certification program.
- Student ratings of their preparation for college, ability to use technology, and developing clear career goals and workplace skills exceeded national averages

Goal 2 - Workforce Readiness

- The senior class had 297 Microsoft Office Specialist certifications, a valuable workplace credential
- All graduating seniors successfully completed an internship of 130+ hours. 67% of workplace mentors rated their performance as excellent (plus 23% as satisfactory)

Goal 3 - Model School: City Charter High School was just renewed for an additional 5 year charter from the Pittsburgh Public Schools. The PPS report indicated that the school is a model for other schools in the district. The school is also in the process of seeking Middle States Accreditation. Finally, the school is being solicited to become a member of the Schools That Work national consortium.

Goal 4 - Communication: The school has fully implemented the SIS program "The Dashboard". The program is used by all parents, students, teachers and staff. It provides a comprehensive system for managing student data, instruction, grades, attendance, etc.

The one barrier to full implementation of the initial technology plan pertained to the Dashboard system. The company that created the software went out of business one year ago. This set back the development of the program. City High retains the license to the software and is currently developing it with a new vendor and a few other school districts. This problem (although overcome) set back the data reporting and analysis features that were articulated in the initial tech plan.

Mission and Vision Statement

The MISSION of City Charter High School, a technology infused public school, is to graduate students who are academically, technologically, personally and socially prepared to succeed in post-secondary education or training. Using a team approach, City High cultivates a safe, supportive and academically rigorous environment by recognizing and nurturing individual talents, needs and skills.

The VISION of City Charter High School is that of a 21st century school that changes the traditional learning environments for students and teachers. The school model is based on the best educational practices, industry and academic partnerships, organizational innovations and technological advances.

Goals & Strategies

This technology plan spans the fiscal years: July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2010

Goal - City High students will demonstrate the academic skills necessary to be both culturally and scientifically literate.

Strategy - Students will be able to communicate orally with proficiency.

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace video displays and Smartboards as needed on an annual basis.

Budget: 7000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget

Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace microphones, speakers, recording devices, digital cameras and digital video cameras as needed on an annual basis.

Budget: 6000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget

Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will be able to communicate through writing with proficiency.

Technology/Service - Purchase laptops for all freshmen.

Budget: 200000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget

Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace laser printers as needed.

Budget: 8000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace servers to manage student files as needed.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Upgrade writing software including MS Word and Adobe PDF writer.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Funds Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will be able to conduct research and manage extended projects with proficiency.

Technology/Service - Purchase Internet Access.

Budget: 50000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source: Erate

Technology/Service - Annually maintain and replace LAN and server support that allows for portfolio development and project management.

Budget: 20000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source: Erate

Technology/Service - Provide online and laptop based databases.

Budget: 5000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Funds Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will be able to problem solve complex problems and present their solutions in all classes.

Technology/Service - Provide students with upgraded software including MS Word, Publisher, Excel, Access, Outlook, Encarta and online databases.

Budget: 30000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Professional Development

City Charter High School has a state approved induction and professional development plan that provides multiple opportunities for staff to grow at using technology to meet academic goals. This includes:

- Providing teachers with opportunities to work with Master teachers on how to promote oral, written and extended projects at a proficient level.
- Attending workshops on how to use digital recording, cameras and video equipment.
- Developing a research program and provide staff development to all teachers on how to use technology to conduct online research. All workshops are open to the entire faculty. The workshop schedule is created via a faculty survey by the school's education manager. These workshops would be taught by in school faculty. There is no additional cost for in-school professional development. Outside professional development for teachers is provided via conferences and workshops. The school has

funding set aside for this purpose in its operating budget.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation of this goal is built into the programming at the school. Students are constantly evaluated on their oral, written and research proficiency within courses. Research and project management are measured as part of the school's mandatory Graduation Project. There is no additional cost to monitor and evaluate this goal.

Goal - Students will have clearly articulated academic and career plans that focus on the connection between school and post-secondary careers. Graduates will demonstrate proficiency at the workforce competencies and interpersonal skills necessary to succeed.

Strategy - Students will demonstrate they they are punctual and have high attendance rates.

Technology/Service - Provide SIS that reports accurate attendance and tardiness.

Budget: 4000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will wear proper attire.

Technology/Service - Provide SIS functionality to record workforce readiness related to attire.

Budget: 4000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will demonstrate that they are proficient at time management.

Technology/Service - Provide SIS functionality to record workforce readiness related to time management.

Budget: 4000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Strategy - Students will demonstrate both individual responsibility and the ability to work in teams.

Technology/Service - Provide SIS functionality to record workforce readiness related to responsibility and teamwork.

Budget: 4000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Professional Development

From a technology perspective, staff all use the SIS system "The Dashboard" daily. Support is provided on an as needed basis by the school's Education Manager and/or school technology support person.

The school is seeking ways to provide additional support for teacher/advisors pertaining to college and post high school counseling. The school plans to hire a consultant/counselor to help with this. Professional Development will be provided in house. The cost of the consultant/counselor is in the school's

operating budget.

Monitoring/Evaluation

It is the school's Education Manager's responsibility to monitor and evaluate this goal. The Education Manager receives feedback through the school's leadership team which includes master teachers and administrators.

Goal - City Charter High School will demonstrate a scalable, sustainable and replicable model for a 21st century school.
century urban high school that is aligned with a technology-driven economy.

Strategy - Implement an innovative academic program that promotes high achievement among all students.

Technology/Service - Purchase workstations and software for technology electives including programming, MOS, A+ certification, video editing, digital media.

Budget: 20000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Implement and maintain a Web filtering system that limits student access to inappropriate information.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Strategy - Implement an organizational structure that promotes shared decision making and buy-in from all staff.

Technology/Service - Provide an easy to use and powerful email system.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Provide a comprehensive SIS for parents, students and staff.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Strategy - Maintain a physical plant that is conducive to learning and reflects modern work environments.

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace WAN/LAN equipment.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source: Erate

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace Security Equipment (CATV, Card Swipe, cameras and recording equipment)

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Maintain and replace Network Servers and Backup Equipment.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Funds Funding Source: Erate

Strategy - Provide staffing patterns, support mechanisms, and professional development that supports increased student achievement as well as commitment to school goals and objectives.

Technology/Service - Provide SIS data analysis and reporting capability for decision making.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Provide support personnel for the school's network and technology.

Budget: 35000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Contract with consultants for server and network support.

Budget: 5000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Professional Development

City Charter High School provides professional development to all staff during monthly half day workshops, and 6 full day workshops during the year. A number of those workshops pertain to use of technology based systems such as the school's dashboard (SIS), email and networks. The cost of this professional development is accounted for in the school's operating budget.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Feedback regarding our basic technology infrastructure (WAN/LAN, servers, email) is immediate. The schools network has a 5 year record of downtime which is less then 2%.

Goal - City Charter High School will provide all stakeholders - staff, students, parents, funders, other educators and the general community - with accurate, appropriate and relevant information pertaining to its operation and achievement.

Strategy - Implement a web site - <http://www.cityhigh.org> - that provides up-to-date information to stakeholders.

Technology/Service - Maintain Web Server.

Budget: 6000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Implement a student information system that provides teachers, parents, students and administrators with access to grades, assignments, attendance and calendars in an efficient and powerful fashion.

Budget: 20000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Provide data based reporting and analysis mechanisms to administration and faculty for informing instructional and organizational decision making.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget Funding Source:

Technology/Service - Provide a robust email and voicemail communication system for staff and students.

Budget: 10000.0000

Funding Source: School Operating Budget

Funding Source: Erate

Professional Development

Students, Parents and Staff are provided with workshops on the schools SIS system - "The Dashboard", the MS Exchange Email system and the schools website. Also there is immediate phone support provided. The cost of professional development for the SIS system is accounted for in the school's operating budget.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation is the responsibility of the school's Education Manager. He is supported in this effort through the school's leadership team comprised of administrators and master teachers.
