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# Technology Planning Team Members

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Dora Carmon, High School Guidance Counselor, Parent  
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Kell Hicks, Student Representative  
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Steve Kempf, Assistant High School Principal  
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Myron Martin, Community Volunteer, Dow Chemical Co., Grandparent  
William Nichols, Primary Principal, Parent  
Dr. Samuel Sells, Superintendent  
Cathy Skiver, Primary Teacher, Parent  
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Robyn Thomas, Community Volunteer, EnCompass Solutions,Ltd., Parent

# Introduction

## Wheelersburg Local School District's Commitment to School Improvement

The primary purpose of the technology plan is to provide direction for the future use of technology for learning and teaching in the Wheelersburg Local School District.

***In times of change, the learners inherit the earth; while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists.  
— Eric Hoffer***

It was abundantly clear to the technology study team consisting of students, teachers, administrators, school board members, community business leaders, and parents that systemic change must occur if the Wheelersburg Local School District is to successfully prepare its students for the twenty-first century.

The technology study team developed both vision and mission statements. The process of developing these statements led to the premise that learning must be enhanced by technology; therefore, the need for a technology plan.

This vision and mission led the team to focus on curriculum, academic and social development and learning environments that include students, staff, and the community. This focus empowers all participants to be involved in lifelong learning opportunities. For each area, the question asked was: How could learning be enhanced with technology? The answer to this question led to the development of three broad goals: Educational, Professional Development, and Community.

Based on the technology plan, the study team recommends that the direction for future use of technology to support learning focus on:

1. Enhancement of student learning — all must be taught the skills necessary to access, analyze, apply, create, and communicate information electronically.

2. Empowerment of students and educators to more efficiently create and effectively manage productive learning environments that include all the emerging digital technologies:

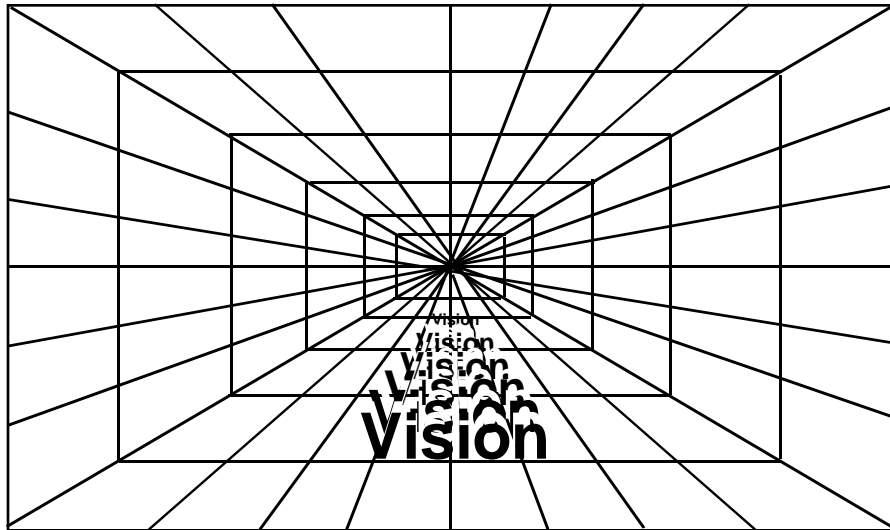
- ◆ microcomputers
- ◆ mainframes
- ◆ on-line databases
- ◆ distance learning
- ◆ cable TV
- ◆ modems
- ◆ CD-ROMs
- ◆ laptops
- ◆ networking
- ◆ facsimile transmission
- ◆ satellite
- ◆ microwave
- ◆ videodiscs
- ◆ electronic card catalogue

3. Enabling teachers to take a more flexible, more innovative instructional approach with electronic technology providing the means to gather great quantities of information and communicate over great distances in text, sound, graphics, and video, irrespective of time and space.

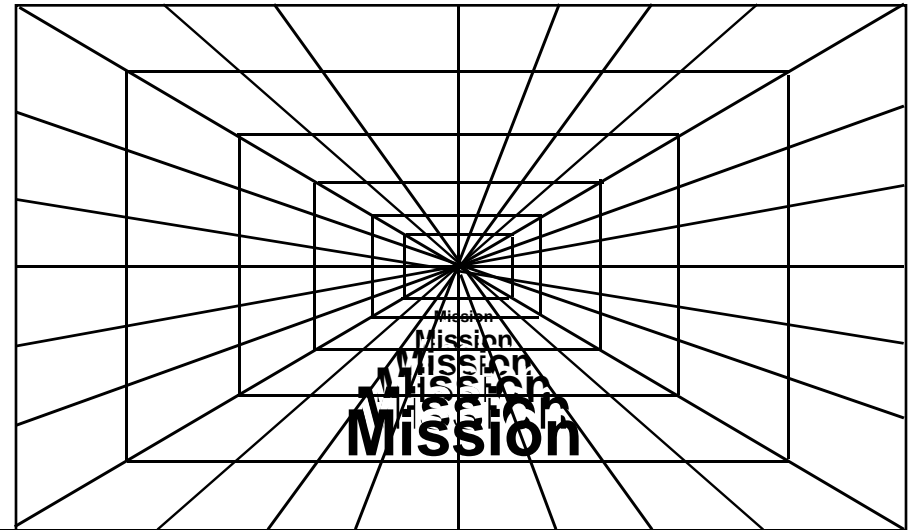
The team recognizes that the use of technology must be encouraged, implemented, and supported for school restructuring to be successful.

It is imperative that the Wheelersburg Local School District have a technology plan that ensures the most effective use of the district's resources. To this end, the study team developed mission and vision statements along with goals, an action plan, and provisions for evaluation. This plan is intended as just one part of a dynamic blueprint for systemic change. As such, we must review, refine, revise, and rewrite it as necessary to keep it current.

***If American schools continue along the business as usual path in the next decade, we will find public schools have become technological and intellectual ghettos for a predominant poor, disadvantaged, and minority population.  
— Lewis Perlmén***



The Wheelersburg Local School District is a progressive educational enterprise utilizing diverse technologies to enhance the curriculum and the academic and social development of students, staff, and community.



The Wheelersburg Local School District is dedicated to providing a learning environment that empowers students, staff, and community to be productive participants and lifelong learners in an ever changing society.

# District Goals

## Educational Goals

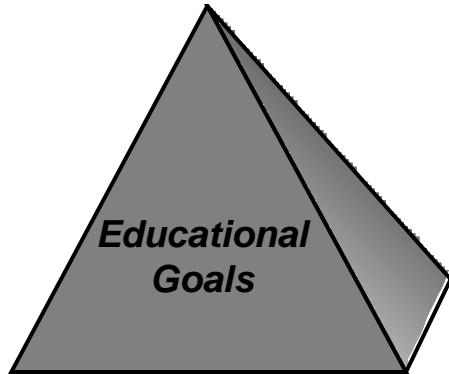
- ① Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.
- ② Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.
- ③ Enhance the teaching process through access to a variety of technologies.
- ④ Improve time management.
- ⑤ Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.
- ⑥ Outreach to the community.
- ⑦ Outreach to other schools.

## Professional Development Goals

- ⑧ Promote strategic on-going professional development.
- ⑨ Ensure equitable access to professional development opportunities.
- ⑩ Use multilevel approach with local, regional, statewide, and national components.

## Community Goals

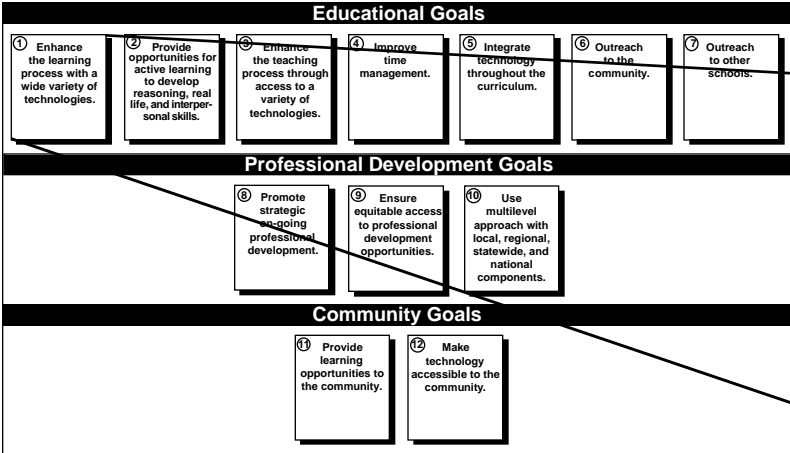
- ⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.
- ⑫ Make technology accessible to the community.



## ***Educational Goals***

The education of our students is the ultimate goal for our involvement as a team in the development of this technology plan. We believe that technology can be used to improve what is taught and learned and how it is taught and learned.

# Educational Goals



**1 Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.**

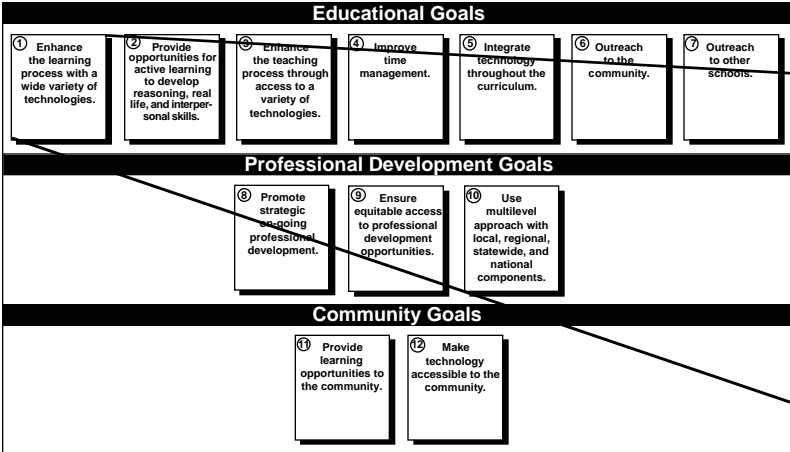
## Objectives

- 1.1 Provide a district-wide network.
- 1.2 Implement various technologies into each classroom.
- 1.3 Provide access to information stored in a variety of media.

## Action Steps

- 1.1.1 Survey all buildings to determine uncabled classrooms.
- 1.1.2 Cable all rooms in all buildings. (K-4)
- 1.1.3 Connect buildings with fiber optic cable.
- 1.2.1 Survey current technologies within the district.
- 1.2.2 Prepare a list of recommended hardware (H/W) per classroom.
- 1.2.3 Design a classroom configuration(s).
- 1.2.4 Purchase recommended H/W for each room (may be accomplished via phased approach).
- 1.2.5 Purchase appropriate furniture for classroom.
- 1.3.1 Locate different resources and reference materials available in a variety of formats.
- 1.3.2 Establish remote modem access to the LAN (current file servers).
- 1.3.3 Establish Internet connections in each classroom for use by all students and teachers.
- 1.3.4 Provide classes on information access and management.
- 1.3.5 Purchase electronic resources, e.g. CD-ROMs and periodical indexing services.

# Educational Goals



**1 Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.**

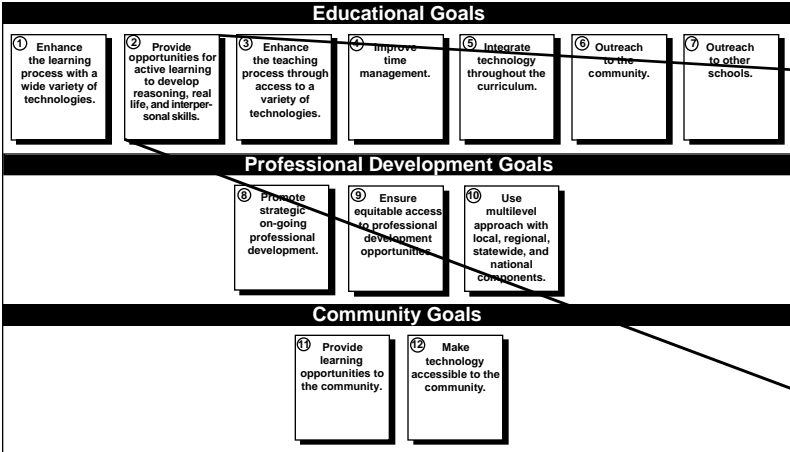
## Objectives

- 1.4 Establish a technology-rich Instructional Materials Center (IMC) in each building.
- 1.5 Develop a committee (representative of all areas of the school district) chaired by the Technology Coordinator, to make recommendations for hardware (H/W) and software (S/W) purchases.

## Action Steps

- 1.4.1 Install a media distribution system in each building of the district.
- 1.4.2 Install tower CD-ROM servers.
- 1.4.3 Purchase student workstations and peripherals for use in each building's IMC.
- 1.4.4 Acquire appropriate materials to supplement existing curriculum.
- 1.4.5 Subscribe to a periodical full-text indexing service.
- 1.4.6 Acquire resource materials, i.e. on CD-ROM, for student research.
- 1.4.7 Subscribe to appropriate on-line services.
- 1.4.8 Automate the circulation and card catalog in each building's IMC.
- 1.5.1 Conduct survey to determine committee interest.
- 1.5.2 Develop committees as needed to select H/W and S/W.
- 1.5.3 Develop H/W and S/W checklist.

# Educational Goals



**2** *Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.*

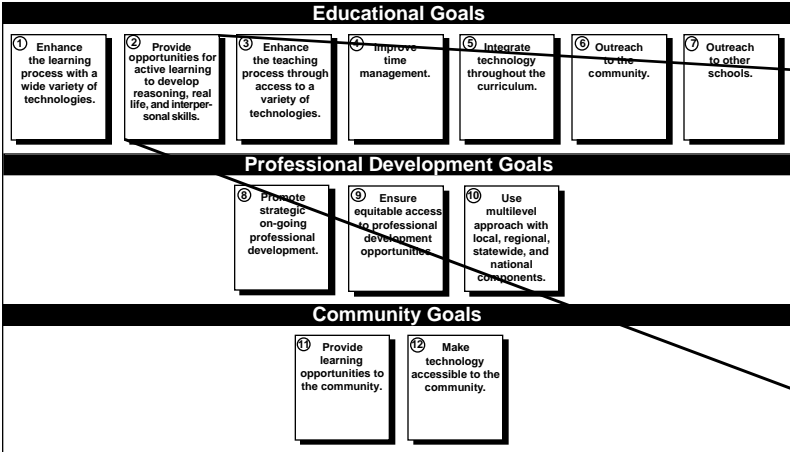
## Objectives

- 2.1 Provide networked classrooms to allow for grouping of students.
- 2.2 Improve career awareness opportunities.
- 2.3 Implement alternative assessments as part of the grading process.

## Action Steps

- 2.1.1 Complete building network by wiring all classrooms.
- 2.1.2 Purchase five workstations per room as per the classroom configuration established in 1.1.3.
- 2.1.3 Provide teacher training opportunities in grouping and curriculum.
- 2.1.4 Create opportunities for working collaboratively.
- 2.2.1 Establish E-mail contacts with adults on the job who are willing to correspond with students.
- 2.2.2 Arrange community contacts.
- 2.2.3 Formulate a database of contact information.
- 2.2.4 Acquire appropriate S/W.
- 2.2.5 Maintain OCIS services provided by the A-Site.
- 2.2.6 Establish career days/evenings.
- 2.3.1 In-service teachers on alternative assessments.
- 2.3.2 Provide resource material for teachers.
- 2.3.3 Acquire appropriate S/W.

# Educational Goals



**2** *Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.*

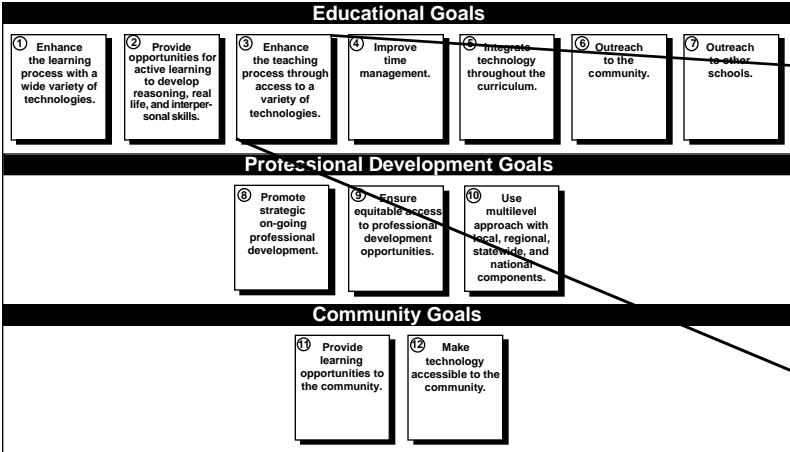
## Objectives

- 2.4 Implement mentorship opportunities.
- 2.5 Implement co-op opportunities.
- 2.6 Establish collaborative efforts with other school districts.

## Action Steps

- 2.4.1 Contact area businesses willing to offer mentorships.
- 2.4.2 Prepare database of contact information.
- 2.4.3 Establish guidelines for the program.
- 2.4.4 Select participants.
- 2.4.5 Provide coordinator for the project.
- 2.4.6 Establish means of acknowledging and/or recognizing participants.
- 2.5.1 Contact businesses willing to participate in the co-op program.
- 2.5.2 Prepare database of contact information.
- 2.5.3 Establish guidelines for the program.
- 2.5.4 Select participants.
- 2.5.5 Provide coordinator for the project.
- 2.5.6 Establish means of acknowledging and/or recognizing participants.
- 2.6.1 Identify other school districts capable and willing to work jointly on projects.
- 2.6.2 Develop joint projects.
- 2.6.3 Determine physical and personnel requirements for the projects.
- 2.6.4 Implement projects.

# Educational Goals



**3** Enhance the teaching process through access to a variety of technologies.

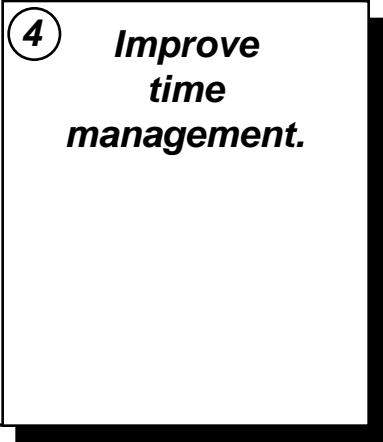
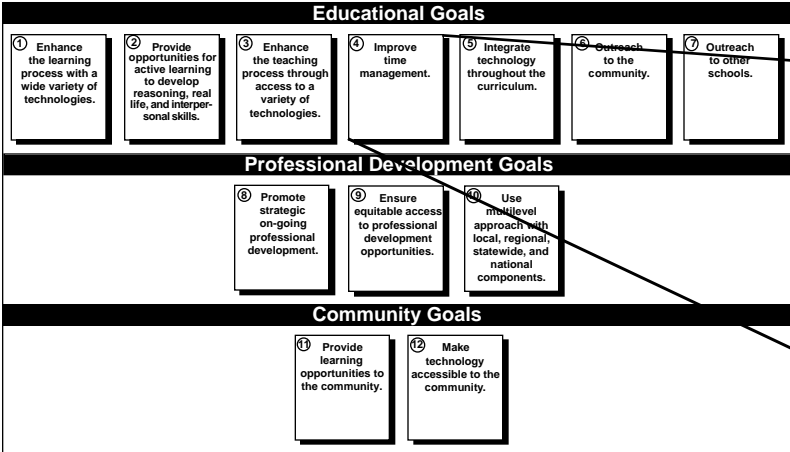
## Objectives

- 3.1 Provide teachers with workstations at their desks.
- 3.2 Permit checkout of computers to teachers.
- 3.3 Provide a variety of professional development opportunities for teachers.

## Action Steps

- 3.1.1 Seek funding to purchase necessary H/W based on classroom configuration shown in the Appendix (network configuration).
- 3.1.2 Purchase H/W.
- 3.1.3 Provide appropriate in-service.
- 3.2.1 Purchase a minimum of four laptop computers per building.
- 3.2.2 Establish a checkout system through the library.
- 3.2.3 Provide required S/W.
- 3.2.4 Establish connectivity with school, so school work can be done at home.
- 3.3.1 Provide time and funding for school visits.
- 3.3.2 Provide stipends for weekend and summer professional development.
- 3.3.3 Provide time for teacher mentors.
- 3.3.4 Create a professional library emphasizing technology in education for teachers.

# Educational Goals



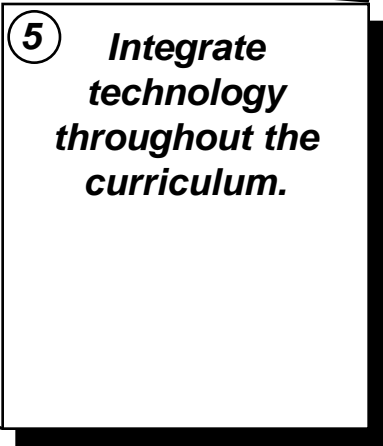
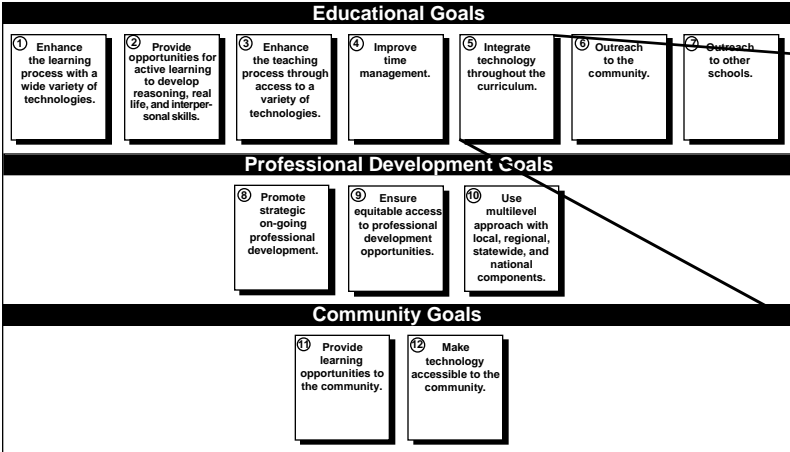
## Objectives

- 4.1 Keep attendance records through the use of the computer.
- 4.2 Provide teacher utility S/W to facilitate clerical tasks, including test preparation.
- 4.3 Enable students to research and access information to better use the scheduled school day.

## Action Steps

- 4.1.1 In-service teachers on attendance software.
- 4.1.2 Provide needed S/W.
- 4.1.3 Require attendance records be kept on the computer.
- 4.2.1 Purchase needed S/W.
- 4.2.2 In-service teachers on the S/W.
- 4.3.1 Provide reference CD-ROM.
- 4.3.2 Provide access to Internet in all rooms.
- 4.3.3 Provide five (5) computer stations in each room.
- 4.3.4 Provide on-line access to research services. The SIRS system at the high school will be added to the network.

# Educational Goals



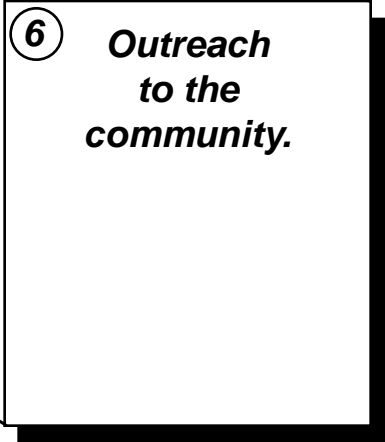
## Objectives

- 5.1 Develop a plan for the integration of technology into the curriculum.
- 5.2 Provide appropriate teacher training.
- 5.3 Provide equitable access to equipment.
- 5.4 Facilitate the implementation of interdisciplinary curriculum

## Action Steps

- 5.1.1 Hold departmental meetings.
- 5.1.2 Hold cross-curricular meetings.
- 5.1.3 Require at least two technology integrated units of study per semester.
- 5.1.4 Arrange flexible schedules to accommodate multidisciplinary units.
- 5.2.1 Provide in-service opportunities, specifically for curriculum integration.
- 5.3.1 Provide at least one classroom per department or grade level, networked based on the classroom configuration shown in the Appendix (network configuration).
- 5.3.2 Inventory S/W in the district on a regular basis.
- 5.3.3 Store documented and archived S/W in a single secure location.
- 5.4.1 Explore new class structures and time schedules to accommodate interdisciplinary curriculum.

# Educational Goals



## Objectives

- 6.1 Extend the community volunteer program.
- 6.2 Implement a community resource network.
- 6.3 Extend the boundaries of learning.
- 6.4 Work with the community to provide services in exchange for in-kind services.

## Action Steps

- 6.1.1 Find volunteers.
- 6.1.2 Find willing business participants.
- 6.1.3 Set up rules and regulations of this program.
- 6.1.4 Train teacher-counselors to instruct volunteers on interacting with students while at school.
- 6.2.1 Make contacts with community civic organizations.
- 6.2.2 Prepare a database of resource people willing to contribute along with the topic or way in which they can be most useful.
- 6.3.1 Establish home access of the district network.
- 6.3.2 Set up school connections with outside resources.
- 6.3.3 Set up tutoring programs.
- 6.3.4 Open IMC for evening use.
- 6.3.5 Seek alternative scheduling.
- 6.3.6 Establish classes on information access and management.
- 6.3.7 Provide distance learning opportunities
- 6.4.1 Make contact with local businesses and agencies.
- 6.4.2 Prepare guidelines for the program.
- 6.4.3 Implement the program.

# Educational Goals

Educational Goals						
① Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.	② Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.	③ Enhance the teaching process through access to a variety of technologies.	④ Improve time management.	⑤ Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.	⑥ Outreach to the community.	⑦ Outreach to other schools.
Professional Development Goals						
⑧ Promote strategic on-going professional development.	⑨ Ensure equitable access to professional development opportunities.	⑩ Use multilevel approach with local, regional, statewide, and national components.				
Community Goals						
⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.	⑫ Make technology accessible to the community.					

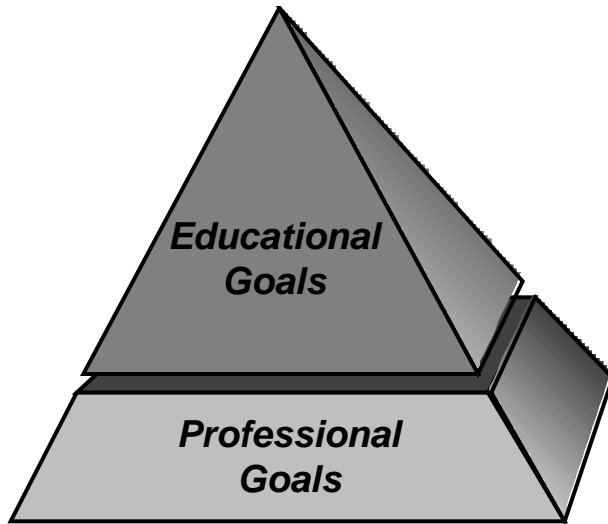
**⑦ Outreach to other schools.**

## Objectives

7.1 Establish telecommunication programs that involve multidistrict collaboration.

## Action Steps

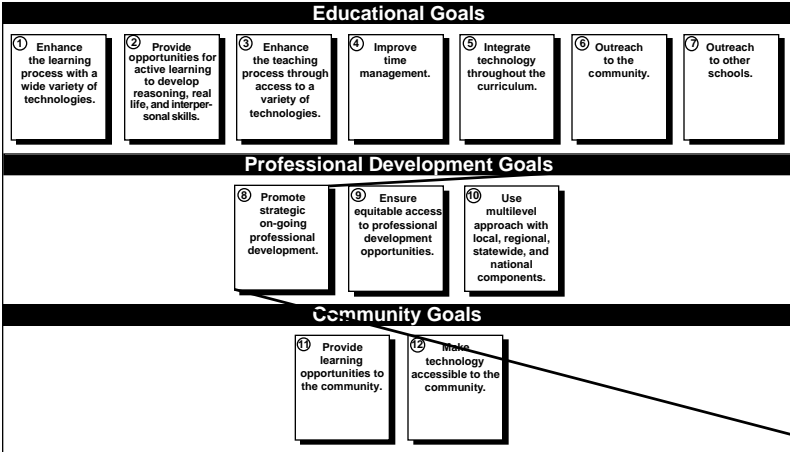
- 7.1.1 Contact other school districts to find other school districts willing to work on joint telecommunication projects.
- 7.1.2 Establish interactive distance learning through fiber optics classes.
- 7.1.3 Contact post-secondary schools to find ones willing to participate in joint projects.



## ***Professional Goals***

The effective use of technology is directly dependent on the ability of the professional staff to use and incorporate it throughout the curriculum. Providing professional development becomes a key component to successful integration.

# Professional Development Goals



**8** *Promote strategic on-going professional development.*

## Objectives

- 8.1 Integrate technology to facilitate learning
- 8.2 Provide mechanism for staff communications.
- 8.3 Provide adequate time for professional development.

## Action Steps

- 8.1.1 All teachers are encouraged to use a professional development day for technology training.
- 8.1.2 Increase technical expertise through in-services.
- 8.2.1 Develop an in-school electronic newsletter and local e-mail
- 8.3.1 Apply for 3—one-half day early dismissals for technology training through the Ohio Department of Education.
- 8.3.2 Develop summer and or evening programs involving community

# Professional Development Goals

Educational Goals						
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Community Goals						
⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.			⑫ Make technology accessible to the community.			

**9** *Ensure equitable access to professional development opportunities.*

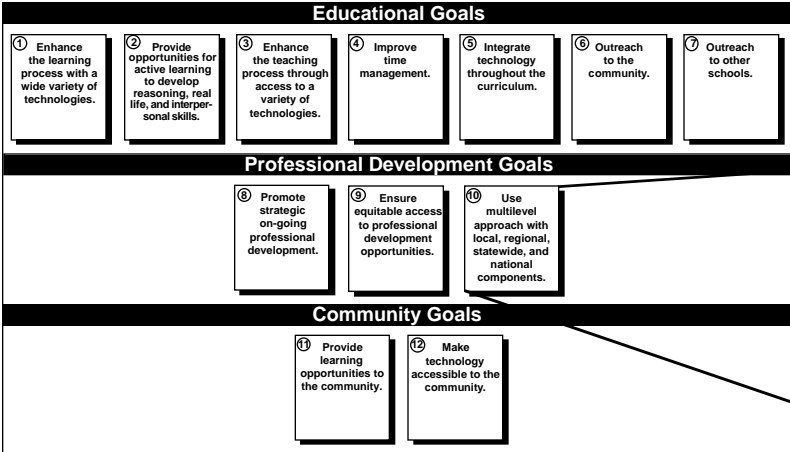
## Objectives

- 9.1 Provide flexible scheduling for professional development.
- 9.2 Provide appropriate training across curriculum.

## Action Steps

- 9.1.1 Provide in-services that fit schedules of all staff members.
- 9.2.1 Schedule in-services in all curriculum and grade level areas and job responsibilities.
- 9.2.2 Solicit community for trainers.
- 9.2.3 Use current teacher-facilitators to provide training on current H/W and S/W.

# Professional Development Goals



## Objectives

10.1 Provide a full-time Technology Coordinator.

## Action Steps

- 10.1.1 Develop a job description for the position.
- 10.1.2 Advertise and fill the position.
- 10.1.3 Establish training opportunities for students and staff.



## ***Community Goals***

The Team recognizes that our Community provides the structural support to build a progressive educational system. The active involvement of the Community within the educational process is critical to the development of life-long learners who are adeptly equipped to become leaders in a changing world.

# Community Goals

Educational Goals						
① Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.	② Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.	③ Enhance the teaching process through access to a variety of technologies.	④ Improve time management.	⑤ Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.	⑥ Outreach to the community.	⑦ Outreach to other schools.
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Community Goals						
⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.			⑫ Make technology accessible to the community.			

**⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.**

## Objectives

- 11.1 Provide access to current technology to existing community programs.
- 11.2 Establish a community education program.

## Action Steps

- 11.1.1 Allow access to computer lab during adult basic education classes.
- 11.2.1 Assess educational needs of the community concerning technology.
- 11.2.2 Develop a list of courses and instructors.
- 11.2.3 Advertise availability of classes.

# Community Goals

Educational Goals						
① Enhance the learning process with a wide variety of technologies.	② Provide opportunities for active learning to develop reasoning, real life, and interpersonal skills.	③ Enhance the teaching process through access to a variety of technologies.	④ Improve time management.	⑤ Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.	⑥ Outreach to the community.	⑦ Outreach to other schools.
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Community Goals						
⑪ Provide learning opportunities to the community.			⑫ Make technology accessible to the community.			

**12**

**Make technology accessible to the community.**

## Objectives

- 12.1 Develop information brochures.
- 12.2 Develop a plan which allows the community the chance to use technological equipment.

## Action Steps

- 12.1.1 Compile a list of items available to the community.
- 12.1.2 Create brochures and distribute them throughout the community.
- 12.2.1 Designate and publicize open times for community use.

# Assessment and Evaluation

## Measurement of Progress Against Goals

The assessment and evaluation of the plan must be capable of generating information for making any needed adjustment to the action steps. This will ensure the quality and viability of the plan. The district will make a concerted effort to ensure that both quality and viability are addressed during the assessment and evaluation process. The district will use the data generated to improve the educational enterprise in Wheelersburg, Ohio.

This district plan for educational technology is a dynamic blueprint for systemic change. Therefore, we must review, refine, revise, and rewrite it as necessary to keep it viable. This requires that we examine it periodically to determine its continued effectiveness. The plan includes action steps that will indicate whether each of the goals is being met in the specified manner. Provisions for making necessary adjustments to the plan will ensure that the

technology is available and effectively used to enhance the teaching/learning process through instruction, professional development, and community involvement.

Considering the rate at which new technologies (fiber optics, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, etc.) are being developed, assessment and evaluation needs to address a host of issues relative to technology development and cost. The development of new knowledge about the learning process suggests that we examine the goals and objectives of the plan in a manner designed to include these new understandings. It is imperative, therefore, that we consider how we learn, what structures promote learning, and what technologies are available to enhance the learning process. We can then perform a comprehensive assessment of the technology plan.

*Wheelersburg Local School  
District  
Technology Plan*

