

GCHS Three Year Technology Plan (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017)

School Mission Statement:

Gloucester Catholic High School empowers young men and women to become faithful citizens and to develop in all aspects of life: spiritual, intellectual, moral, emotional, social and physical.

Our goal is that our graduates continue their education and carry with them a guide for Catholic Christian living: vibrant faith, respect for human dignity, strong belief in the values of family, promotion of justice, service to community and country, and the desire to make a positive difference in society.

Gloucester Catholic High School is enriched by a legacy of Catholic tradition spanning four generations. We draw strength and inspiration from our past as we make an exceptional Catholic education available and accessible to our future leaders.

Technology Vision Statement:

Gloucester Catholic High School strives to help our students grow and succeed in all aspects of their lives. Our goal is that our graduates continue their education and carry with them a guide for Catholic Christian living: vibrant faith, respect for human dignity, strong belief in the values of family, promotion of justice, service to community and country, and the desire to make a positive difference in society.

Within the broader scope of this mission, Gloucester Catholic views this technology plan as one method of supporting, sustaining and challenging the students and faculty of GCHS in their ongoing efforts to become Catholic, vital and excellent. It is our desire that this plan provides the technology to enhance instruction and learning, while providing the Catholic, ethical framework in which to evaluate information and become true, life-long learners.

Technology Inventory:

Gloucester Catholic has a Windows-based local domain connected to the Internet with a 100 Mbps downstream/ 20 Mbps upstream cable connection. All three of our buildings are connected to a single local area network (LAN). The local network has a DNS/authentication server, a file/print server, a proxy/firewall server, and a local web server. All servers and workstations have the latest version of AVG network edition anti-virus software. All switches are at least 100Mbps.

Most classrooms at GCHS currently have a Dell OptiPlex 380 computer (2.9GHz Pentium Core 2 Duo processor, 3GB RAM, 160GB SATA Hard Drive, DVD+/-RW drive) with Windows 7 OS and Microsoft Office Professional 2010 loaded on them. All classrooms have an LCD projector and a working network/Internet connection. Fifty percent of the classrooms currently have SMARTboard whiteboards in them.

There are two computer labs at GCHS. The primary lab has 33 Dell OptiPlex 330 computers (Dual Core 2.00GHz processor, 2GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, CD-ROM drive) with Windows 7 OS and Microsoft Office Professional 2010 software. The secondary lab has 25 Dell OptiPlex 320 computers (Dual Core 1.6GHz processor, 1GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, CD-ROM drive) with Windows 7 OS and Microsoft Office (various editions) loaded on them.

There are approximately 15 computers available for student use in the Media Center.

All office staff have newer workstations with Windows 7 Pro OS and Office suites.

All network access is controlled with network logon credentials. All classroom, lab and Media Center workstations are monitored with real-time, visual monitoring software, as well as having Internet activity logged on a proxy server. The proxy/firewall appliance is CIPA-compliant.

Technology Implementation Plan

Gloucester Catholic High School (GCHS) has developed this technology plan in order to provide a set of guiding principles for the training of faculty and staff, refinement of instructional programs and teaching strategies, acquisition/maintenance of hardware and software, and utilization of resources within the arena of educational technology. A Technology Committee has been formed in order to help develop and refine goals and recommend specific actions that need to be taken in the short- and long-term to meet those goals.

Broad Technology Goals:

- Students will attain the educational technology and information literacy skills that will assist them in keeping pace with any applicable Content Standards and to succeed in the workplace of the 21st century.
- Educators will attain the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively use educational technology to assist students to achieve in a manner consistent with applicable Curriculum Content Standards.
- Students, teachers and administrators will have access to educational technology in all learning environments, including classrooms and other educational settings such as media centers.
- GCHS will establish and maintain the technology infrastructure necessary for students and educators to access electronic information and to communicate via technology.

Preliminary Action Plan, 2014-2015

Following are the action steps which the Technology Committee believes can/should be started or completed during the 2014-2015 academic year. These actions lay the foundation for our other long-term plans.

- Encourage faculty and staff to attend technology-related seminars, workshops and conferences.
- Install and configure basic WiFi infrastructure in our buildings.
- Install new server, to handle internal web portal, DNS, and print services
- Continue subscription to on-line video resource – DiscoveryEducation.com
- Re-new anti-virus software license
- Disseminate the GCHS Tech Plan to faculty and staff.
- Post the GCHS Tech Plan on the gchsrams.org website

Action Plan for Years 2015-2016, 2016-2017

Following are the action steps which the Technology Committee believes can/should be begun or completed during the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years, in order to reach our long-term goals:

- Advance faculty and staff computer literacy for classroom instructional purposes.
- Continue instructing faculty on effective uses of the RamsNet, cloud-based system.
- Provide continued technical assistance and hardware service to keep existing computer resources functional.
- Explore most effective ways to utilize the new WiFi infrastructure in our buildings.
- Explore need for hardware “refresh” in computer labs and classrooms, due to aging equipment.
- Establish partnerships with businesses and the community to acquire and maintain equipment and software and to utilize any and all human and technological resources available to GCHS.

- Continue to revise curricula to reflect increased technological objectives.

Plan for Monitoring and Evaluating

The GCHS Technology Committee (current membership listed below) will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the progress of this Technology Plan. To accomplish this task, the Tech Committee will meet at least 2 times per school year, once in each semester. During these meetings, the Committee will:

- evaluate the implementation of the plan
- re-assess goals and refine/change activities needed to ensure continued progress in light of new information and/or developments
- review and update the current inventory of equipment, software, and services
- assess the progress of staff development with regard to computer literacy and technology-integration
- assess the degree to which technology is actually being integrated into normal classroom teaching
- assess the degree to which technology has improved communication between the school and the community at large

GCHS Technology Committee

Tom Reed, Chair
Christine McKenna
Mary Ryder
Bill Glassman
Beth Quinn

Ed Beckett, Principal
Tim Briles, Educational Consultant



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN
Office of Catholic Schools

June 20, 2014

Mr. Edward Beckett
Principal
Gloucester Catholic Junior-Senior High School
333 S. Ridgeway Street
Gloucester, NJ 08030

Dear Mr. Beckett,

As a certified approver of school technology plans for the state of New Jersey, I am pleased to inform you that your school's 2014-2017 technology plan has been approved.

Gloucester Catholic High School is to be commended for its recognition of the fact that high-caliber technology resources are essential to its mission of developing faith-filled young men and women who will make a positive contribution to society by becoming "true, life-long learners." Particularly worthy of note in your plan is the priority given in your broad goals to the use of educational technology resources to assist teachers in the implementation of the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Along with its long-term educational goals, your plan also articulates your understanding of and commitment to ongoing maintenance of the infrastructure and of the hardware equipment. Based on your realization of the fact that state and federal funding for technology is always subject to budgetary cuts in any given year, your plan also speaks to the importance of securing grants and other donations from the local business community, in order to replace and refresh aging equipment.

Your efforts to provide students with a values-based Catholic education, one which is fully supported and enhanced through the responsible use of technology, are to be applauded; furthermore, your willingness to provide ongoing professional development for teachers will assist them in "making the world their classroom" for the future adults entrusted to their care.

Sincerely yours,

Sister Rose DiFluri, IHM
Assistant Superintendent for Government Programs