

Summary of a Technology Plan

As of April, 2015

Background

- During 2013/14, the Dorothy Lynas staff experimented with, and learned from, the existing technology and equipment.
- During 2014/15, with significant PAC funding available (more than \$100,000), the Administration was invited by the PAC to explore their technology needs and to develop a plan to utilize some of the available funding.
- Through 2015, a survey was developed by a “Tech Team “ (which included a parent on the Team) for teachers to assess the resources and hardware tools they needed for professional development and support, all within the context of enhanced student learning. The IT technician assigned to the SD#44 was closely involved throughout the exercise, and was able to add his expertise and familiarity with other schools in the District.

Developing the Plan

1. The initial plan had the following features and priorities. (1) a classroom iPad for each of the classrooms, (2) laptops for all the portable carts, and (c) approach the District to provide new laptops for the computer lab.
2. The District was unable to fund the computer lab needs.
3. At the February PAC meeting, the Administration received feedback from parents and from the IT technician. The initial plan was then modified to purchase 33 iMac Dual Cores to completely update the lab in 2014/2015, and to purchase iPads for the classrooms in 2015/2016.
4. After further investigation, the IT technician suggested that the lab should instead be equipped with Mac Minis, plus peripherals (mouse and keyboard), rather than the iMacs, and that this would reduce the cost significantly while providing better performance. The Administration has recently purchased, (using school funds), one Mac Mini, with peripherals, to “test drive” prior to making a final decision.
5. One other element of the current plan is the purchase of the Redcat audio systems. At the November PAC meeting, the Administration requested a purchase of ten systems at a cost of \$12,420, including all taxes, to equip all of the primary classrooms, which request was approved at that time as an additional 2014/15 budget item. The next step is to purchase a further eleven units to equip all the intermediate classrooms. A quote has been received, valid until April 30, 2015, for \$13,226 including all taxes.
6. As discussed at the February PAC meeting, there is also a need for eight HDMI Projectors for the classrooms, to be purchased in 2105/16.

Financial Summary (includes all PST and GST taxes, some of which will be recoverable)

2014/15 School Year:

9 Redcat audio systems (already PAC approved and purchased)	
<u>\$12,420</u>	
11 more Redcat audio systems (PAC approval now requested)	\$13,226
34 Mac Minis, plus peripherals (PAC approval now requested)	<u>\$36,865</u>
Total further spending in 2014/15 (PAC approval now requested)	<u>\$50,091</u>
Total additional spending 2014/15, (not budgeted, awaiting the Plan)	<u>\$62,511</u>

2015/16 School Year:

Up to 28 Classroom iPads (estimated)	\$15,000
8 HDMI Projectors (estimated)	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
Total	<u>\$22,000</u>

Summary

Funds available as of April 15, 2015	\$116,000
Less: additional spending in 2014/15 (above)	<u>(\$50,091)</u>
Projected funds available at the end of 2014/15 school year	<u>\$65,909</u>

