

1 MISSION STATEMENT

- 1.1 The mission of the Bradford County School System is to train and empower teachers in instructional technology methods that will ensure a seamless integration of technology within all curriculum areas. This would enable our students to develop their technology skills so that they can actively engage in a curriculum based on the Sunshine State Standards and mature into lifelong learners with the skills necessary for their future. Ample opportunities will be provided which allow students to develop their technology skills for communication, publication, production, and instructional purposes.

2 GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Bradford County is a small, rural county in northeast Florida with a population of approximately 25,000 people with 5,800 individuals under the age of seventeen. Bradford County's per-capita income is \$12,459. Four-fifths of the citizens of Bradford County are white. The remaining one-fifth of the population is predominately black, with no significant percent of Hispanic individuals. Twenty percent of the families are below the poverty level. Half of the students in the school system are on free or reduced lunch. Very little industry or manufacturing occurs in Bradford County. Forty-one percent of the working population commutes outside of the county to earn a living.
- 2.2 The District Technology Committee was formed to provide equity in access to technology to all students and teachers in the Bradford County School System. The members of the committee include teachers and administrators. Bradford County is currently a member of two Educational Training Centers:

Northeast Florida Educational Consortium – Located in Palatka, NEFEC provides our district with information on policy research and hosts the NEFEC Regional Training Council, meeting regularly to share information and address issues related to district technology needs. The NEFEC Technology Team provides extensive support to the district for instructional and technical needs.

Regional Technology Training Center – Located in Lake City, the RTTC provides our district with a location for large group training and

access to trends in instructional technology. It is also a resource that allows and encourages the exchange of information with other school districts.

We are a member of the Florida Learning Alliance which provided each school with a satellite dish for access to the Educational Channel from the Panhandle Area Consortium and inservice training via the television.

A Local Assistive Technology Team, or LATTTS, has been formed to integrate technology with special needs students. This committee meets regularly to evaluate and recommend students who require special equipment and/or technology.

Teachers have been identified at each school as the School Technology Contact. These individuals assist other teachers, repair, as well as request help for repairs, and serve as the FIRN contact for their school.

- 2.3 The Bradford/Union Vocational Center works closely with Santa Fe Community College to coordinate the use of resources to provide the best possible education through the current programs.

3. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

3.1 Surveys are conducted and analyzed concerning the district technology needs. Teachers, administrators, parents, and students participate in the survey. Through observation and comparisons of the different school sites, the District Technology Committee is able to further evaluate the needs of instructional technology. The M.I.S. Director is involved in coordinating telecommunications needs through the District Technology Committee.

3.2 Needs:

- technology proficiency and literacy standards for students and teachers
- exemplary modeling/mentoring of technology integration
- professional development for technology integration
- increased wireless computing stations
- an awareness of available technology integration resources
- a standards-driven method of assessment
- incentives to encourage improved technology integration
- projects backed by research
- use of curriculum management and lesson plan development system
- formal evaluations of EETT projects/initiatives
- 5 networked computers for every classroom in Bradford County
- upgrade computers used with LANS to a minimum level of Pentium 2
- monitor computer usage in insure copyright laws are followed
- monitor computer usage per Bradford County Acceptable Use Agreement
- presentation devices are needed for classroom lessons

Reoccurring annual needs:

- dialtone - local and long distance
- internet (school and global) connectivity
- Administration's Nextel

3.3

Short term goals:

- establish technology proficiency and literacy standards for students and teachers (using ISTE/NETS)
- establish a standards-driven performance measurement system for students and teachers
- provide incentives for tech integration planning and implementation
- provide teachers and administrators with a coach to model successful technology integration
- assemble and empower a core group of technology integration mentors
- create a wireless lab at each level, enabling technology integration in any environment
- change educators' image of technology tools as an encapsulated entity
- share vision of BET Clearinghouse, Florida Virtual School, Web World Wonders, etc.
- formally evaluate EETT supported projects and initiatives

Long term goals:

- make technology integration and immersion a basic component of classroom curriculum
- create a wireless lab at each school site, enabling mobile technology integration
- consistency of use and integration of technology tools within all curriculum/schools
- create a curriculum management and lesson plan development system
- upgrade all PCs that are used with LANS to a minimum of Pentium III.
- upgrade all Macs that are used with LANS to OS X.
- provide access to uniform software and curriculum throughout the District
- provide 5 networked computers and a dedicated teacher's station in every classroom
- create school-administered websites hosted by FIRN for each school-site

4 FUNDING PLAN

<u>Source of Funding</u>	<u>recurring/ nonrecurring</u>	<u>real/projected</u>	<u>amount</u>
PSTF 2004-2005	R	real	\$
PSTF 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
PSTF 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
General funds 2004-2005	R	real	\$
General funds 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
General funds 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
School Imp 2004-2005	R	real	\$
School Imp 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
School Imp 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
Title I 2004-2005	R	real	\$
Title I 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
Title I 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
Inst Material 2004-2005	R	real	\$
Inst Material 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
Inst Material 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
IDEA 2004-2005	R	real	\$
IDEA 2005-2006	R	proj	\$
IDEA 2006-2007	R	proj	\$
EETT 2004-2005	NR	real	\$432,552
EETT 2005-2006*	NR	proj	\$433,000

*Pending grant award and funding.

- 4.1 The major source of technology funding for Bradford County is the non-categorical funding from the legislature for technology. Other sources of nonrecurring funds will be sought, including grants, equipment donations from federal and state agencies, and financial support from local school sites through PTOs.
- 4.2 **NCLB:EETT project funds will be used in accordance with EETT. Part I and II focus area specifications would be sufficient.** The recurring funds received from the Public School Technology Fund are not sufficient

for most of the goals of Bradford County over this three-year period. Where instructional technology and administrative needs meet, the budget of the Director of Information Services will help provide what is needed.

4.3 District planned allocation of funds from 2004-2005 PSTF:

District office	\$43,231
Bradford High	\$10,628
Bradford Middle	\$12,784
Bradford Vo Tech	\$4376
Southside Elementary	\$6478
Starke Elementary	\$5326
Lawtey Community	\$7390
Hampton Elementary	\$3132
Brooker Elementary	\$3239
Renaissance	\$2394
	\$98,978

5 TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION PLAN

- 5.1 Bradford County Schools will continue to provide technology driven instruction that is aligned with Sunshine State Standards and continue to provide access to technology in the classrooms as well as in labs. If awarded the EETT funding, a mobile computing station will be placed at each school site
- 5.2 All of the software and technology-based educational materials are purchased at the discretion of the local school sites with input from the District technology Committee. This committee will provide support in order to insure uniform technology curriculum throughout the district.
- 5.3 The purchase of new equipment is dependent upon the funds from the Public Schools Technology Fund. These funds will be used each year where needs are identified. Any extra funds that might be procured, such as grants and/or donations can be used as well. All short -term goals should be met within three years.
- 5.4 Bradford County had Windows NT networks installed at Starke Elementary, BHS, Vo-Tech, and BMS. The existing ethernet and token ring LANS will be replaced as money permits. All servers in LANS will eventually be changed to Windows NT. Technology contacts and district level personnel will be trained on Windows NT. Workstations and software will be identified and evaluated based on needs assessment information and interoperability with the district backbone. Support for the LANS will be provided by the Technology Contacts at each school site and then by the M.I.S. department and NEFEC.
- 5.5 Technical guidance for school personnel making technology related purchasing decisions will come from the District Technology Committee and the M.I.S. Department. Further help can come from NEFEC and RTTC.

6 ACCESS

- 6.1 Equitable distribution of technology resources is the foundation of Bradford County's plan. It is important that all teachers and students have access to the best teaching practices. In order to provide this access, Bradford County has several things in place.
- a. A LATTTS committee has been set up to evaluate any needs of students with disabilities and recommend the purchase of any needed technology. A cooperation between the LATTTS Committee and the District Technology Committee, along with the technology committees at the local school site, will result in the appropriate use of funds.
 - b. Using a T1 line, all schools will use FERN to access the Internet at school sites. FERN's web page has many links on it that provide teachers and students with best teaching practices and curriculum resources. FERN also hosts school web pages.
 - c. A District Technology Committee will develop a plan to provide uniform curriculum and equitable distribution of funding and equipment throughout the county.
- 6.2 Bradford County has added to its Code of Conduct two rules prohibiting the misuse of the Internet on any school computer. Each of these rules has an escalating sanction level. It can be as low as teacher/student conference or as high as expulsion from school.
- 6.3 Administrators and teachers have been informed of the legal/ethical standards for software and its licensing agreements. Each teacher/administrator annually signs a computer use agreement stating they will abide by these terms as well as terms providing for the safety of students. Students also sign a computer usage policy.

7 USER SUPPORT

- 7.2 Bradford County Schools has established a District Technology Committee. This committee is responsible for developing a workable plan to provide equitable access to technology for all Bradford County students. This committee is comprised of teachers and administrators who have been identified as Technology Contacts for their local school site. Management and support for the LANs at each school site will be a priority of this committee.
- 7.3 The computer class at the Bradford Vo-Tech assists with repair and maintenance of computers. Technology funds will be used to replace equipment.

8 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

8.1 Bradford County's goal is to increase the use of technology in the classrooms and media centers, with a focus on integrating the use of technology tools into all curriculum areas. To accomplish this focus we will train teachers and administrators by:

- sharing the vision that there is a need to develop and acquire new programs and software.
- creating a core group of trail blazers who will be trained, and in turn act as technology integration mentors in their schools.
- offering summer training for teachers and administrators to explore and develop ways to successfully immerse technology into their daily curriculum.
- providing a technology integration coach who models successful technology integration.
- enabling technology integration mentors to provide ongoing technology integration training – taking advantage of planning and early release days.
- utilizing staff resources of ETI, NEFEC, FLA.
- creating technology proficiency and literacy standards that will empower them to recognize their skill level, and better address their own professional development needs.
- providing real incentives to teachers who demonstrate a commitment to mastering the use of technology to enhance classroom learning.
- instilling the confidence to utilize on-line classes.

8.2 Training and Technical Assistance is available from:

- Northeast Florida Educational Consortium
- Regional Training Center
- Bureau of Educational Technology using Educational Technology Integrators
- Florida Center for Instructional Technology
- Florida Information Resource Network
- Santa Fe Community College
- Florida Learning Alliance

9 PROGRAM EVALUATION

- 9.2 Using ISTE/NETS, school site technology integration mentors and the District Technology Committee will create technology proficiency and literacy standards for students and teachers. These standards will be used to create an evaluation tool to evaluate each school site's use of technology and its integration. Outside sources such as NEFEC will be used to evaluate technology's effectiveness in affecting student achievement and progress toward meeting the educational goals of the Sunshine State Standards. Each SAC's annual climate survey will give an overview of parents', teachers' and students' general impressions of the county's technology integration focus.
- 9.3 Built into the District Technology Committee is the capacity for mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities, especially concerning methods and procedures.

District Technology Plan

2005-2008



Bradford County School Board