



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
300 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us**

HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

June 26, 2013

Will Soistman, Manager of Information and Technology
New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
1900 N. White Sands Blvd.
Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310

Dear Mr. Soistman:

I am pleased to inform you that The New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired School's Technology Plan is approved. The term of your approved plan is July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

The plan has met the five criteria that the Schools and Libraries Division requires for E-rate funding. E-rate applicants should use the annual technology plan approval letter to certify that the district has an approved technology plan that includes provisions for integrating telecommunication services in Internet access into their educational program.

Approved long-range technology plans cover a period of three years. On-going evaluation, at least once per year through the annual report process, is necessary to ensure that elements of the plan and its implementation are sufficient to meet student-learning goals and to determine revisions to the plan.

Congratulations on moving your students into the 21st Century!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hipolito J. Aguilar".

Hipolito J. Aguilar
Deputy Secretary, Finance and Operations

PA/jre

cc: Michael Archibeque, Chief Information Officer

Plan Start Date: April 2013
Plan End Date: May 2016
District: New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
District Code: 094
Tech Coordinator: Will Soistman
Phone: 575-439-4420
Alternate: Rob Cuatt
Phone: 575-439-4461
Contact: Lesa Richardson
Phone: 575-439-4483
Address: 1900 N. White Sands Blvd, Alamogordo, NM 88310
E-mail: Will Soistman - Wsoistman@mnsbvi.k12.nm.us
 Rob Cuatt - RCuatt@mnsbvi.k12.nm.us
 Lesa Richardson - Lrichardson@mnsbvi.k12.nm.us

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee should represent all stakeholders. Development of the technology plan and implementation of the plan should enable parents, educators, students and community members to benefit from the investment in technology and all should have representation on the committee.

Member Name	Title	Constituency Represented
Linda Lyle	Superintendent	Administration
Danette Fuller	Director of Student Services	Administration
John Williams	Exec Assistant to the Superintendent	Administration
Will Soistman	Manager of Info Systems & Technology	Technology Department
Rob Cuatt	Network Technician	Technology Department
Jerri Young	Assistive Technology Coordinator, TVI	Teacher
Margaret Bateman	Outreach Assistive Technology Specialist	Technology Department
Elizabeth Lyle	Administrative Assistant & IT	Technology Department
Darlene Ortiz	Human Resource Specialist	Human Resources
Lesa Richardson	Records Management Specialist	Technology Department

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

Our school checked all that apply.

Is compliant with the provisions of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

Our school is meeting the NCLB E2T2 Act, every student is technologically literate by the time the student finishes 8th grade" as measured by the following assessments:

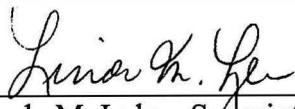
- Georgia Project for Assistive Technology Evaluation
- Technology Skills for Students with Multiple Disabilities and Visual Impairment Evaluation
- Low Vision Computer Skills Checklist

NMSBVI is NCLB32T2 compliant.

The school's comprehensive technology plan must be approved by the local school board prior to submission to the New Mexico Public Education Department.

Date the plan was approved by the Board of Regents: April 25, 2013
Board of Regents meeting minutes attached.

Approved by:


Linda M. Lyle – Superintendent

4-25-13
Date of Signature

VISION, MISSION AND TECHNOLOGY STATEMENTS

Vision Statement

As a leader and unifying entity in the field of educating students birth-high school who are blind or visually impaired, NMSBVI is a statewide network of services that ensures all students who are blind or visually impaired will become independent productive members of their communities by identifying and providing quality education and collaborating with students, families and partners to provide outstanding training, resources and support services.

Mission Statement

1. All students who are blind or visually impaired will graduate having achieved their school related goals in their transition plan.
2. All students, families, districts and communities in New Mexico will have an understanding of the unique education and services needed for a student with blindness or visual impairment.
3. All of the educational settings serving New Mexico students who are blind or visually impaired will have highly qualified staff to teach their students.
4. All of New Mexico students with blindness or visual impairment will receive a quality education in the appropriate setting at the appropriate time.
5. NMSBVI will develop, implement and share quality, comprehensive and innovative approaches for educating New Mexico students who are blind or visually impaired.
6. A collaborative relationship will exist between NMSBVI and all agencies in New Mexico serving blind or visually impaired students.

Technology Statement

Implement technology that meets or exceeds NMSBVI's identified mission and vision through the following:

1. Continuing a cycle of technology needs assessment, implementation, evaluation and refinement.
2. Accessing current technology for educational purposes for students and staff.
3. Training on all applicable technology for students and staff.
4. Utilizing software and hardware that meet the evolving needs of students and staff.
5. Collaboratively engaging with community, state and national partners to support students who are blind and visually impaired.

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

Goal A: NMSBVI will invest in its technology future by securing adequate bandwidth to support the technology needs of both campuses.

The use of internet/networked resources as an additional source of information for students and staff to acquire knowledge and skills necessary to function in an informational society is imperative for the future of NMSBVI. To that end, a high Speed broadband service for internet is a vital component of our current infrastructure, much as electricity and heating/air conditioning services are. The same tools and resources that have transformed our personal, civic, and professional lives must be part of learning experiences intended to prepare our students for college and future careers.

NMSBVI currently uses a shared T1 (1.5 Mbps) connection for internet serving 2 campuses in addition to an ATM circuit for WAN connectivity for network applications and services. Both of these connections are outdated, and have reached maximum threshold of use.

- Replace current ATM WAN Circuit for Campus data/voice connections between Alamogordo and Albuquerque with higher-speed Optical Ethernet services.
- Upgrade current T1 Copper Internet Connection to faster-speed Optical Ethernet services.
- Replace current single-content filtering server system with updated fast-gigabit filtering and proxy appliances for both campuses.
- Provide private broadband network for guest services and video conferencing.
- Increase the number of wireless routers and access points for Wi-Fi enabled devices.

With easy access to reliable and robust bandwidth, NMSBVI can ensure that each student's school experience mirrors evolving societal expectations for public education.

Goal B: NMSBVI will develop expertise, partnerships and contracts that permit the school to develop a database that follows all students in New Mexico who are blind/visually impaired from diagnosis through completion of all high school training.

- Identify database system to be used.
- Identify fields needed by NMSBVI.
- Contract with professional to develop database fields, build system, train users.
- Implement system.
- Utilize data to make student service decisions.

Purpose: Currently, NMSBVI has no consistent database used by all programs within the school. In addition, there is a great discrepancy between the number of students identified through APH registry, supplementary registry, Babies Count and the state's STARS database. In order to meet the school's strategic goal of data driven decision making that will be used collaboratively to determine goals, services and settings for educating New Mexico Students with blindness or visual impairments, it will be necessary for NMSBVI to create a universal and accessible hosted database. This hosted database will collect all relevant active VI student data. This data can then be used in a variety of ways to help the school accomplish its mission of providing services and programs that help meet the needs of all of New Mexico's students who are blind and visually impaired.

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

- With access to the data that is collected by the statewide VI database, NMSBVI will more accurately be able to place technology devices throughout the school districts.
- With this data NMSBVI will create a more specialized training system for the state's teachers that are designed to meet the needs of the students and staff in the state.
- With data that is collected NMSBVI will be able to customize programming on the residential campus that is specially tailored to the students throughout the state.
- With this data NMSBVI will identify trends, provide prevalence numbers to districts, ophthalmologists, personnel preparation programs and educational services throughout the state.

Identify database system to be used.

- SyLNX is a SQL 2008 Database that could be ripped down to accommodate our needs.
- NMSBVI would use 20% of the available program. The component presented included an online based student registry that has the capabilities of filter/sorting the information needed. The files in this database can also be exported to an outside program (i.e. Excel, Access and Crystal Report) for further data manipulation. There can be a pivot table made with the reports so the information is frequently being refreshed.
- "Patron" component: This piece is what teachers and special education directors use to access their information for input and editing. The way a student is registered is through a form with designated fields put in. The program has the capability of creating fail safes for inputting information-for example, if a student is registered as a pre-reader for primary reading medium they cannot have a secondary and tertiary reading medium.
- To be noted, students can become inactive in the database if they are no longer receiving services and then can be reactivated later.

Goal C: NMSBVI will develop the infra-structure necessary to host video/training.

- Identify the system/systems to be used for hosted video training and conferencing.
- Identify infrastructure needed.
- Identify systems to be used campus wide.
- Create process of implementing system.
- Implement system.

Purpose: Currently, NMSBVI does not have the infrastructure to adequately support video training and conferencing. In order to meet the school's strategic goal of fostering an atmosphere of creativity that results in innovative practices and programs, NMSBVI will accomplish this goal through the implementation of hosted video conferencing as well as hosting video lessons. NMSBVI will uphold a framework of growth in the field of blindness and visual impairment through the integration of current video services.

- With access to video hosting/ conferencing, NMSBVI will build a stronger relationship with the districts of the State.
- With access to video hosting /conferencing, NMSBVI will provide a multi-pronged approach of education of the staff and students in the state of New Mexico.

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

- With access to video hosting/conferencing, NMSBVI will be able to create more opportunities for collaboration among agencies, professionals, and parents throughout the state.
- With access to video hosting/conferencing, NMSBVI will be able to provide more effective education for parents.

Identify Infrastructure Needed-Refer to Goal A.

Identify System to be Used Campus Wide:

- YouTube Channel
- Host video on web site
- Video conferencing
- Implement system

Goal D: All students and staff at NMSBVI will have access to industry-standard assistive technology software and hardware and appropriate training, based on individual evaluation. The assistive technology will:

- Facilitate student learning and staff productivity.
- Provide equal access to the curriculum.
- Ensure successful integration in future environments.

Industry-standard equipment (assistive technology) for the blind and visually impaired, software and training will be provided.

- To facilitate student learning and staff productivity for the blind and visually impaired.
- To provide state-of-the-art assistive technologies (determined by evaluation) appropriate to use in a school environment (and future environments) so that the resources available to our students are equal to those available to sighted students, and
- To ensure our students have fluency (skills or competency) with state-of-the-art assistive technologies so they can compete with all others of their age when they enter the work force of the 21st century.

Instructional assistive technologies and software will be integrated with school curriculum planning and instruction to maximize the contribution of technology to our students' education.

- Assistive technologies must be incorporated into the daily learning schedule.
- Assistive technologies use must be incorporated in a collaborative environment.
- Students must have sufficient technological and communications skills to enter the work force.

Our students depend on technology to compensate for barriers to visual information. Competency in technology is vital to our students' ability to compete for jobs in a global marketplace. Students must be prepared with 21st Century skills to perform in a technology-based work environment.

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

Through the use of assistive technology, as determined by individual evaluation, students will use tools for productivity to communicate and collaborate with others. By the time student's graduate to the world of work or future academic pursuits, all will be able to effectively use:

- Email
- Word-processing software
- Spreadsheet software
- Presentation software
- Internet browser
- Search engine
- Digital books
- Distance learning software
- Social media

Goal E: NMSBVI will ensure that all employees have the necessary technology tools and training to work effectively.

The challenges that face NMSBVI and the NMSBVI IS&T Department include the ever-growing need to adopt leading edge and current technologies while simultaneously protecting the data with which IS&T is entrusted. NMSBVI will affirm a commitment to bring quality technology products and services to aid in all staff business operation and instruction to the classroom.

- Ensure all staff members can effectively utilize e-mail and other web-based communications for instruction and duty performance.
- Integrate web applications into the network infrastructure, including wikis, instant messaging, media streaming and videoconferencing for collaboration and learning tools.
- Allow staff to utilize the school's website to disseminate information to colleagues, students, parents and the community.
- Promote staff development and provide training to support the integration of technology into all aspects of the curriculum.

Comprehensive Three Year Technology Plan

How your school complies to meet CIPA requirements?		Please Describe Below:	
• Internet filter:		Lightspeed software is used to monitor internet content filtering over the NMSBVI network.	
• Internet safety training:		Safe Schools has training modules for CIPA, cyber bullying, online predators and online Threats of Violence.	
• Acceptable Use Policy:		NMSBVI Acceptable Use Policy NO. 644 approved 4/25/13.	
Does your school plan on applying for priority one ERATE funding?		Yes	Forms have been filed for priority one telecommunications ERATE funding for funding year 07/01/2013 through 06/30/2014 (FY16)
Voice, Data, Video and Other Priority one Capabilities		Purchase/Budget/Potential Funding Sources(s)	
Data Service, DS I		\$1,990.16/\$11,990.16/ERATE discount	
Data Service, PRI		\$17,262.00/17,262.00/ERATE discount	
Data Service, DSL		\$2,694.24/\$2,694.24/ERATE discount	
Data Service, Internet		\$2,364.00/\$2,364.00/ERATE discount	
Voice Service, Local Lines		\$10,209.84/\$10,209.84/ERATE discount	
Voice Service, Long Distance Lines		\$3,155.28/\$3,155.28/ERATE discount	
Mobile Phone Service		\$36,000.00/\$36,000.00/ERATE discount	
What is the primary measure for determining ERATE discounts? NSLP or Surveys?		Surveys	A locally developed income survey with cover letter is sent to the student's family to be filled out and returned at the beginning of the school year.
Please describe an evaluation process that enables the school or library to monitor progress toward the specified goals and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities as they arise.		IS&T department holds weekly meetings to assess the status of all projects in the works. IS&T maintains a list of computing/networking projects and the current status can be viewed at all times on a whiteboard in the lobby of the IS&T building.	
Does your school plan on applying for priority two ERATE funding?		Yes	No requests at present, but will plan to request ERATE funds to add an additional fiber optic backbone for future network needs.
Hardware/Software/Support			
How are ERATE components tracked for a yearly inventory of equipment? Salvaged equipment?		Equipment acquired through ERATE funding are identified within the Fixed Assets module of NMSBVI's accounting software. When is deemed unserviceable or no longer needed, a letter of disposition is forwarded to the Business and Finance Director for final disposal in accordance with State and Federal Regulations.	
How will ERATE equipment be maintained in your school?		ERATE equipment will be maintained by the computer and network technicians of the IS&T department.	