Alabama Technology Plan

Gadsden City Board of Education

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Every school system has its own story to tell. The context in which teaching and learning takes place influences the processes and procedures by which the school system makes decisions around curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The context also impacts the way a school system stays faithful to its vision. Many factors contribute to the overall narrative such as an identification of stakeholders, a description of stakeholder engagement, the trends and issues affecting the school system, and the kinds of programs and services that a school system implements to support student learning.

The purpose of the Executive Summary (ES) is to provide a school system with an opportunity to describe in narrative form the strengths and challenges it encounters. By doing so, the public and members of the community will have a more complete picture of how the school system perceives itself and the process of self-reflection for continuous improvement. This summary is structured for the school system to reflect on how it provides teaching and learning on a day to day basis.

Description of the School System

Describe the school system's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school system serves?

District Overview

The Gadsden City School District is located in Gadsden Alabama, population 37,000, in the northeast corner of the state, on the Coosa River. Gadsden City Schools (GCS) has a strong reputation for providing excellence in education since 1889. The system promotes diversity and academic achievement, athletics, and co-curricular activities throughout the elementary, middle and secondary programs. Students are provided opportunities to reach their potential with varied instructional programs at all schools.

The district includes:

Eight elementary schools (Grades K-5)
Three middle schools (Grades 6-8)
One comprehensive high school (Grades 9-12)
Alternative programs (6-12)
One central office
One parent/teacher resource training center
One early childhood resource center

At Gadsden City Schools, we are committed to equipping our students to meet and exceed expectations in the classroom and beyond. More than 650 employees, including National Board Certified and highly-qualified teachers, as well as other award-winning professionals are employed. Over 50% of GCS teachers have advanced degrees. As a result, more than 5,300 students from Gadsden City Schools are finding success in the classroom, on the stage, in the concert hall, on the athletic field, in the computer lab, and in their career training.

Gadsden City Schools primarily faces unusual situations due to the diverse and large free and reduced population. The System enrollment is 5,308 students, 46 percent black, 40 percent white, and 14 percent other. Over 72 percent of GCS students qualify for free or reduced lunch, 65.506 percent free lunch and 6.521 percent reduced lunch. Five elementary schools and one middle school have 90 percent or more of their students receiving free or reduced lunches. An additional elementary has over 80 percent and a middle school has over 77 percent qualifying for free or reduced lunches.

Gadsden City Schools has continued to provide outstanding educational opportunities for students despite a decrease in overall funding from budget revenues of over 55 million dollars in 2009 to 48 million dollars in 2012. The loss of federal, state, and local funding has been primarily attributed to the economic recession. The loss of over 7 million dollars during the last 4 years has proven to be challenging in continuing the efforts to provide optimal services and programs for the system.

System's Purpose

Provide the school system's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school system embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

Gadsden City Schools believes that:

-Educational decisions should be based on the best interests of children

-Every child deserves educational opportunities that prepare him/her to compete at national and international levels

-All children have the right to equitable and adequate educational opportunities.

The GCS system elements of educational priorities include:

-Safe and disciplined schools

-Quality teachers and effective school leaders

-Challenging learning opportunities

Vision: Empowering All Through Educational Opportunities

Mission and Purpose: To prepare and inspire all students to become college and career ready through learning, serving, and excelling

Beliefs to accomplish purpose:

-Trust among all stakeholders is vital

-Expectations influence accomplishments because everyone has the capacity to learn

-A school-community partnership is essential

-Change creates opportunity.

-High-performing leadership makes visions reality.

Goal 1 - Provide optimal educational opportunities while increasing student achievement and participation

Objectives

- Ensure a high performing learning culture

- Create life-long learners

- Increase academic rigor for all

- Foster innovative practice

- Develop core competencies and curriculum

- Design opportunities for success

Action Plan

- Use district technology to engage and educate students, staff, parents and community

- Expand educational opportunities and experiences for students that will eliminate the achievement gap between subgroups and meet the needs of all learners

- Align and enhance opportunities to develop student competencies

- Continue to acquire and utilize technology resources

- Foster innovative practice through implementation and flexibility in academic programs, staffing, and school budgeting

- Develop and maintain a technology infrastructure that provides 21st Century tools for learning

Goal 2 - Recruit, develop, and retain a highly-qualified diverse workforce

Objectives

- Create and maintain an atmosphere of respect among stakeholders

- Foster a culture of opportunity

- Build a system capacity to support schools

- Provide progressive and relevant professional development

- Continue to build upon leadership deveopment

Action Plan

- Continue to train employees through high-quality professional development, mentoring, and other forms of collaboration/study/training in programs such as AMSTI, ARI, AP, MMGW, and CCST

- Maintain a comprehensive plan for recruitment, selection, induction, development, diversity, and retention of personnel

- Identify factors that motivate employees to remain in or depart from positions and work to improve the system/school climate to support learning

- Incorproate effective evaluation for improved professional performance through EducateAlabama and LeadAlabama

Goal 3 - Enhance educational programs through effective communications and relationships with all stakeholders

Objectives

- Provide and increase opportunities for district to serve the external community

- Educate and engage the community to work in tandem with GCS

- Communicate effectively both internally and externally

- Use district technology to engage and educate all stakeholders

- Improve internal communication

- Make decisions transparent throughout the district

Action Plan

- Increase collaboration with other community entities to ensure a high quality of life

- Develop, strengthen, and recognize partnerships that support the learning of all students

- Support local Parent-Teacher-Student organizations to strengthen community involvement

- Maintain and enhance opportunities to educate the community on programs and services offered to students of GCS through multiple communication avenues

- Conduct stakeholder education vision meetings

Goal 4 - Ensure sale and effective educational environments for multiple learning opportunities

Objectives

- Provide a safe learning and working environment

- Reinforce positive student behavior interventions

- Incorporate effective intervention support

- Collaborate with local law enforcement to maximize safety

- Improve supervision and surveillance through technology

- Develop and maintain effective communication with parents

- Establish innovative Alternative programs

Action Plan

- Ensure that administration, faculty, and staff effectively supervise/monitor behavior

- Provide professional development to all staff relating to improving classroom and individual student discipline

- Insure polces relating to behavior and code of conduct are reviewed and clearly communicated to students and parents

- Support and strengthen the development of good moral character

- Maintain and ensure a relationship for support with local law enforcement and add additional School Resource Officers

- Acquire and increase video surveillance on all campuses

- Acquire a Parent Notification System that can be used for notifications for events as well as during crisis intervening

- Begin FOCUSED Initiative (Focusing Our Commitment Until Students Earn a Diploma)

- Continue and enhance Alternative Programs such as; Elementary Enrichment, Second Chance, Credit Recovery, and Summer School

Programs

Goal 5 - Pursue and secure multiple resources while maximizing efficiency

Objectives

- Pursue additional funding from all sources

- Increase receipt of resources through private partnerships with business stakeholders.

- Pursue and successfully utilize grant funding

- Maximize operational efficiency in all areas of the system

Action Plan

- Ensure that instructional initiatives, budget, and other district and school plans align with each other and support the Strategic Plan and

Board policies

- Drive efficiency and effectiveness by improving system functions more efficiently

- Explore and support legislation to enhance local district flexibility and funding

- Identify and seek multiple sources of funding and grants

Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the school system's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school system is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Academics

A great education starts in the classroom, and at Gadsden City Schools, our classroom education is unparalleled. With 11 National Merit and two National Achievement Finalists in the last six years, over $25 million in scholarship offers, and college acceptance for more than 50 percent of seniors, Gadsden City High and its feeder schools are academic beacons.   System annual year progress goals have been met while also annually improving the graduation rate.   Future alternatives, to provide graduation opportunities, continue to be developed through programs such as "Second Chance" and "FOCUSED" (Focusing Our Commitment Until Students Earn a Diploma). "Making Middle Grades Work" establishes middle grade priorities for expanding pre-AP academics as well as intervention academics for struggling students. Expansion of elementary education with AMSTI provides continuing professional training for math, science, and technology education. Emphasis on early childhood programs continue to be targeted through collaborative 4-year-old programs with Head Start.

Career Technical Education

One of the most significant advances in K-12 education in recent years has been the growing emphasis on career training. Gadsden City Schools is once again on the cutting edge with a new $2.4 million career tech center. With an estimated 90 percent positive placement for students completing the program, Gadsden City is helping build Northeast Alabama's skilled workforce. New career CTE diplomas were initiated beginning in the 2012-13 school year. Career tech diplomas in Biomedical Services, Information Systems Technology, and Engineering are now offered. Courses at the school include:

 Electrical Technology
 HVAC (heating and air conditioning)
 Information Technology
 Cosmetology
 Health Science
 Family and Consumer Science
 Automotive Technology
 Business/Marketing Education

Performing Arts

Gadsden City Schools' commitment to the arts, support the concept of educating the whole child.   GCS offers classes in piano lab, ceramics, photography, jazz band, drama and technical theater. Visual arts, strings, and choral programs in the middle schools, as well as strings, visual arts, and events like Serendipity Day on the elementary level, are offered. The high school chorale was recently chosen to sing at Carnegie Hall. The award winning 325 strong Titan Band has consistently rated superior performances from Hawaii to San Antonio as well as state and local competitions.   Individual students in both choral and band consistently win annual all-state honors. Elementary and middle school visual arts students have won state and governors art awards.   The high school drama team consistently win superior in ratings in district and state events.

Athletics

Gadsden City supports 23 Gadsden City athletic teams competing at the 6A level. The 3 middle schools also support athletic teams. More

importantly, their "Go Titans" pride supports more than 800 student athletes striving to be the best in their chosen sport. Gadsden City is proud of its strong female sports program and the many middle school and junior varsity programs for students.

Extra-curricular

Gadsden City offers opportunities for participation in many programs. The Titan Ambassadors serve as official hosts and hostesses at school system and citywide events, give student tours, represent the school at various city functions, and much more. Another highly successful program is JROTC. With more than 150 participants per year, JROTC trains students in leadership, citizenship, and excellence. Gadsden City clubs are recognized for service and excellence in our community, in our state, and even in our nation, with our nationally ranked Scholar's Bowl Team and nationally ranked students in Career Technical Education competitions. The GCHS Quiz Bowl team placed second in the state and competed in national competition the past 2 years. The Gadsden Middle Quiz Bowl team also placed in the top 5 of the state and competed in Chicago at the national competition.

Technology

Through "Gadsden 21," the Gadsden City Schools technology initiative is turning classrooms into a technology-driven work environment. From iPad programs in the elementary schools to laptop carts in the 9th Grade Academy, Gadsden City Schools incorporates technology at every level having invested over one million in technology in the last 3 years. The annual Tech Blitz competition gives students throughout the system opportunities to put their technology training to the test. Not only are we utilizing technology as a teaching tool, our students are also preparing to take their places in the technology workforce, thanks to courses like digital design, computer maintenance, and introduction to networking.

Stakeholder Support

Gadsden City Schools enjoys immense community support through various partnerships. United Way, Family Success Center, YMCA, Cultural Arts Center, Head Start, and various churches have participated in efforts relating to anti-bullying, anti-drugs/tobacco/alcohol, community gardening, technology improvement, and mentoring. Gadsden State Career and Technical College, Jacksonville State University, and the University of Alabama Center in Gadsden, provide student dual enrollment, teacher professional development and program improvement resource opportunities for the system.   City, County, and state government officials provide funding and resources for advanced education programs, technology, fine arts, and career technical programs.   The Quality of Life Health Center provides school based health services (basic health, vision and dentistry) to Gadsden City Schools at each school site. A mobile based unit was recently added as well as plans to construct a 3,000 square foot permanent facility on the campus of Litchfield Middle School.

Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

Elementary Schools

A strong academic base is important for developing a strong student from the ground up. That's why GCS has implemented technology programs, group learning programs, and enrichment activities"all with the goal of giving the students at our eight elementary schools the foundation they need to reach above expectations.

Enrichment - Gadsden City offers a specially designed program for gifted and exceptionally talented students. "The Creative Thinking Center" offers state-of-the-art technology, robust small group instruction at the highest levels of Bloom's Taxonomy, special projects, field trips, and challenging hands-on experiences like the annual Invention Convention sponsored by the system.

Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) - As a participant in ARI, Gadsden City elementary school teachers use proven strategies, including formative assessment, to help students develop critical thinking skills and increase student learning.

Response to Instruction (RTI) - Gadsden City utilizes RTI as an instructional framework that promotes a well-integrated system connecting general, gifted, supplemental, and special education services. RTI provides high-quality, standards-based instruction and intervention that is matched to students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) - Through AMSTI, Gadsden City is enhancing math and science education by giving students the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their postsecondary studies and in the workforce. Gadsden City teachers have access to in-depth professional development, resources, and on-site support, as well as valuable partnerships with institutions of higher education, science centers, regional in-service centers, Science in Motion, GLOBE, businesses, and other organizations committed to improvements in math and science education.

Elementary Arts - Elementary school students throughout the system have access to an award-winning strings program, visual arts training, choral groups, and an overall commitment to making the Arts a vital part of an education. With visual arts winners at the state level, events like Serendipity Day and special concerts and speakers throughout the year, students are exposed to a wide range of arts opportunities.

Middle Schools

Gadsden City Schools participates in Making Middle Grades Work. Making Middle Grades Work is a comprehensive initiative founded on the conviction that most students can master academic studies at or above grade level when schools create an environment that motivates them to make the effort to succeed.

College Preparatory Coursework - Pre-AP (Advanced Placement) classes offered at Gadsden City Middle Schools include algebra, science, reading, language, and social studies. The courses not only prepare students for the rigorous coursework on the high school level but also give middle school students the opportunity to be challenged and stimulated.

Middle School Arts - From marching band to choral, from dance line to strings, the arts are an important component in Gadsden City middle schools. Students are introduced early to the Arts as they prepare to attend one of the most committed high schools in the state to providing a thorough arts education - Gadsden City High School.

Middle School Athletics - While baseball, basketball, and football are popular middle school sports, Gadsden City 7th and 8th graders are also eligible to participate in softball, soccer, tennis, golf, cheerleading, and more.

Math and Reading Intervention - For those challenged to meet the growing demands of higher math and reading coursework, GCS employees offer small-group instruction, re-teaching, and inclusion classes.

Gadsden City High School

Following a long and storied history dating back to 1889, the GCS System opened the new Gadsden City High School in the fall of 2006. The school is the result of the merging of 3 high schools: Emma Sansom, Gadsden, and Litchfield. The new school is the largest in both Etowah County and Northeast Alabama. It boasts a state-of-the-art $40 million campus, complete with a 300,000-square-foot facility. More than 1,500 students and 150 staff members continually work to form the trained, educated population that will call Gadsden home in years to come.

Unique Coursework - One of the most important benefits of a large campus, staff, and student body is the opportunity to offer a wide range of studies. GCHS offers more than 150 courses along with dual enrollment through Gadsden State Community College and Jacksonville State University.

9th Grade Academy - At GCHS, the 9th Grade Academy provides a non-intimidating climate as students make the transition from middle to high school. Freshmen have the majority of their classes in a separate instructional environment overseen by an assistant principal assigned solely to the 9th Grade Academy. The Academy is designed to support overall academic performance, improve communication between home and school, and reduce discipline referrals.

Extracurricular Activities - At GCHS, more than half of the student body participates in a sport or in the award-winning marching band. There are numerous activities and clubs to keep kids engaged. .

AP - The Advanced Placement Program at GCHS is based on over 25 years of experience teaching AP courses. Seventeen AP courses are offered along with Pre-AP courses in grades 9-11. Excellence is a GCHS hallmark, evidenced by recognition from the A+ College Ready Grant for student score increases and enrollment gains. A strong AP program is statistically proven to raise rigor across academic levels. The wide array of AP courses allows our students the latitude to choose according to their interests and to excel in different areas, making them highly desirable to colleges.

Improvement Plan Stakeholder Involvement

Introduction

The responses should be brief, descriptive, and appropriate for the specific section. It is recommended that the responses are written offline and then transferred into the sections below.

Improvement Planning Process

Improvement Planning Process

Describe the process used to engage a variety of stakeholders in the development of the institution's improvement plan. Include information on how stakeholders were selected and informed of their roles, and how meetings were scheduled to accommodate them.

Stakeholders were chosen from all levels of school and district wide staffing and from the community at large. The team of stakeholders for improvement planning included students, parents, community members, business leaders, teachers, instructional support staff, principals, central office staff, board members, and the superintendent. The Technology Advisory Committee meetings were held throughout the year both as a collective unit of all stakeholders along with specific meetings related to specific goals. Meetings were scheduled late in the afternoons right before school dismissal to accommodate district and school staff, students, and business leaders.

Describe the representations from stakeholder groups that participated in the development of the improvement plan and their responsibilities in this process.

All stakeholders including parents, teachers, and administrators were directly involved in the development of our district wide technology improvement plan. Students participated in collective meetings and also in quarterly leadership meetings held at the board of education to specifically ask questions and get the opinions of a group of student representatives in the district.

Explain how the final improvement plan was communicated to all stakeholders, and the method and frequency in which stakeholders receive information on its progress.

The final technology improvement plan was approved and disseminated to all participants and each of the schools. The plan is available at each school and posted on the district web-site. Annual review meetings are held to discuss progress toward the goals.

Technology Diagnostic

Introduction

The ALSDE Technology Diagnostic is designed to facilitate the process of gathering and analyzing the technology needs which drive the Transform 2020 Technology Plan.

Data

Statement or Question: Data Sources. Select all sources of data used for planning:

Response:

- •Board of Education actions
- •Compliance Monitoring Reports
- •Continuous Improvement Plan
- •EducateAlabama Data
- •Federal Government Regulations
- •Formative Assessments
- •Graduation Rates
- •Inventory & Infrastructure Report-- Fast and Easy Access to network, and Availability of Technology
- •Principal Walk-Through Checklist
- •Professional Learning Evaluations, Lesson Plans
- •SpeakUp Data
- •State Government Regulations
- •Student Achievement Data
- •Technology Plan Surveys (*Required)

Needs Assessment

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology Infrastructure (fast and easy access to network, digital content); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: Wireless AP's have been added to virtually all of our classrooms in the district. Switches at all Gadsden City Schools have been upgraded. We have upgraded APs in common areas and classrooms with larger numbers to high capacity APs across the district.

Need: Even with the infrastructure improvements, increased bandwidth will continue to be a need.

Data Source: E-Rate documentation, inventory, bandwidth traffic charts (ASC)

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology Inventory (fast and easy access to technology); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: The one-to-one initiative at GCHS is certainly a strength providing a device for every student at the school. We currently have well over 2500 iPads devices, and over 2400 Chromebooks being used across the district in addition to 1700 one-to-one laptop devices at our high school.

Need: With the move toward online testing in Alabama, additional Chromebooks and updated desktop computers and/or laptop carts are needed to provide the needed seat stations for testing.

Data Source: Inventory

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology and Student Learning (subject area processes and content; 21st C. skills and dispositions to ensure school, career, and life success); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: Notable strengths here include the one-to-one initiatives across the district and our annual student technology project competition, "TechBlitz." Student participation in TechBlitz and the Northeast Alabama Regional Technology Fair have prompted the creation of coding and technology clubs throughout the district. Funds from the Alabama Middle School Computer Initiative Grant provided funding for the Emma Sansom Middle School Technology Club.

Need: Teacher training/implementation of the new Digital Literacy Computer Science Course of Study. Addition of more coding and technology clubs at the middle school level. Continued increase in student participation at local and regional technology competitions.

Data Source: Lesson Plans, Speak Up Survey

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology Professional Learning Program (Teachers, Staff, Leaders, Community); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: Professional Development strengths include our annual EdCamp Connect (collaborative event between Gadsden City Schools and Etowah County Schools), Webinar Wednesdays (afternoon 1 hour technology training sessions), Google Education training conducted in an online, collaborative format, and technology PLUs for Administrators conducted by our Technology In Motion (TIM) trainer from the regional in-service center at JSU.

Need: Increased participation is a need. Not all teachers and administrators are taking advantage of the offered professional development.

Data Source: Teacher and Administrator Surveys, Workshop Sign-In Sheets

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology Teacher Use—Teaching (how teachers use technology to teach as well as require students to use technology to learn); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: The effective utilization of available digital resources by our elementary teachers, as a whole, is a strength. Technology integration provides increased student engagement in the classroom, which translates to increased student growth. With the implementation of Google for Education, we continue to see increased teacher buy in at the secondary level each school year.

Need: Although improving, the lack of effective utilization of available digital resources by our secondary teachers, as a whole, continues to be a challenge.

Data Source: Teacher Surveys, Walk-Throughs

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology Teacher Use—Productivity (how teachers use technology for increased productivity); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: Implementation of camera pilot program at Gadsden City High School and Title I schools to allow select teachers to record and archive lessons for student use as well as peer mentoring/coaching. The increased use of the Class Dojo and Remind apps have improved teacher productivity while increasing teacher-parent communication in our elementary and middle schools. Google Classroom continues to provide teachers and students increased productivity in and outside the classroom walls.

Need: As funding allows, expansion of the camera pilot program at Gadsden City High School and across the district. Continued implementation of Google for Education throughout the district.

Data Source: Teacher/Administrator Surveys, Google Management Console

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with your technology School Leaders Use—Productivity (how administrators use technology for increased productivity); c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: A strength in this area is the quantity and variety of technology related professional development opportunities afforded our administrators. Several administrators are utilizing Google Classroom to conduct flipped faculty meetings rather than face to face weekly meetings. Class Dojo, Remind, and Google for Education are providing increased productivity for elementary and middle school leaders.

Need: Although improving, the administrative technology successes of a few need to be expanded to include a larger number of the administrators in the district. Continued implementation of Google for Education throughout the district administration.

Data Source: Administrator Survey, Google Management Console

a.) Identify the top 1-3 areas of need, and b.) top 1-3 strengths associated with any other technology program areas; c.) Identify the data sources and actual data results that led you to conclude that these are areas of strength and need.

Strength: Library media specialists across the district who are willing to be technology leaders in their schools. Media Specialists assist with Chromebook management at the school level. They also provide coaching and troubleshooting strategies for students and teachers on a daily basis with the absence of technology coaches in the schools.

Need: One technology coach for elementary schools and one technology coach for secondary schools. Technology funding is scarce.

Data Source: Administrator end-of-year Conferences, Surveys, Technology Budget

Professional Learning

Based upon the strengths and areas of need listed above, what are your Professional Learning Topics for the upcoming year that involves using technology to improve learner and productivity and prepares students for living and working in a digital world.

The Professional Learning sessions will be delivered via Google Classroom, Webinar Wednesday, classroom planning, modeling, teaching scheduled by teachers with the Title I Technology Coordinator through an online scheduling software in Google Calendar, as well as face to face training as requested by administrators. The webinar sessions offered will specifically target teachers and school administrators. The school system's Technology Coordinator will conduct the Professional Learning sessions. Sample topics include: Digital Citizenship, 45 Ways to Use Google for Education in the Classroom, App Task Challenges, online book studies, and the Digital Literacy Computer Science Course of Study.

EdCamp will be an unconference taking place annually in July at Gadsden City High School as a collaborative event between Gadsden City Schools and Etowah County Schools. The sessions range from basic conversations around teaching methods to
sessions sharing digital projects by students or sessions based around just having fun. Most will have a technology focus, and many will include sessions about using technology in the classroom, but a technology focus is not necessary.

Our Title I Technology Coordinator works throughout the district providing technology support to students, teachers, and administrators. Most of the support is provided through face to face individual and small group
training. The following is a list of ways the coordinator is utilized throughout the school system.
-to prepare technology to be student and teacher ready (1:1 iPad initiative carts, Chromebooks)
-to train teachers in schools and classrooms to utilize technology being implemented
-to provide professional development training to teachers and administrators for current technology tools available for educator use and student use
-to troubleshoot implementation of technology strategies in classrooms and schools

Administrators PLU conducted by our Technology In Motion (TIM) trainer from regional in-service center at JSU.

Inventory/Infrastructure

Describe how your infrastructure and inventory supports student achievement at all locations. Use the following terms as headings in your description: WAN Infrastructure, LAN Infrastructure, Connectivity, Bandwidth, Internet Access, Information Security & Safety, Digital Content, and Digital Tools.

WAN Infrastructure : Gadsden City Schools' WAN has a fiber backbone with 750 MB of Internet provided by Alabama Super Computer (ASC). ASC also provides monitoring for each location. A fiber connection is provided for each school from a central location. All internet traffic travels through a Cisco Firewall and an M86 filtering device sees all traffic going into and out of the school system. A Wireless WAN was installed this summer to provide wireless access to each school. Access Points were installed in hallways to cover each location. Additional access points continue to be added as wireless device usage continues to increase.

LAN Infrastructure: All locations have at least 100 MB Fiber backbone LAN, with most of our locations having fiber to the classroom. Internet connectivity is 100 MB at each elementary school, 150 MB at each middle school and 1,000 MB for the high school. Internet traffic is monitored to ensure we have enough connectivity at each location. The MDF equipment is Cisco POE switches with Gig connectivity capabilities. Each school has a wireless LAN with Access Points in hallways to cover the entire school. 1:1 classrooms at each elementary school have Access Points in those classrooms. Additional Access Points will be installed as needed and as funding allows.

Connectivity: Connectivity consists of a Fiber backbone and a fiber connection to each school. Most schools have fiber to the classroom with a few having fiber to an IDF and CAT 5/6 to the classroom.

Bandwidth: 750 MB of connectivity to the system with each location having 100 MB connectivity within the location. Internet Connectivity is 100 MB at each elementary school, 150 MB at each middle school and 1,000 MB for the high school. Internet traffic is monitored closely to ensure we have enough connectivity at each location.

Internet Access: Internet access is provided to every classroom in the system through fiber or CAT5/6 to a Cisco switch. Connectivity is monitored closely. All Internet traffic coming into the system flows through a Cisco Firewall monitored by ASC. All Internet traffic in and out flows through a iBOSS filtering device.

Information Security and Safety: A Cisco firewall is provided with the Internet connectivity by Alabama Super Computer. They also monitor the firewall closely. Gadsden City Schools is in compliance with CIPA and FERPA.

Digital Content: Gadsden City Schools provides student online content utilizing multiple websites and Google for Education. Pacing guides and other web resources are posted on the district web server for all teachers and students to use. Each school has their own website which they maintain to provide local school information.   http://www.gcs.k12.al.us / Schools dropdown menu.

Digital Tools: Curriculum tools are available on the school system website http://www.gcs.k12.al.us/gadsden-city-schools-curriculum/student-and-parent-resources/ and through ALEX. Other digital tools used throughout the system include:

- STAR Enterprise Reading and Math (Elementary and Middle Schools)

- Accelerated Reader (Elementary and Middle Schools)

- ClassWorks (Secondary Schools)

- Read 180 (Secondary Schools)

- Textbook Digital Resources (Ex: Pearson Successnet, Pearson Realize, GoMath, McGraw-Hill ConnectEd, Harcourt Science)

- Alabama Virtual Library (AVL)

- Scantron Performance Series

- Epic and MyOn Digital e-book Reading Programs

Label	Assurance	Response	Comment	Attachment
2.	Did you complete the Inventory for each school in your school system?	Yes		LEA Inventory 2018-19_Gadsden

Accountability Questions

Identify at least three (3) programmatic, district-wide digital learning integration activities geared toward impacting student achievement in all schools (District Plan). (Note: May be different activities for different schools, but all schools must be implementing at least one major related strategy.)

Goal 1:

Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology

Measurable Objective 1:

70% of Pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Postsecondary, Adult and Ungraded grade Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a behavior use digital tools, individually and collaboratively, in and out of the classroom to gather, organize, evaluate, and share and present information in Career & Technical by 09/30/2018 as measured by a combined frequency index measured by the ASSIST Teacher Survey (Currently - 68.87).

Strategy1:

Technology Tools - Technology tools will increasingly be made available for student use.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865 - General Fund	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator

Activity - B.Y.O.D.	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy has been adopted by the School District and Board which allows students to use personal devices at school for instructional purposes. Teachers request permission to be a BYOD classroom from their principal. Several classes (where 1 to 1 programs are not yet available) are currently utilizing this policy for student device activities..	Policy and Process	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Google for Education and other LMS	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Strategy2:

Technology Competition - Technology based competitions and/or showcases will be held to recognize and encourage student use of

technology tools in their education.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Digital Citizenship Month - September	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The district will sponsor Digital Citizenship month in September. All schools will participate. Common Sense Media will be used throughout district along with additional resources from Google, IKEEPSAFE, NetSmartKids and NS-Teens.	Technology	09/01/2014	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) Library Media Specialists Specialists

Activity - TechBlitz	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Competitive Student Technology Fair. Prize money is provided by Vendor Sponsors.	Technology	04/01/2014	09/30/2019	$1500 - Other $300 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Technology Coaches Principals Teachers

Identify one (1) or more activities that focus upon using digital tools to improve achievement of all students with special emphasis upon high need and high poverty students.

Goal 1:

Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology

Measurable Objective 1:

70% of Pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Postsecondary, Adult and Ungraded grade Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a behavior use digital tools, individually and collaboratively, in and out of the classroom to gather, organize, evaluate, and share and present information in Career & Technical by 09/30/2018 as measured by a combined frequency index measured by the ASSIST Teacher Survey (Currently - 68.87).

Strategy1:

Technology Tools - Technology tools will increasingly be made available for student use.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Google for Education and other LMS	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865 - General Fund	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator

Identify at least five (5) district-wide activities geared toward preparing PK-12 teachers to use technology and digital content to help students meet Alabama's College- and Career-Ready Academic Standards.

Goal 1:

Prepare and Support Teachers and Leaders to Graduate College- and Career-Ready Students

Measurable Objective 1:

demonstrate a behavior teachers throughout the district use technology and digital resources to provide standards-based instruction and authentic learning activities in all content areas of responsibility to facilitate real-life experiences that advance student learning, ... by 09/30/2018 as measured by Frequency Index scores increasing from 67.91 to 69.00 based on the ASSIST Teacher Technology Survey.

Strategy1:

Training - Professional Development opportunities will be offered in a variety of formats and venues.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Technology Teacher Academy	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Self-paced, collaborative, online summer PD training for teachers throughout the district, delivered via Google Classroom, focusing on best practices and the appropriate incorporation of Google for Education applications into the classroom. A badging program will be incorporated as an incentive to increase participation as well as encourage peer mentoring within the schools.	Professional Learning	06/01/2017	09/30/2019	$3000 - District Funding	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Google Certification	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Google Certified Educator Level 1 Fundamentals Training Course will be promoted throughout the district with teachers receiving special recognition for successful course completion. One classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2016-17 school year. Another classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2017-18 school year. One district administrator completed Level 1 and Level 2 certifications during the 2017-18 school year. Another classroom teacher is now working to complete her Level 1 certification.	Professional Learning	10/03/2016	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Technology-Based Book Studies	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Local CEU/PLU Technology Book Studies	Professional Learning	09/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Extended Day In-Service	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
In-service days as well as teacher extended hour days will also be utilized to provide technology teacher training.	Professional Learning	08/05/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Technology Coaches Teachers

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative Training	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Teacher Training specifically geared to implementing the 1 to 1 initiatives throughout the district.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10000 - Title I Part A $5000 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - EdCamp Connect	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
EDCamp is a free, organic, participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. Edcamp Connect began in the summer of 2014 as a collaboration between the Gadsden City School district and the Etowah County School district. Our partnership with Etowah County Schools has been such a success and the event continues to grow each year.	Professional Learning	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$3000 - Other	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - District PLN	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The district is going to pilot a new District PLN through the use of Google Meet and Twitter. This will allow the district to push information and training to connected educators and administrators as well as build communities within each school across the district. Additionally, we will continue to hold CoffeeEdu, which was initiated during the 2015-2016 school year, on a quarterly basis.	Professional Learning	10/06/2014	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District technology staff

Activity - Librarian First Fridays	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
ALSDE sponsored technology rich training for librarians.	Professional Learning	08/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinators, School Principals, Librarians

Activity - Technology Conferences	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
School and district staff will attend local, state, and national conferences. We also have teachers that are attending EdCamps in surrounding counties.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10000 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - Wednesday Webinars	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
A professional development calendar is available for all staff with training opportunities throughout the year. Wednesday Webinars are included on this calendar. These technology training sessions are after school for one hour and cover a variety of topics. Teachers/Administrators may participate live or watch recordings of the sessions at a later time. Also a local PLU is often offered for administrators participating in the Wednesday Webinar sessions.	Professional Learning	09/10/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Strategy2:

Technology Resources - Technology resources to support the classroom teacher will be enhanced.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Pacing Guides	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Local pacing guides for College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) will be readily available for teachers and easily accessed through the district website. Annual reworks each summer with teacher stipends.	Direct Instruction	10/14/2013	09/30/2019	$5000 - Title II Part A	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Identify at least two (2) district-wide activities geared toward preparing leaders to lead technology planning and use digital tools and resources effectively in their jobs as instructional leaders.

Goal 1:

Prepare and Support Teachers and Leaders to Graduate College- and Career-Ready Students

Measurable Objective 1:

demonstrate a behavior teachers throughout the district use technology and digital resources to provide standards-based instruction and authentic learning activities in all content areas of responsibility to facilitate real-life experiences that advance student learning, ... by 09/30/2018 as measured by Frequency Index scores increasing from 67.91 to 69.00 based on the ASSIST Teacher Technology Survey.

Strategy1:

Training - Professional Development opportunities will be offered in a variety of formats and venues.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Wednesday Webinars	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
A professional development calendar is available for all staff with training opportunities throughout the year. Wednesday Webinars are included on this calendar. These technology training sessions are after school for one hour and cover a variety of topics. Teachers/Administrators may participate live or watch recordings of the sessions at a later time. Also a local PLU is often offered for administrators participating in the Wednesday Webinar sessions.	Professional Learning	09/10/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Technology-Based Book Studies	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Local CEU/PLU Technology Book Studies	Professional Learning	09/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - District PLN	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The district is going to pilot a new District PLN through the use of Google Meet and Twitter. This will allow the district to push information and training to connected educators and administrators as well as build communities within each school across the district. Additionally, we will continue to hold CoffeeEdu, which was initiated during the 2015-2016 school year, on a quarterly basis.	Professional Learning	10/06/2014	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District technology staff

Activity - Technology Conferences	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
School and district staff will attend local, state, and national conferences. We also have teachers that are attending EdCamps in surrounding counties.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10000 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - EdCamp Connect	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
EDCamp is a free, organic, participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. Edcamp Connect began in the summer of 2014 as a collaboration between the Gadsden City School district and the Etowah County School district. Our partnership with Etowah County Schools has been such a success and the event continues to grow each year.	Professional Learning	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$3000 - Other	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Identify one (1) or more activities that facilitate and improve the use of telecommunications networks (phone/Internet/email) among educators, students, and parents/community to improve learning.

Goal 1:

Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology

Measurable Objective 1:

70% of Pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Postsecondary, Adult and Ungraded grade Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a behavior use digital tools, individually and collaboratively, in and out of the classroom to gather, organize, evaluate, and share and present information in Career & Technical by 09/30/2018 as measured by a combined frequency index

measured by the ASSIST Teacher Survey (Currently - 68.87).

Strategy1:

Parent/Student Communication - Provide and improve technology methods for parent and student communications.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - E-Mail / FAX	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
All schools have the ability to FAX or email a parent at any time and at the same time parents may FAX or email the principal or teacher at any time.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$500 - USAC Technology	District Technology Coordinator(s) Superintendent Principals

Activity - Telecommunications	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Cell and POTS used to foster parent communication.	Parent Involvement	07/01/2013	09/30/2019	$65398 - General Fund $2511 - USAC Technology	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Websites & Social Media	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The district, individual schools, and many teachers maintain websites and/or wikis and/or Social media sites for the purpose of keeping students and parents informed and involved. Schools are also utilizing Google Classroom, Class Dojo, and Remind to enhance the home/school connection. The district website has undergone a complete upgrade and all school sites have been rolled under the umbrella of the new district site providing consistency and ease of navigation. During the 2014-2015 school year the district created a Facebook and Twitter page to help with parent communication and involvement. It allows the district another avenue for announcements and to congratulate students for achievements. Several schools also have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages as well as School/Teacher social media sites.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$2268 - Other	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - SchoolCast	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Emergency notifications, as well as non-emergency notification for PTA Meetings and other school activities.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10256 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals

Activity - STI Home Portal	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Parents ability to view student grades and assignments. Teachers use the gradebook portion of iNOW and make that information available for parents and students to view.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$13048 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Identify at least three (3) activities that explain how the network, technical support staff, instructional support staff, and digital teaching and learning resources accessed through the network will be linked to the achievement of learning goals of the District.

Goal 1:

Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology

Measurable Objective 1:

70% of Pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Postsecondary, Adult and Ungraded grade Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a behavior use digital tools, individually and collaboratively, in and out of the classroom to gather, organize, evaluate, and share and present information in Career & Technical by 09/30/2018 as measured by a combined frequency index measured by the ASSIST Teacher Survey (Currently - 68.87).

Strategy1:

Technology Tools - Technology tools will increasingly be made available for student use.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - Google for Education and other LMS	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865 - General Fund	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator

Activity - B.Y.O.D.	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy has been adopted by the School District and Board which allows students to use personal devices at school for instructional purposes. Teachers request permission to be a BYOD classroom from their principal. Several classes (where 1 to 1 programs are not yet available) are currently utilizing this policy for student device activities..	Policy and Process	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator(s)

Strategy2:

Parent/Student Communication - Provide and improve technology methods for parent and student communications.

Category:

Research Cited:

Activity - STI Home Portal	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Parents ability to view student grades and assignments. Teachers use the gradebook portion of iNOW and make that information available for parents and students to view.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$13048 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Goal 2:

All educators and students will have tools to access a comprehensive viable infrastructure when and where they need it.

Measurable Objective 1:

collaborate to ensure students, teachers, and administrators have excellent, viable bandwidth and wireless connectivity in order to access the

Internet, digital learning resources, productivity tools, online assessments, and data. by 05/27/2016 as measured by Alabama Super

Computer bandwidth availability and utilization charts and Trouble Trakker Tickets.

Strategy1:

Technical Support - The technology tools and services for the district will have sufficient support to keep them in effective use.

Category: Align Fiscal Resources

Research Cited:

Activity - Trouble Trakker	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The use of a ticketing system for all technology problems in the district. Each school has at least one person responsible for entering the tickets for their school.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) District Technicians Principals School Technology Primary Contacts

Activity - Tech Staff Meetings	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Periodic staff meetings (Director of Technology, technology specialists, and technicians) to discuss any problems that are occurring with regards to the use of technology in the classrooms and to plan for future upgrades and expansions. Additionally, the SLACK App will be utilized to facilitate efficient and timely communication for the technology staff.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0 - No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) Technology Staff / Technicians Technology Specialists (Part-Time)

Strategy2:

Expansion - The amount of bandwidth and number of Wireless Access Points will continue to increase as demand / utilization increases.

Category: Other - Infrastructure Support

Research Cited:

Activity - LAN / WIFI Upgrades	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
Internet Connections to individual schools will be increased up to 1 Gig connections as demand increases and funding will allow. This also includes increased numbers of iPADs with 3G/4G connectivity for staff use. 2017-2018 improvements include e-rate funded WIFI upgrades for most schools in the district.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2018	$173763 - USAC Technology $29789 - General Fund	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent.

Activity - Bandwidth Increase	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Funding Amount & Source	Staff Responsible
The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$203552 - USAC Technology	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent

Technology Plan Assurances

Label	Assurance	Response	Comment	Attachment
1.	The district has read, understands, and complies with the assurances required of the Alabama Technology Plan.	Yes		Assurances 2018 2019

AL Technology Plan 2018-19

Overview

Plan Name

AL Technology Plan 2018-19

Plan Description

Goals Summary

The following is a summary of the goals encompassed in this plan. The details for each goal are available in the next section.

#	Goal Name	Goal Details	Goal Type	Total Funding
1	Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology	Objectives: 1 Strategies: 3 Activities: 12	Academic	$108829
2	Prepare and Support Teachers and Leaders to Graduate College- and Career-Ready Students	Objectives: 1 Strategies: 2 Activities: 12	Organizational	$36000
3	All educators and students will have tools to access a comprehensive viable infrastructure when and where they need it.	Objectives: 1 Strategies: 2 Activities: 4	Organizational	$245221

Goal 1: Engage and Empower the Learner Through Technology

Measurable Objective 1:

70% of Pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Postsecondary, Adult and Ungraded grade Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a behavior use digital tools, individually and collaboratively, in and out of the classroom to gather, organize, evaluate, and share and present information in Career & Technical by 09/30/2018 as measured by a combined frequency index measured by the ASSIST Teacher Survey (Currently - 68.87).

Strategy 1:

Technology Tools - Technology tools will increasingly be made available for student use.

Category:

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School. Schools: All Schools	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865	General Fund	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator

Activity - B.Y.O.D.	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy has been adopted by the School District and Board which allows students to use personal devices at school for instructional purposes. Teachers request permission to be a BYOD classroom from their principal. Several classes (where 1 to 1 programs are not yet available) are currently utilizing this policy for student device activities.. Schools: All Schools	Policy and Process	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Google for Education and other LMS	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's. Schools: All Schools	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Coding/Programming Initiative	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
In today's digital world, coding is a fundamental skill alongside math and reading, that promotes problem solving, collaboration, and computational thinking. In order to address the new Digital Literacy and Computer Science Course of Study standards, Gadsden City Schools annually participates in the Hour of Code to introduce and encourage students to coding and programming resources in the elementary schools. Additionally, funds from the Alabama Middle School Computer Initiative Grant allowed for the creation of a Technology Club at Emma Sansom Middle School. We hope to expand technology and coding clubs at the middle school level as funds become available. Gadsden City High School students are embracing coding through several approaches including a unique Apple coding program. This program is a joint venture with Gadsden State Community College who received a grant to initiate the program. Additionally, students are participating in robotics competitions (BEST and others) through our Career-Tech Pre-Engineering program. Schools: All Schools	Technology	12/04/2017	09/30/2019	$25000	State Funds	Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Strategy 2:

Parent/Student Communication - Provide and improve technology methods for parent and student communications.

Category:

Activity - STI Home Portal	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Parents ability to view student grades and assignments. Teachers use the gradebook portion of iNOW and make that information available for parents and students to view. Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$13440	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - SchoolCast	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Emergency notifications, as well as non-emergency notification for PTA Meetings and other school activities. Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10256	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals

Activity - Websites & Social Media	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The district, individual schools, and many teachers maintain websites and/or wikis and/or Social media sites for the purpose of keeping students and parents informed and involved. Schools are also utilizing Google Classroom, Class Dojo, and Remind to enhance the home/school connection. The district website has undergone a complete upgrade and all school sites have been rolled under the umbrella of the new district site providing consistency and ease of navigation. During the 2014-2015 school year the district created a Facebook and Twitter page to help with parent communication and involvement. It allows the district another avenue for announcements and to congratulate students for achievements. Several schools also have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages as well as School/Teacher social media sites. Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$2268	Other	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - E-Mail / FAX	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
All schools have the ability to FAX or email a parent at any time and at the same time parents may FAX or email the principal or teacher at any time. Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$1500	USAC Technology	District Technology Coordinator(s) Superintendent Principals

Activity - Telecommunications	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Cell and POTS used to foster parent communication. Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement	07/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Strategy 3:

Technology Competition - Technology based competitions and/or showcases will be held to recognize and encourage student use of technology tools in their education.

Category:

Activity - TechBlitz	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible

| Competitive Student Technology Fair. Prize money is provided by Vendor Sponsors.

Schools: All Schools | Technology | 04/01/2014 | 09/30/2019 | $1500 | Other | District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers |

Activity - Digital Citizenship Month - September	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The district will sponsor Digital Citizenship month in September. All schools will participate. Common Sense Media will be used throughout district along with additional resources from Google, IKEEPSAFE, NetSmartKids and NS-Teens. Schools: All Schools	Technology	09/01/2014	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) Library Media Specialists Specialists

Activity - Speak Up Survey	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Students, Staff, and Parents participate in the annual Speak Up Survey. Speak Up, a national online research project facilitated by Project Tomorrow®, gives students, teachers, parents, school/district/technology administrators, and community members the opportunity to share their unfiltered viewpoints about key educational issues, particularly concerning 21st century education and technology. Each year, findings are summarized and shared with national and state policy makers. Participating schools and districts can access their data online, free-of-charge in early February. http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2017/ Schools: All Schools	Parent Involvement, Technology	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator, School Principals and their designees.

Goal 2: Prepare and Support Teachers and Leaders to Graduate College- and Career-Ready Students

Measurable Objective 1:

demonstrate a behavior teachers throughout the district use technology and digital resources to provide standards-based instruction and authentic learning activities in all content areas of responsibility to facilitate real-life experiences that advance student learning, ... by 09/30/2018 as measured by Frequency Index scores increasing from 67.91 to 69.00 based on the ASSIST Teacher Technology Survey.

Strategy 1:

Training - Professional Development opportunities will be offered in a variety of formats and venues.

Category:

Activity - Wednesday Webinars	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
A professional development calendar is available for all staff with training opportunities throughout the year. Wednesday Webinars are included on this calendar. These technology training sessions are after school for one hour and cover a variety of topics. Teachers/Administrators may participate live or watch recordings of the sessions at a later time. Also a local PLU is often offered for administrators participating in the Wednesday Webinar sessions. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	09/10/2013	09/30/2019	$0	General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - EdCamp Connect	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
EDCamp is a free, organic, participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. Edcamp Connect began in the summer of 2014 as a collaboration between the Gadsden City School district and the Etowah County School district. Our partnership with Etowah County Schools has been such a success and the event continues to grow each year. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$3000	Other	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Technology-Based Book Studies	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Local CEU/PLU Technology Book Studies Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	09/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	General Fund	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Extended Day In-Service	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
In-service days as well as teacher extended hour days will also be utilized to provide technology teacher training. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	08/05/2013	09/30/2019	$0	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Technology Coaches Teachers

Activity - 1 to 1 Initiative Training	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Teacher Training specifically geared to implementing the 1 to 1 initiatives throughout the district. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - Technology Conferences	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
School and district staff will attend local, state, and national conferences. We also have teachers that are attending EdCamps in surrounding counties. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$20000	General Fund	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

Activity - District PLN	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The district is going to pilot a new District PLN through the use of Google Meet and Twitter. This will allow the district to push information and training to connected educators and administrators as well as build communities within each school across the district. Additionally, we will continue to hold CoffeeEdu, which was initiated during the 2015-2016 school year, on a quarterly basis. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	10/06/2014	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District technology staff

Activity - Best Practices	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Technology Topics for Administrators: Best Practices - Eric Lee, TiM is leading this series of workshops for a PLU. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	09/01/2014	09/30/2018	$0	No Funding Required	Eric Lee, TiM ... Also, Brandi Caldwell conducted a second session during the 2015-2016 school year. A follow-up session with Brandi Caldwell is scheduled for the Spring of 2018.

Activity - Google Certification	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible

| Google Certified Educator Level 1 Fundamentals Training Course will be promoted throughout the district with teachers receiving special recognition for successful course completion. One classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2016-17 school year. Another classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2017-18 school year. One district administrator completed Level 1 and Level 2 certifications during the 2017-18 school year. Another classroom teacher is now working to complete her Level 1 certification.

Schools: All Schools | Professional Learning | 10/03/2016 | 09/30/2019 | $0 | No Funding Required | Technology Coordinator(s) |

Activity - Technology Teacher Academy	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Self-paced, collaborative, online summer PD training for teachers throughout the district, delivered via Google Classroom, focusing on best practices and the appropriate incorporation of Google for Education applications into the classroom. A badging program will be incorporated as an incentive to increase participation as well as encourage peer mentoring within the schools. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	06/01/2017	09/30/2019	$3000	District Funding	Technology Coordinator(s)

Activity - Librarian First Fridays	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
ALSDE sponsored technology rich training for librarians. Schools: All Schools	Professional Learning	08/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinators, School Principals, Librarians

Strategy 2:

Technology Resources - Technology resources to support the classroom teacher will be enhanced.

Category:

Activity - Pacing Guides	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Local pacing guides for College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) will be readily available for teachers and easily accessed through the district website. Annual reworks each summer with teacher stipends. Schools: All Schools	Direct Instruction	10/14/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	Title II Part A	District Technology Coordinator(s)

Goal 3: All educators and students will have tools to access a comprehensive viable infrastructure when and where they need it.

Measurable Objective 1:

collaborate to ensure students, teachers, and administrators have excellent, viable bandwidth and wireless connectivity in order to access the Internet, digital learning resources, productivity tools, online assessments, and data. by 05/27/2016 as measured by Alabama Super Computer bandwidth availability and utilization charts and Trouble Trakker Tickets.

Strategy 1:

Expansion - The amount of bandwidth and number of Wireless Access Points will continue to increase as demand / utilization increases.

Category: Other - Infrastructure Support

Activity - Bandwidth Increase	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow. Schools: All Schools	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$183025	USAC Technology, General Fund, State Funds	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent

Activity - LAN / WIFI Upgrades	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
Internet Connections to individual schools will be increased up to 1 Gig connections as demand increases and funding will allow. This also includes increased numbers of iPADs with 3G/4G connectivity for staff use. 2017-2018 improvements include e-rate funded WIFI upgrades for most schools in the district. Schools: All Schools	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$62196	General Fund, USAC Technology	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent.

Strategy 2:

Technical Support - The technology tools and services for the district will have sufficient support to keep them in effective use.

Category: Align Fiscal Resources

Activity - Tech Staff Meetings	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible

Periodic staff meetings (Director of Technology, technology specialists, and technicians) to discuss any problems that are occurring with regards to the use of technology in the classrooms and to plan for future upgrades and expansions. Additionally, the SLACK App will be utilized to facilitate efficient and timely communication for the technology staff. Schools: All Schools	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) Technology Staff / Technicians Technology Specialists (Part-Time)

Activity - Trouble Trakker	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Source Of Funding	Staff Responsible
The use of a ticketing system for all technology problems in the district. Each school has at least one person responsible for entering the tickets for their school. Schools: All Schools	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	No Funding Required	District Technology Coordinator(s) District Technicians Principals School Technology Primary Contacts

Activity Summary by Funding Source

Below is a breakdown of your activities by funding source

General Fund

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Bandwidth Increase	The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$25704	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent
Wednesday Webinars	A professional development calendar is available for all staff with training opportunities throughout the year. Wednesday Webinars are included on this calendar. These technology training sessions are after school for one hour and cover a variety of topics. Teachers/Administrators may participate live or watch recordings of the sessions at a later time. Also a local PLU is often offered for administrators participating in the Wednesday Webinar sessions.	Professional Learning	09/10/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)
Technology-Based Book Studies	Local CEU/PLU Technology Book Studies	Professional Learning	09/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)
Google for Education and other LMS	Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s)
Telecommunications	Cell and POTS used to foster parent communication.	Parent Involvement	07/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s)
SchoolCast	Emergency notifications, as well as non-emergency notification for PTA Meetings and other school activities.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10256	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals
Technology Conferences	School and district staff will attend local, state, and national conferences. We also have teachers that are attending EdCamps in surrounding counties.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$20000	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers

1 to 1 Initiative	The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator
1 to 1 Initiative Training	Teacher Training specifically geared to implementing the 1 to 1 initiatives throughout the district.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
Extended Day In-Service	In-service days as well as teacher extended hour days will also be utilized to provide technology teacher training.	Professional Learning	08/05/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Technology Coaches Teachers
LAN / WIFI Upgrades	Internet Connections to individual schools will be increased up to 1 Gig connections as demand increases and funding will allow. This also includes increased numbers of iPADs with 3G/4G connectivity for staff use. 2017-2018 improvements include e-rate funded WIFI upgrades for most schools in the district.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$15835	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent.
STI Home Portal	Parents ability to view student grades and assignments. Teachers use the gradebook portion of iNOW and make that information available for parents and students to view.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$13440	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
				Total	$145100	

Other

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible

Websites & Social Media	The district, individual schools, and many teachers maintain websites and/or wikis and/or Social media sites for the purpose of keeping students and parents informed and involved. Schools are also utilizing Google Classroom, Class Dojo, and Remind to enhance the home/school connection. The district website has undergone a complete upgrade and all school sites have been rolled under the umbrella of the new district site providing consistency and ease of navigation. During the 2014-2015 school year the district created a Facebook and Twitter page to help with parent communication and involvement. It allows the district another avenue for announcements and to congratulate students for achievements. Several schools also have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages as well as School/Teacher social media sites.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$2268	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
EdCamp Connect	EDCamp is a free, organic, participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. Edcamp Connect began in the summer of 2014 as a collaboration between the Gadsden City School district and the Etowah County School district. Our partnership with Etowah County Schools has been such a success and the event continues to grow each year.	Professional Learning	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$3000	District Technology Coordinator(s)
TechBlitz	Competitive Student Technology Fair. Prize money is provided by Vendor Sponsors.	Technology	04/01/2014	09/30/2019	$1500	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
				Total	$6768	

No Funding Required

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Digital Citizenship Month - September	The district will sponsor Digital Citizenship month in September. All schools will participate. Common Sense Media will be used throughout district along with additional resources from Google, IKEEPSAFE, NetSmartKids and NS-Teens.	Technology	09/01/2014	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Library Media Specialists Specialists

District PLN	The district is going to pilot a new District PLN through the use of Google Meet and Twitter. This will allow the district to push information and training to connected educators and administrators as well as build communities within each school across the district. Additionally, we will continue to hold CoffeeEdu, which was initiated during the 2015-2016 school year, on a quarterly basis.	Professional Learning	10/06/2014	09/30/2019	$0	District technology staff
Speak Up Survey	Students, Staff, and Parents participate in the annual Speak Up Survey. Speak Up, a national online research project facilitated by Project Tomorrow®, gives students, teachers, parents, school/district/technology administrators, and community members the opportunity to share their unfiltered viewpoints about key educational issues, particularly concerning 21st century education and technology. Each year, findings are summarized and shared with national and state policy makers. Participating schools and districts can access their data online, free-of-charge in early February. http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2017/	Parent Involvement, Technology	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator, School Principals and their designees.
Tech Staff Meetings	Periodic staff meetings (Director of Technology, technology specialists, and technicians) to discuss any problems that are occurring with regards to the use of technology in the classrooms and to plan for future upgrades and expansions. Additionally, the SLACK App will be utilized to facilitate efficient and timely communication for the technology staff.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Technology Staff / Technicians Technology Specialists (Part-Time)
Google Certification	Google Certified Educator Level 1 Fundamentals Training Course will be promoted throughout the district with teachers receiving special recognition for successful course completion. One classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2016-17 school year. Another classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2017-18 school year. One district administrator completed Level 1 and Level 2 certifications during the 2017-18 school year. Another classroom teacher is now working to complete her Level 1 certification.	Professional Learning	10/03/2016	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)
Trouble Trakker	The use of a ticketing system for all technology problems in the district. Each school has at least one person responsible for entering the tickets for their school.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) District Technicians Principals School Technology Primary Contacts

Librarian First Fridays	ALSDE sponsored technology rich training for librarians.	Professional Learning	08/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinators, School Principals, Librarians
B.Y.O.D.	A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy has been adopted by the School District and Board which allows students to use personal devices at school for instructional purposes. Teachers request permission to be a BYOD classroom from their principal. Several classes (where 1 to 1 programs are not yet available) are currently utilizing this policy for student device activities..	Policy and Process	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator(s)
Best Practices	Technology Topics for Administrators: Best Practices - Eric Lee, TiM is leading this series of workshops for a PLU.	Professional Learning	09/01/2014	09/30/2018	$0	Eric Lee, TiM ... Also, Brandi Caldwell conducted a second session during the 2015-2016 school year. A follow-up session with Brandi Caldwell is scheduled for the Spring of 2018.
				Total	$0	

USAC Technology

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
LAN / WIFI Upgrades	Internet Connections to individual schools will be increased up to 1 Gig connections as demand increases and funding will allow. This also includes increased numbers of iPADs with 3G/4G connectivity for staff use. 2017-2018 improvements include e-rate funded WIFI upgrades for most schools in the district.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$46361	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent.
Bandwidth Increase	The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$140741	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent

E-Mail / FAX	All schools have the ability to FAX or email a parent at any time and at the same time parents may FAX or email the principal or teacher at any time.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$1500	District Technology Coordinator(s) Superintendent Principals
				Total	$188602	

District Funding

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Technology Teacher Academy	Self-paced, collaborative, online summer PD training for teachers throughout the district, delivered via Google Classroom, focusing on best practices and the appropriate incorporation of Google for Education applications into the classroom. A badging program will be incorporated as an incentive to increase participation as well as encourage peer mentoring within the schools.	Professional Learning	06/01/2017	09/30/2019	$3000	Technology Coordinator(s)
				Total	$3000	

Title II Part A

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Pacing Guides	Local pacing guides for College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) will be readily available for teachers and easily accessed through the district website. Annual reworks each summer with teacher stipends.	Direct Instruction	10/14/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	District Technology Coordinator(s)
				Total	$5000	

State Funds

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Bandwidth Increase	The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$16580	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent

Coding/Programming Initiative	In today's digital world, coding is a fundamental skill alongside math and reading, that promotes problem solving, collaboration, and computational thinking. In order to address the new Digital Literacy and Computer Science Course of Study standards, Gadsden City Schools annually participates in the Hour of Code to introduce and encourage students to coding and programming resources in the elementary schools. Additionally, funds from the Alabama Middle School Computer Initiative Grant allowed for the creation of a Technology Club at Emma Sansom Middle School. We hope to expand technology and coding clubs at the middle school level as funds become available. Gadsden City High School students are embracing coding through several approaches including a unique Apple coding program. This program is a joint venture with Gadsden State Community College who received a grant to initiate the program. Additionally, students are participating in robotics competitions (BEST and others) through our Career-Tech Pre-Engineering program.	Technology	12/04/2017	09/30/2019	$25000	Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
				Total	$41580	

Activity Summary by School

Below is a breakdown of activity by school.

All Schools

Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Type	Begin Date	End Date	Resource Assigned	Staff Responsible
Bandwidth Increase	The amount of internet Bandwidth coming in to the district will be increased annually as demand increases and available funding will allow.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$183025	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent
LAN / WIFI Upgrades	Internet Connections to individual schools will be increased up to 1 Gig connections as demand increases and funding will allow. This also includes increased numbers of iPADs with 3G/4G connectivity for staff use. 2017-2018 improvements include e-rate funded WIFI upgrades for most schools in the district.	Technology	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$62196	District Technology Coordinator and Superintendent.
Wednesday Webinars	A professional development calendar is available for all staff with training opportunities throughout the year. Wednesday Webinars are included on this calendar. These technology training sessions are after school for one hour and cover a variety of topics. Teachers/Administrators may participate live or watch recordings of the sessions at a later time. Also a local PLU is often offered for administrators participating in the Wednesday Webinar sessions.	Professional Learning	09/10/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)
EdCamp Connect	EDCamp is a free, organic, participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. Edcamp Connect began in the summer of 2014 as a collaboration between the Gadsden City School district and the Etowah County School district. Our partnership with Etowah County Schools has been such a success and the event continues to grow each year.	Professional Learning	11/01/2013	09/30/2019	$3000	District Technology Coordinator(s)
Technology-Based Book Studies	Local CEU/PLU Technology Book Studies	Professional Learning	09/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)

1 to 1 Initiative	The Gadsden City School District began with a 1:1 iPad Initiative in the eight elementary schools and 3 middle schools. Over the past three years, schools throughout the district have purchased additional classroom iPads, and more recently Chromebooks for grades K - 8. The district purchased 1600 laptops for Gadsden City High School to provide a 1:1 initiative for grades 9-12. The district is striving to be completely 1:1. (See attached spreadsheet for specific details of 1:1 device inventory.) *Gadsden City High School is in it's third year of a full 1 to 1 initiative with all students being issued a Lenovo Yoga device which they take home with them. Currently six of the eight elementary schools and two of the three middle schools are Title I schools. Additional Laptops will be purchased for the High School.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$54865	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator
B.Y.O.D.	A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy has been adopted by the School District and Board which allows students to use personal devices at school for instructional purposes. Teachers request permission to be a BYOD classroom from their principal. Several classes (where 1 to 1 programs are not yet available) are currently utilizing this policy for student device activities..	Policy and Process	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	Superintendent District Technology Coordinator(s)
Google for Education and other LMS	Student access to assignments/classwork/and other resources via Google for Education (GAFE), Edmodo, and other LMS's.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s)
STI Home Portal	Parents ability to view student grades and assignments. Teachers use the gradebook portion of iNOW and make that information available for parents and students to view.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$13440	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
SchoolCast	Emergency notifications, as well as non-emergency notification for PTA Meetings and other school activities.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$10256	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals

Websites & Social Media	The district, individual schools, and many teachers maintain websites and/or wikis and/or Social media sites for the purpose of keeping students and parents informed and involved. Schools are also utilizing Google Classroom, Class Dojo, and Remind to enhance the home/school connection. The district website has undergone a complete upgrade and all school sites have been rolled under the umbrella of the new district site providing consistency and ease of navigation. During the 2014-2015 school year the district created a Facebook and Twitter page to help with parent communication and involvement. It allows the district another avenue for announcements and to congratulate students for achievements. Several schools also have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages as well as School/Teacher social media sites.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$2268	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
E-Mail / FAX	All schools have the ability to FAX or email a parent at any time and at the same time parents may FAX or email the principal or teacher at any time.	Parent Involvement	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$1500	District Technology Coordinator(s) Superintendent Principals
Pacing Guides	Local pacing guides for College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) will be readily available for teachers and easily accessed through the district website. Annual reworks each summer with teacher stipends.	Direct Instruction	10/14/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	District Technology Coordinator(s)
Extended Day In-Service	In-service days as well as teacher extended hour days will also be utilized to provide technology teacher training.	Professional Learning	08/05/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Technology Coaches Teachers
Tech Staff Meetings	Periodic staff meetings (Director of Technology, technology specialists, and technicians) to discuss any problems that are occurring with regards to the use of technology in the classrooms and to plan for future upgrades and expansions. Additionally, the SLACK App will be utilized to facilitate efficient and timely communication for the technology staff.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Technology Staff / Technicians Technology Specialists (Part-Time)

Trouble Trakker	The use of a ticketing system for all technology problems in the district. Each school has at least one person responsible for entering the tickets for their school.	Technology	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) District Technicians Principals School Technology Primary Contacts
TechBlitz	Competitive Student Technology Fair. Prize money is provided by Vendor Sponsors.	Technology	04/01/2014	09/30/2019	$1500	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
1 to 1 Initiative Training	Teacher Training specifically geared to implementing the 1 to 1 initiatives throughout the district.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$5000	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
Telecommunications	Cell and POTS used to foster parent communication.	Parent Involvement	07/01/2013	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s)
Technology Conferences	School and district staff will attend local, state, and national conferences. We also have teachers that are attending EdCamps in surrounding counties.	Professional Learning	08/12/2013	09/30/2019	$20000	District Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
Digital Citizenship Month - September	The district will sponsor Digital Citizenship month in September. All schools will participate. Common Sense Media will be used throughout district along with additional resources from Google, IKEEPSAFE, NetSmartKids and NS-Teens.	Technology	09/01/2014	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator(s) Library Media Specialists Specialists
District PLN	The district is going to pilot a new District PLN through the use of Google Meet and Twitter. This will allow the district to push information and training to connected educators and administrators as well as build communities within each school across the district. Additionally, we will continue to hold CoffeeEdu, which was initiated during the 2015-2016 school year, on a quarterly basis.	Professional Learning	10/06/2014	09/30/2019	$0	District technology staff

Best Practices	Technology Topics for Administrators: Best Practices - Eric Lee, TiM is leading this series of workshops for a PLU.	Professional Learning	09/01/2014	09/30/2018	$0	Eric Lee, TiM ... Also, Brandi Caldwell conducted a second session during the 2015-2016 school year. A follow-up session with Brandi Caldwell is scheduled for the Spring of 2018.
Google Certification	Google Certified Educator Level 1 Fundamentals Training Course will be promoted throughout the district with teachers receiving special recognition for successful course completion. One classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2016-17 school year. Another classroom teacher completed her certification during the 2017-18 school year. One district administrator completed Level 1 and Level 2 certifications during the 2017-18 school year. Another classroom teacher is now working to complete her Level 1 certification.	Professional Learning	10/03/2016	09/30/2019	$0	Technology Coordinator(s)
Technology Teacher Academy	Self-paced, collaborative, online summer PD training for teachers throughout the district, delivered via Google Classroom, focusing on best practices and the appropriate incorporation of Google for Education applications into the classroom. A badging program will be incorporated as an incentive to increase participation as well as encourage peer mentoring within the schools.	Professional Learning	06/01/2017	09/30/2019	$3000	Technology Coordinator(s)
Speak Up Survey	Students, Staff, and Parents participate in the annual Speak Up Survey. Speak Up, a national online research project facilitated by Project Tomorrow®, gives students, teachers, parents, school/district/technology administrators, and community members the opportunity to share their unfiltered viewpoints about key educational issues, particularly concerning 21st century education and technology. Each year, findings are summarized and shared with national and state policy makers. Participating schools and districts can access their data online, free-of-charge in early February. http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2017/	Parent Involvement, Technology	10/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinator, School Principals and their designees.

Librarian First Fridays	ALSDE sponsored technology rich training for librarians.	Professional Learning	08/01/2016	09/30/2019	$0	District Technology Coordinators, School Principals, Librarians
Coding/Programming Initiative	In today's digital world, coding is a fundamental skill alongside math and reading, that promotes problem solving, collaboration, and computational thinking. In order to address the new Digital Literacy and Computer Science Course of Study standards, Gadsden City Schools annually participates in the Hour of Code to introduce and encourage students to coding and programming resources in the elementary schools. Additionally, funds from the Alabama Middle School Computer Initiative Grant allowed for the creation of a Technology Club at Emma Sansom Middle School. We hope to expand technology and coding clubs at the middle school level as funds become available. Gadsden City High School students are embracing coding through several approaches including a unique Apple coding program. This program is a joint venture with Gadsden State Community College who received a grant to initiate the program. Additionally, students are participating in robotics competitions (BEST and others) through our Career-Tech Pre-Engineering program.	Technology	12/04/2017	09/30/2019	$25000	Technology Coordinator(s) Principals Teachers
				Total	$390050	