



Annual Operating Plan Technology – 2017-18

We will provide secure and reliable learning environments that will allow students and staff to use technology in an effective and seamless manner.

Goal: Increase staff knowledge of the technology available for teaching, learning and workplace applications.

Focus on Computational Thinking (Responsibility: Superintendent of Education (D. Abbey), Educational Technology Team)

<p>Strategies (What will we do?)</p>	<p>Provide workshops and planning sessions with school and system staff to increase awareness and knowledge of Computational Thinking to support the 21st Century competencies.</p> <p>Note: Computational Thinking is the process involved in formulating a problem and expressing its solution(s) in such a way that a computer (human or machine) can effectively implement.</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with other School Boards and stakeholders around effective learning and teaching in the area of Computational Thinking (Fall 2017) • Design, prepare, and implement professional learning opportunities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Program Teams ○ Administrators ○ Digital Lead Learners ○ Students • Appearance of strategies supporting Computational Thinking in schools (classrooms, Learning Commons, MakerSpaces) • Collect data with participants using tools developed 2016 17 to measure degree of implementation and impact on instructional practices • Connections to Computational Thinking & Problem Solving in Ed Tech Projects. (Fall Spring 2017 18) • Development of a Computational Thinking/Coding continuum connected to curriculum and Revised Math Strategy (RMS). (2018 19)
<p>Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)</p>	

Focus on leveraging technology tools and resources to promote learning and communication.

(Responsibility: Superintendent of Education (D. Abbey), Educational Technology Team)

Strategies (What will we do?)	Design and deploy a new Education Technology website for the purposes of hosting content that supports learning and teaching with technology as well as promotes communication and sharing with various stakeholders.
Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with IT and Communication department to develop an intuitive and user friendly website which can support staff in use of technology. (Fall 2017) • Import, build, and publish content for the Education Technology website. • Continue to create new content, as needed, in support of learning and teaching around the 21st Century Competencies. • Based on feedback from stakeholders improve effectiveness of site to support users.
Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)	

Goal: Optimize our data systems to ensure that information is accurate, reliable, and easily accessible.

Focus on developing a plan for secure communication and learning environments for parents and students.

(Responsibility: Superintendent of Education (D. Abbey), Information Technology Services Management Team)

Strategies (What will we do?)	Development Parent and Student Portal Plan.
Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish design components for both Parent and Student Portals. • Identify a platform needed to support functionality. (January 2018) • Pilot usage of the Parent Portal with a small group of Digital Lead Learners. (Spring 2018) • Develop an Implementation timeline and training for rollout 2018 19. (Spring 2018) • Create resources on best practices using the Parent Communication Portal. (Spring 2018) • Deployment of the Parent Portal. (2018 19)
Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)	

Focus on Data Integration of LITE with PowerSchool

(Responsibility: Information Technology Services Management Team)

Strategies (What will we do?)	Integrate our special education system (LITE) with the boards student information system PowerSchool. This integration will eliminate manual updating of special education student data speeding up ONSIS reporting period and eliminating transposition errors by school admin staff.
Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module for Special Ed Lite installed. (October 2017) • Special Education identify key fields needed to be aligned with PowerSchool and ONSIS. (September 2016) • PowerSchool migrated from the cloud to on premise. (November 2017) • Revised batch process to update the data in place. (October, 2017) • Fully implemented and tested. (November, 2017) • Identify list of other processes that can benefit from PowerSchool Data Integration. • Prioritize implementation plan data integration.
Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)	

Goal: Provide an up-to-date technology infrastructure that meets the needs of classrooms, administration and departments

Focus on building back up servers to allow continuity of the boards primary services hosted on our servers.

(Responsibility: D. Abbey and J. Ecklund)

Strategies (What will we do?)	Create Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity capacity for our student and business systems.
Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install back up servers at alternative location to our current data centre. • Test the systems to ensure they can operate from a remote location without the loss of data.
Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)	

Focus on providing up-to-date Technology Infrastructure to remote areas of the board not served by the Bell Fibre network

(Responsibility: D. Abbey and J. Ecklund)

Strategies (What will we do?)	Deploying Software Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) devices to schools identified by the Ministry of Education as schools that can benefit by increased network access. Deploying SD-WAN devices to schools that could not be reached by our fibre service provider to increase network access.
Evidence of Progress (How well did we do it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation so SD-WAN devices at schools identified by the Broadband Modernization Wave 1 & 2 initiative. • Survey of schools after SD-WAN devices deployed to see if the connectivity network speed is more stable and proves faster access to the internet.
Status (Is anyone better off? How do we know?)	