



**Strategic Action Plan
for
Technology in Education
1997-2010**

Revised 2003-2004

**El Paso Independent School District
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About this Plan

This document is an update of the technology plan developed and submitted to the State in 1997.

Many of the recommendations in the earlier document have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented, but new technologies have also meant that slight changes in direction when compared to the original plan were inevitable.

This plan follows the format outlined by the Commissioner of Education for the State of Texas in the Instructions for Technology Plan Approval Process for Universal Service Fund E-Rate Discounts. The content follows many of the suggestions published in the State of Texas Long-Range Plan for Technology, 1996-2010.

The plan's first four goals are in alignment with the Texas School Technology and Readiness (STaR Chart). The STaR Chart has been developed to allow Districts and schools to assess their efforts in effectively integrating technology across the curriculum. The last two goals of the Technology Plan help align the plan to the EPISD 5-Year Strategic Plan, which can be found on the Web at the following link: http://www.episd.org/District/strategic_plan.html.

The El Paso ISD technology plan is intended to be a living, working document. It will be reviewed annually by the District Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) and updated as needed. The composition of the TAC will come from all employee groups within the District, and will also include representation from outside the EPISD. School Board members will be asked to appoint representation of their choosing from both the private and public sector to sit on the TAC.



PREFACE

El Paso is an international city of approximately 690,000 residents of which 73% are Hispanic. It is the 4th largest city in Texas, 3rd fastest growing in the nation, 17th largest city in the country, and 5th poorest metropolitan area in the country. It is closer to the capital of New Mexico and Chihuahua, Mexico than to Austin. It is also a city of rich cultural heritage and diversity, where many people have met and grown interdependent.

Established in 1881, El Paso Independent School District (EPISD) is the second largest employer in the city, largest of nine school Districts in the county with approximately 63,000 students, 7th largest in Texas and 51st largest in the U.S. It is one of the poorest Districts, with a property-tax base that is only 70% of the state average. El Paso's close proximity to Mexico means the District has a large Limited English Proficient (LEP) population of immigrants enrolled in its bilingual program of which 13,000 students are in a low-socio-economic group and 90% receive free or reduced lunch. Their poverty and language needs put them at risk of becoming part of the disproportionately high Hispanic dropout rate. About 5,700 students are enrolled in special education classes, of these approximately 150 require adaptive technology devices and many more could benefit from technological advances.

EPISD is comprised of 56 elementary, one elementary/intermediate, 14 middle, 10 high schools and ten special campuses. The District's 2002-03 statistics provided by Research and Evaluation reflects: 58% at-risk, 67% eligible for free and reduced lunch, 11% grade retention, and 6% residing in public housing, yet the final dropout rate for grades 7-12 is 1.1%. Through technology, the District seeks to promote and provide equity in educational opportunities for all students.

El Paso Independent School District's main focus is on providing students with an excellent, comprehensive education that will enrich their lives and prepare them for their future.



Executive Summary

In addressing the technological needs of our students, staff, and community, the El Paso Independent School District (EPISD) has established a Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) to review, revise and/or update the District's technology plan. This committee will seek to promote and provide equity in educational opportunities for all students.

This document, which is aligned to state and national standards, as well as the EPISD Strategic Plan, is designed to outline our understanding of how technology can assist EPISD in achieving the following vision:

To participate in the fast-changing global community, EPISD will give students, educators, and stakeholders' access to information, which allows for the effective integration of technology into the learning process.

We envision a community, which promotes the transition of information into knowledge and the development of questioning learners.

Delivering this vision will unquestionably require philosophical and pedagogical shifts. To address these areas, the following overarching goals are proposed:

Goal 1: To improve teaching and learning through the use of technology.

Goal 2: To improve educator preparation and development through the use of technology.

Goal 3: To improve administration and support services through the use of technology.

Goal 4: To improve infrastructure for technology.

Goal 5: To improve community outreach.

Goal 6: To evaluate the impact of technology on teaching and learning.

While technology is a means of providing assistance, it is of value only to the extent to which student achievement and student support services are enhanced. To that end, this Technology Plan identifies certain benefits and outcomes such as: Administrators can expect to be better informed about school operations and campus decision making; educators can expect greater support in the development and implementation of instructional strategies; and the District's stakeholders can expect increased opportunities to participate in the educational process along with a more efficient and equitable use of financial and human resources.



Vision Statement

To participate in the fast-changing global community, EPISD will give students, educators, and stakeholders' access to information, which allows for the effective integration of technology into the learning process.

We envision a community, which promotes the transition of information into knowledge and the development of questioning learners.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes

- ◆ El Paso Independent School District students can expect higher performance and deeper engagement in academic endeavors by accessing and creating resources available through a variety of modalities appropriate to diverse learning styles.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District parents can expect not only to participate more directly in their children's education but also to improve their own knowledge as parents and citizens.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District educators and teachers can expect to be supported in the creation and implementation of instructional strategies by having access to a wider variety of resources.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District administrators can expect to be more informed and to manage campus decision-making more efficiently through timely access and analysis of information in support of school operations.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District taxpayers and school board members can expect more efficient and equitable use of financial and human resources.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District stakeholders can look forward to the opportunity to participate in the educational process.
- ◆ El Paso Independent School District communities can expect wider access to diverse curricular programs because of the ability to move information and not people.



Goals

In addition to a sound background in traditional academics, today's students must be competent and confident in using a wide range of technology in a variety of settings. Today, and in the future, most career paths require the use of computers and a wide-range of other technology. In short, students must be as comfortable using a computer or other technology as they are in using a pencil and paper.

Most importantly, students must have access to technology on a regular basis in their classroom environment so they can become proficient in using it in many ways. They must be encouraged and guided to use technology as a tool to access information and to efficiently develop dynamic, effective projects.

Teachers are a key component in developing and nurturing appropriate technology use by students. Therefore, they too must have access to up-to-date technology and the appropriate training and technical support to take advantage of it. Technology then becomes a tool to assist teachers in many ways - from presenting lessons in new, dynamic fashions, to assessing individual student needs and monitoring and reporting student progress. And, teachers must be able to prepare students by teaching the concepts and skills needed for them to understand and use technology effectively.

Technology is equally important to administrators and support staff within the school district. It is essential that all staff have access to technology and the skills to use it to its best advantage.



Recent History of Technology Implementation and Future Initiatives

The El Paso ISD has been using technology in the classroom and administrative offices for approximately two decades.

Today, every fixed-wall classroom in the District is equipped with a minimum of one computer connected to the District's wide area network and Internet access. In addition, campuses may have additional workstations within classrooms or labs that are available for student and staff use. At the present time, the District is determining the most cost-effective means to provide access from its many portable classrooms located at various campuses.

Locations of these computers vary by content area and campus but include both large group lab settings and classroom settings. Students and teachers are taking advantage of a wide variety of software packages to enhance and extend many curricular areas.

We began a 3-phase project in 1998-1999 by installing workstations in all high schools, followed by middle schools in 1999-2000, and in 2000-2001 completing the elementary campuses. In addition, the majority of the campuses have a computer lab, which can range in function from math to reading to a lab where each class can visit and perform different functions such as research or group projects. The use of mobile wireless carts utilizing notebook computers is also on the rise.

In 2001-2002, the District received a substantial funding allocation from the Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Administrative Company School and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, more widely known as "E-Rate". With the \$66.1M award, the following projects were funded:

- Local and long distance telecommunication services
- Internet services
- Upgrade of wide area network to a high speed fiber optic backbone to include electronics and cabling at eligible campuses
- Upgrade of the Districtwide e-mail system
- Installation of Web servers and application servers at many campuses
- Maintenance and hardware support services
- A comprehensive technology assessment to include technology planning, community communications, curriculum and technology integration, teacher and learning with computers, and virtual schools
- On-demand video services

Additional information on E-Rate can be found further on within this document.

Also during 1999-2003, the District received over \$3.5M in funding from the Texas Telecommunication Infrastructure Fund (TIF) for various technology improvements at all its campuses. The individual campus awards ranged from \$25,000 to \$100,000 which was spent on infrastructure, software, computers and training. Funds from TIF grants were used to supplement those received from the E-Rate program as well as local and other external funding sources.



Note: While the federal E-Rate program is still continuing for at least the foreseeable future, TIF was disbanded by the most recent session of the Texas Legislature as a cost-cutting measure.

With the infusion of funds from these various sources, the District began the following initiatives:

- **Video Conferencing/Collaborative Teaching**

Fifty-two of the E-Rate eligible campuses are using mobile video conferencing carts for “best practices” sessions with great success. This is occurring at the peer level as well as among feeder patterns/vertical teams.

- **Web Access for a School Community**

This initiative, better known as the “Learning Village”, is available Districtwide. It provides the teachers and students with tools to create web pages to showcase their work, thus allowing a way for parental involvement in their student’s learning process. It also provides for a convenient two-way communication method between parent and teacher regarding issues involving the student.

- **EPISD On Line Academy**

Development continues on the District’s solution to provide an “anytime, anywhere” computer-based curriculum for the students in EPISD. It is anticipated that within a year, all modules required in the four content areas will be completed for the high school level. NovaNet, which the Academy is to replace, is being phased out as the development progresses, with the potential annual cost savings in excess of \$250K when fully implemented.

- **Texas STaR Chart**

At TEA’s encouragement, EPISD began using the Texas STaR Chart in 2002-2003 as a means of measuring the level of technology in the District. The Chart uses a ranking criterion of Level 1-Early Tech; Level 2-Developing Tech; Level 3-Advanced Tech; and Level 4-Target Tech. **EPISD is at Level 2.** This ranking is based on the data from the 2002-2003 Texas STaR Chart as submitted by the campuses. The Chart is comprised of twenty-two specific points of measurement in four distinct key areas. Information regarding the Texas STaR Chart can be found on the Texas Education Agency’s web site at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/> and by following the link: *Curriculum & Educational Programs*.

ORION Project

A new initiative is underway for collaborative teaching and learning with El Paso Community College (EPCC) and the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). This project known as ORION will link EPISD and the two post-secondary institutions via a fiber optic ring that circles the El Paso area. The plans are to provide the sharing of teaching strategies, as well as making available classes for EPISD teachers and students offered at EPCC and UTEP. When fully implemented, ORION will involve the entire El Paso community, and eventually Juárez, in support of a “K-Gray Education” model.



Integrating Information Technologies into the Curriculum

The El Paso ISD continually offers training to all faculty members regarding ways to integrate technology into their everyday curriculum. These technology tools help facilitate best practices for teaching and learning in the classroom, to meet group and individual student needs and to maximize each student's learning environment. Listed below are guidelines and strategies for integrating information technologies in the classroom that the District plans to follow.

- ◆ Focus on basic skills, content, and higher level thinking skills.
- ◆ Encourage lifelong learning.
- ◆ Structure learning around big ideas and meaningful concepts.
- ◆ Provide connections among the various curricular disciplines.
- ◆ Provide learners opportunities to apply skills they have learned.
- ◆ Encourage active participation in relevant real-life experiences.
- ◆ Captivate, motivate, and challenge all learners.
- ◆ Provide for deeper understanding of content.
- ◆ Offer opportunities for smaller groups and individualized instruction.
- ◆ Incorporate technology as an integral part of learning.

An on-going challenge that the El Paso ISD faces is the resources and time to properly train faculty members.

The integration of technology into the curriculum requires changes of significant magnitude in educational philosophy, classroom management, and curriculum goals. For the technology to be used optimally, teachers must be comfortable with a center- or project-based problem solving approach to learning. They must also be willing to tolerate classroom space restrictions and support students' progressing independently and at widely varying paces.

Each classroom is equipped with a multi-media workstation connected to the Internet in which teachers can utilize to enhance their curriculum. In addition, many campuses have a wide variety of peripherals to enhance their teaching. And students could use these items to embellish and amplify classroom projects.

The range of technology used in campuses across the District is as follows:

- multimedia computers
- interactive white boards
- digital cameras
- VCR's
- laptops
- scanners
- digital video cameras
- video conferencing carts
- televisions
- projectors
- laserdisc players

The following depicts some of the ways that technology is integrated into the curriculum currently across the District:

- writing/reading labs
- technology education labs
- math labs
- journalism classes
- foreign language labs
- business ed classes



Integrating Information Technologies into Administration

All El Paso ISD administration utilizes technology on a daily basis. There is a variety of software currently used within the District. Below is a partial list of said software:

- Microsoft Office '97, 2000, '98, XP
- Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- FileMaker Pro
- Adobe Acrobat
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Adobe PageMaker
- SASIxp – student administrative system
- InteGrade Pro Gradebook – electronic teacher grade book
- TEAMS - absentee reporting system
- EMS - Energy Management System
- Microsoft Works
- Appleworks / Clarisworks



Assessment of needed Telecommunications Services, Hardware, Software and Related Services

El Paso ISD has existing building Local Area Networks (LAN) that have been upgraded to Ethernet speed and provide for TCP/IP and IPX protocols. Due for completion in January 2004 is the replacement of all campus main closet network electronics to handle the speed and capacity of the District's fiber optic network backbone. When completed, all District campuses and primary administrative office locations will be connected by 100Mbps fiber cabling being leased from Time Warner Communications. This solution will alleviate many of the congestion problems currently experienced with the T-1 infrastructure. A large number of computers in the District are connected to an internal campus network, and the majority of classrooms have multiple connection outlets for Internet access, application launching, file sharing and network printings. Every campus in the El Paso ISD has an administrative file server for use with SASIxp and InteGrade Pro.

At 52 campuses, extensive internal cabling and upgraded electronics beyond the main closet was completed in 2002-2003 with E-Rate funds. For the remaining schools that did not share in the E-Rate award, the internal cabling is at least one generation, if not two, behind the E-Rate schools. These 36 E-Rate ineligible sites, as well as the ~ 430 portable classrooms, will be the focus of future funding efforts as EPISD moves toward a state-of-the-art cabling initiative.

Plans are also underway to relocate many of the campus-based file servers into a consolidated "server farm" for efficiency of operation. By doing so, the requirement for upgraded air conditioning at the individual campuses will be avoided, in addition to providing a more cost effective and efficient operation.

To continue to support the all programs and departments within the District, the following of sample services are needed:

- Continuation of phone service to campuses and individual campuses
- Continuation of maintenance agreement for electronics and telephone systems
- Expansion of bandwidth for the Wide Area Network (WAN) beyond 15Mbps
- Continuation of Internet access over the WAN
- Continuation of proxy filtering server
- Upgrade of internal networks (LANs) to support gigabit Ethernet
- Internal cabling for network access in all new and renovated facilities (also to include portables)



Budget Strategies to Acquire and Maintain Components of the Technology Plan

The El Paso ISD continues to commit a significant portion of budget dollars to support and improve the use of technology within the District, which is located in an economically poor area. In the 2003-2004 school year, the District had over \$7.9M in the technology budget. Also the District is actively seeking any technology grants available nationwide. One of the largest technology grants, as noted previously, is from E-Rate sources, to which the District consistently submits funding requests each year. Currently, we are waiting to hear about our request for \$12M in E-Rate funds for Year 2003-2004.

Very recently, the District successfully passed a significant bond issue that included \$3M for technology and security use. From these funds the District is completing the fiber optic backbone and the upgraded electronics to the non-eligible E-Rate schools.

Use of Limited Budget to Implement El Paso ISD's Technology Plan

- To establish priorities according to our technology plan's vision and goals.
- To establish spending guidelines for technology purchases.
- To review the sources of funding and consider the total range of needs related to our plan's implementation.
- Creating standards and benchmarks.
- Provide initial technology training as early as possible.

Alternate Funding Sources

To fully implement the goals and adhere to the vision of this plan, it will be necessary to secure resources from a variety of public and private organizations.

Competitive governmental grants, state and federal, could provide significant support in areas in which El Paso ISD qualifies. These grants are generally targeted to meet a District's most critical needs and are highly competitive.

The District has been successful in securing funds for technology initiatives using both E-Rate and grant processes.

E-Rate

On May 7, 1997, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a Universal Service Order implementing the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Order was designed to ensure that all eligible schools and libraries have affordable access to modern telecommunications and information services. Up to \$2.25B annually is available to provide eligible schools and libraries with discounts, often referred to as "E-Rate," for authorized services.

The Universal Service Fund, established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), supports this benefit, to provide for affordable access to specified telecommunications services for



all communities, regardless of location or economic strata. The not for profit Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is responsible for administering the Fund under the direction of the FCC. The Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of USAC administers the E-Rate program.

Eligible schools and libraries may receive discounts on eligible telecommunication services ranging from 20 percent to 90 percent, depending on economic need and location (urban or rural). The level of discount is based upon the percentage of students eligible for the National School Lunch Program or other federally approved alternative mechanisms contained in the Improving America's Schools Act. Libraries will use the discount percentage of the school District in which they are located.

Discounts can be applied to commercially available telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections. Eligible services range from basic local and long distance telephone services, and Internet access services, to acquisition and installation of equipment to provide internal connections.



Evaluation Strategies for Implementation of the Technology Plan

El Paso Independent School District actively monitors and adjusts technology implementations as part of our ongoing evaluation plan. The technology plan is revisited and revised every year by the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) that was appointed by the executive director of Technology and Information Systems within the District. In addition, campus technology committees and campus technology resource persons provide feedback and suggestions regularly as they implement their campus technology plans that are based on this Districtwide plan. Common areas that are an integral part of our evaluation process include: (1) what has been done/is being done with campus technology implementation? (2) how can the implementation be improved? and (3) what are the next steps?

The department of technology and information systems collects information on an ongoing basis in order to continually improve student learning opportunities as well as using the technology for all staff that are employed by the District. Each year members of the technology advisory committee and representatives from all campuses will gather together to discuss the implementation of technology Districtwide. The information will be used to examine the school program and see what needs to be improved.

Technology surveys are employed by the evaluation process. The Technology department and Research and Evaluation Department will work together to design and implement different technology surveys. By using the results of these surveys, the District is able to identify many important technology needs and problems in the implementation of technology.

The District technology advisory committee will review and develop a plan to address the immediate needs for the implementation of the technology. They will identify areas that need further attention and work and prioritize steps that could be taken within two to three years to meet their goals.



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal I: To Improve Teaching and Learning Through the Use of Technology.

Objective A: To help students become active participants in the learning process.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide students resources to create web pages.	Begin Spring 2004	Instructional Technology	Trainers, Teachers Local	In Progress	Number of web pages posted
District will provide all students e-mail accounts.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS	Trainers, Teachers E-rate	To Do	Usage reports
District will provide students with appropriate applications of instructional software.	Begin 2003	Campus, Divisions, TIS LLR, SPED, K-12 Instruction	Trainers, Facilitators, Computer lab personnel Local, Federal, Grants	On-Going	Survey of software aligned to curriculum
District will provide students resources to create digital products.	Begin 2003	Campus, Divisions, TIS LLR, SPED, K-12 Instruction	Trainers, Facilitators, Computer lab personnel Local, Federal, Grants	On-Going	Survey of campus student products
District will provide students resources to create and maintain digital portfolios.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Campus, Divisions, TIS LLR, SPED, K-12 Instruction	Trainers, Facilitators, Computer lab personnel Local, Federal, Grants	To Do	Servers in place to house student products
District will provide training for students on all district provided technology,	Begin 2003	TIS, Staff Development	Trainers, Teachers Local	On-Going	Number of students trained
District will provide students training in the safe use of the internet and copyright.	Begin 2003	TIS, Staff Development	Trainers, Teachers Local	On-Going	Lesson Plans and AUA's signed



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal I: Teaching and Learning.

Objective B: To help students acquire content relevant to their needs beyond the classroom.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide Internet access to all instructional areas, including portables.	Begin 2003 End 2004	TIS	Network Specialists, Technicians, Local funds E-Rate	On-Going	Site surveys for completion
District will provide video distance learning at all campuses.	Begin 2003	TIS	Trainers, Teachers, Studio, Facilitators, Local funds, Title Funds	On-Going	Equipment installed, usage reports on distance learning use
District will provide students with extra-hours access to computer facilities.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Campus Administrator	Libraries, Computer labs, technology proficient staff, Facilities Local funds, Grants	To Do	Facility usage report and sign in sheets
District will explore providing students with appropriate technology for home use.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Campus, TIS, Finance	Computer labs, technology proficient staff Local funds, Grants	To Do	Policies in place
District will partner with mentors in business, college, and/or university settings.	Begin 2004	TIS	Orion Collaborative, Video carts, Internet, UTEP, CC, businesses Local funds, Grants	To Do	Annual report on the number of community participants
District will provide students with alternative instructional content to meet individual learning needs and provide for credit recovery.	Begin 2003	Campus Administrator(s)	OnLine Academy, Novanet Local Funds	In Progress	Usage reports, Graduation rates increase, Dropout rate decrease
District will investigate and implement a virtual high school curriculum.	Begin 2004	TIS	Divisions, K-12 Instruction, Human Resources, Pupil Services, Finance, OnLine Academy, Local & Grants	To Do	Developed program and student access



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal I: Teaching and Learning.

Objective C: To help students acquire a continuum of technology knowledge and skills beginning at Pre-K and continuing through the secondary level.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
The teachers will integrate technology application TEKS into teaching and learning at all grade levels.	Begin 2003	Teachers	Division facilitators, Trainers, TIS Local funds, Grants	On-Going	Lesson Plans, 100% content area integrated with technology
The students will demonstrate proficiency in the technology application TEKS at the benchmark grades 2, 5, and 8.	Begin 2003	Teachers	Division facilitators, Trainers, TIS Local funds, Grants	On-Going	Lesson Plans, students will be able to demonstrate proficiency on the TAKS



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal I: Teaching and Learning.

Objective D: To help parents become involved in their children's education.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide extra-hours access to computer facilities.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Campus Administrator	Libraries, Computer labs, technology proficient staff, Facilities Local funds, Grants	To Do	Facility use reports and sign in sheets
District will explore providing students with appropriate technology for home use.	Begin 2004-05	Campus, TIS	Computer labs, technology proficient staff Local funds, Grants	To Do	Policy developed
District will provide parents access to district website for educational information and forms.	Begin 2003	Web Master	Learning Village, Teachers, all Units and campuses Local funds	On-Going	Parental survey and usage reports



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal II: To Improve Educator Preparation and Development Through the Use of Technology.

Objective A: To provide professional development for all district instructional staff to help become skilled in the use of educational technology for problem-solving, critical thinking, and teaching new content.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District units (TIS, Staff Development, Divisions, K-12 Instruction) will collaborate to provide training on the integration of technology application TEKS into the delivery of instruction.	Begin 2003	Facilitators, TIS, Campus Technology Mentors, Campus Administrators, Staff Development	Web Resources, Training Courses, TIS, Staff Development, Facilitators, Federal Funds, Local Funds	On-Going	PDS records, All teachers meet SBEC technology proficiencies
The district will provide on-going teacher training on using technology for record keeping.	Begin 2003	SASI coordinator	Technology Trainers, Web Resources, Integrate pro Local Funds	On-Going	PDS records
The district will provide on-going training in technology literacy skills including multimedia, streaming video, and Internet.	Begin 2003	Staff Development	TIS, StaR Chart, Online proficiency surveys, Title Funds, Local Funds	On-Going	PDS records, All teachers meet SBEC technology proficiencies
Campus budget planners and reports demonstrate that at least 30% of the total technology budget was reserved for educator preparation and development.	Begin 2004-05 School year	CIP Reviewers, Internal Auditing	CIP's, Staff Development, External Funding, Local Funds, Federal Funds, Grants	To Do	CIP checklist Campus Budgets
New district technology initiatives will reserve thirty percent of the technology budget for educator preparation and development.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS, Internal Auditing	Technology Advisory Committee, Local Funds, Federal Funds, Grants	To Do	Campus Budget
The district will provide educators access to individual student data/portfolios within the district network.	Begin 2004-05 School year	SASI Coordinator	R&E, TIS Local Funds	To Do	Student information system reports
The district will provide training on copyright laws to all educators.	Spring 2004	TIS	Staff Development, Local Funds	On-Going	PDS records



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal II: Educator Preparation and Development.

Objective A: Continued

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
The district will provide employee's access to TEKS, lesson plans, and other teaching tools via the network.	Begin 2003	TIS	Research, Evaluation, and Planning, Facilitators, Local Funds	In Progress	Tools posted, teacher survey on value of info.
The district will provide employees access to list-serve/threaded discussion groups for job related conferencing.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS	Learning Village Local Funds	To Do	Discussion tool available and training provided
The district will provide employees access to video conferencing for staff development.	Begin 2003 at e-rate campuses	TIS	Staff Development, Facilitators, Local Funds	On-Going	Conferencing tools provided, usage reports
The district will produce and provide instructional videos and programming.	Begin 2003	TIS	Studio	In Progress	Programming guides
The district will recognize "Best Technology Practices." Best Technology Practices will be posted to show how technology is integrated into teaching and learning.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Staff Development Communications	Learning Village, Video Server, Research Evaluation, and Planning, Facilitators, Local Funds	To Do	"Best Practices" posted
"Best technology practices" are recognized and presented at local, regional, and national conferences.	Begin 2003	Staff Development	TIS, Facilitators, Research, Evaluation, and Planning Federal Funds, Local Funds	To Do	Number of participants presenting
The district will provide training for campus personnel on the use of disaggregated data using technology.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Staff Development	Research, Evaluation, and Planning, Facilitators, Local Funds	To Do	PDS, usage reports
The district will utilize the Texas STaR (School Technology and Readiness") Chart as a technology assessment tool.	Begin 2003	Campus Administrators CIT's	TIS Trainers, Local Funds	On-Going	All campuses post their STaR results
The district will develop a graduated technology proficiency training plan.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS, Staff Development	Divisions, K-12 Instruction, R&E, Local Funds, Federal Funds	To Do	Teacher survey of proficiency level, All teachers progressing from Early Tech to Target Tech



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal II: Educator Preparation and Development.

Objective A: Continued.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
The district will develop a compensation/incentive plan for teachers enrolled in a continuum of technology training.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS, Divisions, Campuses, Finance, K-12 Instruction, SPOP	Staff Development, Campus Representatives, Unit Representatives, Local Funds	To Do	Plan adopted
The district will provide and maintain PDAS/CPE credit for teachers attending technology training.	Begin 2003	Staff Development	Facilitators, Campus Administrators	In Progress	PDS in place
The district will develop and maintain an on-demand computer-based training/tutorials for all employees to access.	Begin Spring 2004	Staff Development	TIS Local funding, Federal Funding	On-Going	Training modules available, Usage Reports,
The district will provide stipends & CPE credit for after hours/Saturday staff development.	Begin 2003	Staff Development	TIS, Facilitators, Units, Campus Administrators Local funding, Federal Funding	In Progress	Money Budgeted
The district will provide training for campus administrators on basic networks, software evaluation, and integration of technology into instruction.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Staff Development	Web Resources, Training Courses, TIS, Facilitators, Federal Funds, Local Funds	To Do	PDS records, administrators and teachers meet SBEC technology proficiencies
The district will develop and provide a technology component for the Administrators Academy.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Staff Development	TIS, HR, Divisions, K-12 Instruction, SPOP, Local Funds	To Do	Academy curriculum includes technology
The district will provide staff development and basic troubleshooting for on-campus technology support staff.	Begin Spring 2004	Staff Development	TIS, Facilitators Local funds, Federal funds	On-Going	Course developed and offered



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal III: To Improve Administration and Support Services Through the Use of Technology.

Objective A: To provide assistance to administrators for learning to use the technological tools in place.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide resources to enable administrators to search the AEIS for information on student performance, staff demographics, and school and district accountability ratings and finances.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS, R&E	Application Development Webmaster Local funds	To Do	Resources and training provided, Survey administrators on use
District will provide resources to enable administrators to ask TED to find school directory information and predefined reports.	Begin 2003	Principals Unit heads Division offices Staff Development	District Internet connectivity TEA Website	Completed	TED access provided
District will provide resources to enable administrators to use the Child Nutrition Programs Information System and the Foundation School Program Payment System.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Principals Food Service	District Internet connectivity	To Do	Access provided to administrators, Usage Reports
District will provide resources to enable administrators to use the Texas STaR Chart for planning and measuring technology progress on their campus.	Begin 2003	Principals Staff Development TIS	District Internet connectivity TEA Website	In Progress	Training and access provided TEA Reports
District will provide resources to campus administrators to provide them with access to technological equipment appropriate for their tasks.	Begin 2003	TIS Divisions External Funding	Title I SCE Local funds SETF	On-going	Inventory of technology equipment
District will provide resources to allow access to teacher appraisal forms on line.	Begin 2003	TIS	Application Development R&E	On-going	Access provided
District will provide ongoing training on technology resources.	Begin 2003	TIS Staff Development	Trainers Online courses Local funds, SETF	On-going	Training offerings, PDS, survey of administrators



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal III: Administration and Support Services.

Objective A: Continued.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide resources to establish a training plan based on campus STaR chart.	Begin 2003	TIS Staff Development R&E K-12 Instruction	Trainers Facilitators	On-going	Training plan developed, CIP, STaR chart used as assessment tool
District will provide resources to standardized on-line student assessment and grade reporting (InteGrade Pro).	Begin 2003	TIS	Application Support	On-going	Training provided, Report cards
District will provide resources to enable access to administrative bulletins and policies.	Begin 2003	TIS Communications	Webmaster MY.EPISD Learning Village	On-going	Access provided



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal III: Administration and Support Services.

Objective B: To provide the technical troubleshooting support that educators need to perform their respective functions.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide a technology resources person assigned to each feeder pattern.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS Human Resources	Local funds SETF	To Do	Person assigned
District will provide on-line support to educators to provide immediate responses to questions and concerns. Help Desk.	Begin 2003	TIS	Local funds (possible outsource)	On-going	Help desk statistics
District will provide network and computer hardware support personnel.	Begin 2003	TIS Human Resources	Network specialists Desktop technicians Local funds	On-going	Closed service calls, response time decreased to 24 hours
District will develop a plan to train and utilize students as assistants in troubleshooting.	Begin Spring 2004	TIS	CCTE, Local funds	On-going	Students on each campus



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal IV: To Improve Infrastructure For Technology.

Objective A: To promote progress toward curricular integration by providing appropriate equipment, connectivity, and personnel.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide a database for inventory of equipment and software licenses.	Begin 2003	TIS	Hardware Support Warehouse Services	On-going	Inventory
District will develop standards for technology-related purchases of hardware.	Begin 2003	TIS Purchasing	Hardware Support Purchasing agents	On-going	Standards in place
District will develop standards for technology-related purchases of software.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS Purchasing Divisions K-12 Instruction SPOP	Hardware Support Purchasing agents Principals Facilitators	On-going	Standards in place
District will develop and implement a plan for reallocation, refresh and or replacement of hardware and software (5-year cycle).	Begin Spring 2004	TIS Finance K-12 Instruction Divisions K-12 Instruction	Hardware Support Principals Facilitators All available funding sources	To Do	Plan in place
District will provide a safe and secure network for campuses and units through the use of appropriate firewalls, content filters and virus protection software.	Begin 2003	TIS	Local Funds SETF	On-going	Network availability, filters/protection in place
District will provide resources to enable public access to the Internet from campus libraries.	Begin Fall 2004	TIS LLR	Local funds Grants	To Do	Usage reports
District will provide network-capable workstations for students and educators.		Finance External Funding TIS	Appropriate Title Funds SCE Local Funds SETF Grants	On-going	Computer to user ratios achieved by target dates
Ratio 1:4	2003 – 2004				
Ratio 1:3	2005 – 2006				
Ratio 1:2	2007 – 2008				
Ratio 1:1	2010 – 2011				



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal IV: To Improve Infrastructure for Technology.

Objective B: To ensure that connectivity reaches all instructional and professional work areas to support instruction, school leadership, and operations.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will provide resources to ensure that all employees have e-mail accounts.	Begin 2003	TIS	Local Funds	On-going	All employees e-mail accounts established
District will provide resources for home pages for schools and units.	Begin 2003	TIS	Webmaster MY.EPISD Learning Village Local Funds SETF	On-going	Web site hosting provided, number of web pages
District will provide appropriate hardware and software to students with special needs.	Begin 2003	SPOP TIS	Applicable Title funds	On-going	SPED reports
District will provide high-speed fiber connectivity to all campuses and office areas.	Begin 2003	TIS	E-Rate Local Funds SETF 2003 Bond Fund	On-going	Connectivity provided
District will provide wireless halos and promote the use of mobile computing at all campuses.	Begin 2003	TIS	E-Rate Local Funds SETF	On-going	Number of wireless units at each campus
District will provide resources to complete and sustain the EPISD portion of the Orion Project.	Begin 2003	TIS	Network specialists Local funds E-Rate	On-going	Connectivity established



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal V: To Improve Community Outreach.

Objective A: To use technology to provide District information to the community at large.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will Broadcast Board meetings and studio created district programs.	Begin 2003	TV Studio/ Media Center	Media Center, TV Studio Cable Channel 14 Local Funds	In Progress	Broadcast schedule
District will advertise all EPISD broadcasts in local media.	Begin Spring 2004	Communications TV Studio	Local media/Cable channel 14, EPISD publications/ EPISD Website, Local Funds	In Progress	Number of advertisements
District will create a strategic plan for the use of the EPISD TV Studio	Begin Spring 2004	Exec Director TIS TV Studio, K12 Instruction, Divisions Communications Selected Campus	Exec Director TIS TV Studio, K12 Instruction, Divisions Communications Selected Campus, Local Funds	To Do	Completion of TV Studio Strategic Plan
District will produce and broadcast original programming created by EPISD TV Studio based on the EPISD TV Studio strategic plan.	Begin 2004-05 School year	TIS, TV Studio	EPISD Personnel, TV Studio, Strategic Plan, EPISD Strategic Plan, Local Funds	On-Going	Number of programs based on TV Studio strategic plan
District will maintain District web pages with information of interest to parents and the community.	Begin 2003	TIS, Webmaster	EPISD Website, EPISD Publications Local Funds	In Progress	Number of hits to website, parental survey
Maintenance of campus web pages.	Begin 2003	Campus Administrator	Campuses/TIS Webmaster Local Funds	On-Going	Periodic review/status of web pages
District will provide access to campus libraries and computer labs before, during, and extra school hours for EPISD community members.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Campus administrators, Assoc. Supt, Divisions,	Facilities, LLR, Federal Funds, Local Funds,	To Do	Number of EPISD community members accessing campus technology
District will create an electronic database of information designed to enhance community awareness of EPISD programs.	Begin 2003	TIS Campuses, Communications, R&E	EPISD publications Technology funds	In Progress	Number of visitors to website containing database
District will increase involvement of community members in technology planning.	Begin Spring 2004	Executive Director TIS	Communications, Divisions, BOT,	To Do	Number of community members attending technology planning



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal V: To Improve Community Outreach.

Objective A: Continued.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will create a master plan for improving technology and business partnerships.	Begin Spring 2004	Communications and Business Partnerships Executive Director TIS External Funding grant writers EPISD Business partners	Current partners in education	To Do	Creation and implementation of plan, number of business partners
District will expand technology and business partnerships programs.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Communications and Business Partnerships Executive Director TIS External Funding grant writers Finance	Listing of all current EPISD business partners Listing of all current EPISD technology vendors Local Funds	To Do	Increase in Technology partnerships with EPISD



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal VI: To Evaluate the Impact of Technology on Teaching and Learning.

Objective A: To determine the effectiveness of all parts of the Technology Plan.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will create a long-range district-wide technology evaluation plan.	Begin Spring 2004	Executive Director TIS, Executive Director R&E	Local Funds R&E, District personnel, online surveys, community members	To Do	Completion of plan
District will create a Technology Evaluator position.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Executive Director, TIS, HR, Executive Director R&E	HR, Local Funds	To Do	Creation of position
District will produce an annual report from the Technology Advisory Committee.	Begin Spring 2005	Technology Planning committee Finance; Research, Evaluation, and Planning	Local Funds	To Do	Report produced
Present annually to the Board on the "State of Technology" in EPISD (Technology Report Card).	Begin Spring 2005	Executive Direction TIS Executive Director R&E	Local Funds R&E team for evaluation (TIS only evaluator?)	To Do	Board presentation
District will create a comprehensive database of all technology programs used throughout the district.	Begin Spring 2004	R&E Executive Director TIS	R&E, Exec. Director TIS, TAC, Local Funds	To Do	Creation and update of database
District will create a comprehensive needs assessment for the entire district on technology.	Begin 2004-05 School year	R&E Executive Director TIS C&I	STaR charts Campus Improvement Plans Local Funds	To Do	Needs assessment produced
Complete annual STaR Chart campus assessments.	Begin 2003	Campus administrators	STaR charts	On-Going	STaR Chart completion and posting
District will generate annual expenditure reports for campus and central levels show appropriate use of funds in technology.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Director Finance Campus Improvement plans, Div. Associates, SPOP's	Finance, Internal Auditing External Funding, LLR, Local Funds	To Do	Annual expenditure report



District Technology Plan

2003-2004

Goal VI: To Evaluate the Impact of Technology on Teaching and Learning.

Objective A: Continued.

<i>Indicator/Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person(s)/Unit Responsible</i>	<i>Resources/Funding</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
District will ensure that spending is based on the 30-30-30 Model:30% Hardware, 30% Software, 30% training.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Finance, Internal Auditing, Campus Administrator,TAC	Finance, Internal Auditing, Title Evaluators, External Funding, Local Funds	To Do	Spending is close to 30-30-30 model as possible
District will assess impact of technology on student achievement.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Research & Evaluation	CIPs, Local Funds	To Do	Evaluation completed
District will assess impact of technology staff development on student achievement.	Begin 2004-05 School year	Research & Evaluation	CIPs, Local Funds	To Do	Evaluation completed
District will align District Technology Plan with current and future key state standards and federal governmental guidelines and the District Strategic Plan.	Begin Spring 2004	Planning, TIS, TAC	R&E, District Strategic Plan	In Progress	Plan Comparison
District will improve district-wide communications regarding technology.	Begin Spring 2004	TIS	Communications, Web site, e-mail	On-Going	Number of communications

