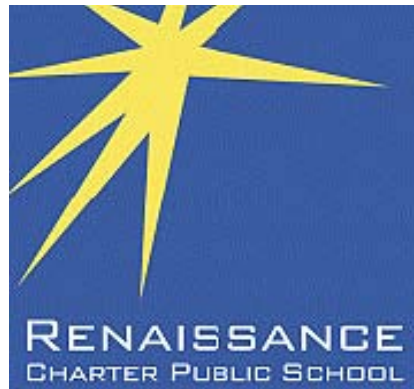


Boston Renaissance Charter Public School



Educational Technology Plan

2006-2010

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Background

The Boston Renaissance Charter Public School is located in a 16-story building in the historic theatre district of Boston, just two blocks from the Boston Public Garden. Renaissance is a citywide public school for children in pre-kindergarten through grade six. During academic year 2005-2006, the school enrolled 1,275 students. Offering choice for families from every neighborhood of the city, Renaissance's goal is to provide students a challenging academic program in a vibrant and child-centered environment.

Vision

Boston Renaissance Charter Public School offers choice for Boston parents of children in pre-kindergarten through grade six within a safe, nurturing environment conducive to learning. Renaissance offers students a rigorous academic program in a vibrant, child-centered atmosphere that includes programs in technology, fine arts, music, dance, and physical education.

Mission Statement

The mission of Boston Renaissance Charter Public School is to develop children's academic, social, and emotional competence while building confidence, character, and citizenship in a nurturing, supportive environment.

Beliefs

In the spirit of excellence, the Boston Renaissance Charter Public School vision and mission embodies our educational philosophy. Founded on our belief that all children have the capacity to reach high levels of character development, academic as well as creative performance, the school is committed to cultivating every student's fullest human potential. Educators, parents, and community partners are unified in actualizing a shared vision for every student to become a proficient or advanced listener, speaker, reader, writer, mathematician, scientist, creative artist, and critical thinker.

Every student who enters Renaissance brings unique talents with diverse approaches to learning. Developing a student's entire being in the language, cognitive, social, emotional, physical, spiritual areas is central to the Renaissance educational philosophy. Perennial wisdom is integrated with teaching to encourage persistent, energetic, yet joyful learning. The Renaissance community of learners believes in the African Proverb "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child." We honor varied approaches to teaching and learning remaining consciously engaged in celebrating racial, cultural, linguistic, and ethnic diversity. To this end, Renaissance is an educational community committed to:

- Explicitly teaching academics, character development, creative and performing arts;
- Embedding and differentiating high quality professional development;
- Using scientifically researched assessment driven instruction and management practices proven to positively impact student achievement in alignment with the Massachusetts Department of Education Curriculum Standards; and
- Implementing a rigorous accountability system for monitoring student achievement, teacher, and administrator and school performance standards.

Renaissance is already integrating technology into these endeavors and will continue to do so in order to meet the goals outlined in the accountability plan on file with the Massachusetts Department of Education. Renaissance believes that effective integration and the use of technology can:

- Raise student performance in the core academic areas to proficient and advanced levels.
- Develop students' ability to think critically, creatively, analytically, and collaboratively.
- Prepare students to be more competitive in a technology-rich 21st century global workplace.
- Expand students' perspectives by connecting them to the community and world outside of their classrooms.
- Enrich our assessment practices to better monitor a wide range of student needs.

Technology Committee

We have established a technology committee to serve as an advisory team that can monitor the implementation of this technology plan, provide insight for future technology initiatives, and evaluate the plan's effectiveness. The Director of School Operations and the Director of Instructional Technology will co-chair the committee. A representative from our technology support provider and our Board of Trustees will also serve on the committee. Committee members will represent the different academic and operational departments in our building.

Our Staff Needs Assessment

Teachers will take the Technology Self Assessment for Teachers (TSAT) available on the Massachusetts Department of Education's Education Technology portal, MassONE. Additionally, online surveys about specific hardware, software, support and training at BRCPS are given to staff in an effort to assess our teachers' technology usage and needs.

Formalized Staff Development and Assessment

- Offer content-specific training programs in alignment with our strategic planning priorities and emphasize a level of technology proficiency.
- Continue professional development trainings to move from proficiency to the integration level.
- Design and provide training in technology-based administrative tools for new teachers.
- Track the content and participation in technology trainings.
- Assess technology-training activities upon completion using participant evaluations.

Technology Integration

Technology integration will be grounded in our strategic planning priorities and accountability plan. We are committed to supporting our teachers to integrate technology

- **In a three-tiered literacy model.** This includes the use of Lexia Early Reading, Lexia Primary Reading, Lexia Strategies for Older Students, Read Naturally, the Harcourt Publishers Learning Site, and Accelerated Reader.
- **In a three-tiered math model.** This includes the use of the Scott

Foresman/Pearson Successnet and Brainfuse online math tutoring programs as well as Accelerated Math.

- **In promoting emerging technologies in standards-based curricula.** Teachers will learn how to use Web 2.0 technologies in their instruction and in their curriculum in order to integrate technology with the teaching and learning of core content in the classroom. We will also continue to explore other sources of digital content, such as video streaming and audio books, to differentiate instruction and address the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.
- **In strengthening our parental and community partner involvement in the school.** Our web site's content and structure will be redesigned to make family resources (such as school policies, lunch menus, applications, and bus routes) readily accessible and informative. Parents will have the opportunity to gain access to their student's data and correspond with teachers using an online portal called iParent. Parents will also have the opportunity to attend a workshop about Internet safety.
- **In progress monitoring and assessment.** We administer computer-based benchmark assessments three times a year in reading, math, and science. TestWiz software will be used to manage and manipulate student performance data for GRADE, DIBELS, and MCAS.
- **In becoming effective and efficient in completing administrative responsibilities.** This includes training in email communication, electronic grade entry, electronic attendance, and submitting discipline referrals through our new student management system, iPass. School leaders will also receive specific technology training to address the applications of technology in communication, collaboration, and data analysis.
- **In areas of need identified through the TSAT.** As our students' needs change over time, so will our teachers' needs. Regular administration of the TSAT and other surveys using SurveyMonkey.com will help us identify any other professional development needs and gain feedback on existing offerings from our staff.

The school will employ a full time Director of Instructional Technology, a full time Specialty technology teacher, a full time technology assistant, and a full time and part time Library/Media Specialist.

Technology Support

BRCPS will continue to hire an outside company to provide technical support. Copley Global Services, Inc. has been contracted for another year. This is the second year the company has worked with the school. Copley Group will provide one full-time on-site technician and a high level support person 10 hours per month. Communication between staff and our technicians about technical difficulties in the classroom takes place through the use of a Work Order Database system.

Instructional Technology Standards for Students

Technology is and will continue to be an essential part of every child's experience at the Renaissance School. Every student in grades K2-6 will participate in a technology class that addresses the Massachusetts Technology Literacy Standards and Expectations and that is interwoven with the 21st Century Themes and Standards provided by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. In a culminating event, BRCPS sixth grade students will present an electronic portfolio that demonstrates their achievement of 21st century technology skills and knowledge.

Elementary students in Grades 4-6 will be able to apply to participate in year-long advanced technology studies in the *TechSpurts* program. These lead students will be trained in Internet safety skills and knowledge using NetSmartz.org materials provided by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and will provide Cyber Safety tips and technical support for their classrooms.

Renaissance will continue to use the recommended Instructional Technology Standards provided by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Standard 1. Demonstrate proficiency in the use of computers and applications as well as an understanding of concepts underlying hardware, software, and connectivity.

PreK-4 Performance Indicators

1.1 Develop basic skills for using hardware and applications (e.g., open/close a file, navigate using scroll bars, arrow keys, special keys, and mouse).

1.2 Use correct terminology for basic components of a computer system (e.g., monitor, keyboard, disk, printer, mouse), and develop understanding of their basic functions.

1.3 At district and teacher's discretion explore and develop keyboarding skills. (The district determines whether students will learn touch typing or simply become familiar with the keyboard functions.)

1.4 Explore basic formatting features of a word processing program (at teacher's discretion).

1.5 Explore and understand the basic function and purpose of a database.

1.6 Explore and understand the basic function and purpose of a spreadsheet.

1.7 Collaborate with classmates to use teacher-selected Web sites.

1.8 Collaborate with classmates and teacher to send a class e-mail message (at discretion of district and teacher).

1.9 Collaborate with classmates and teacher to create a slide presentation with existing template.

1.10 Explore the use of drawing and painting applications for class projects (at teacher's discretion).

Grades 5-6 Performance Indicators

- 1.11 Identify components of a computer system, understand their functions, and use appropriate terminology in speaking about them (e.g., operating system, hard drive, memory, window).
- 1.12 Identify and use basic features of a computer operating system (e.g., format/initialize disks, access information on size and format of a file, create folders on local hard drive).
- 1.13 Save a file to the desktop, the hard drive, and external storage spaces (e.g., floppy disk, CDROM, virtual electronic space).
- 1.14 Select a printer and print a document with appropriate page setup and orientation.
- 1.15 Operate peripheral equipment (e.g., scanner, digital camera, camcorder).
- 1.16 Develop efficient keyboarding technique.
- 1.17 Identify and use editing and formatting features of a word processing program (e.g., centering, line spacing, margins, cut and paste, fonts, styles, spelling, page numbers).
- 1.18 Insert images (e.g., graphics, clip art, tables) from other files into word-processed document.
- 1.19 Describe structure and function of database and identify components (e.g., record, field).
- 1.20 Create an original database, defining field formats and adding new records.
- 1.21 Perform simple operations in a database (e.g., browse, sort, search, delete, add data).
- 1.22 Describe structure and function of spreadsheet (e.g., cells, rows, columns, formulas) and apply formatting features.
- 1.23 Create an original spreadsheet, entering simple formulas.
- 1.24 Produce simple charts from spreadsheet.
- 1.25 Identify and use navigation features of browser (e.g., “go,” “back,” “forward”).
- 1.26 Using a browser, “bookmark” a Web site for future reference.
- 1.27 Identify basic elements of a Web site (e.g., URL, hyperlinks, site map, etc.).
- 1.28 Copy an image from a Web site into a file on the desktop; write a correct citation caption in keeping with copyright law.
- 1.29 Using e-mail, create and send a message. (Student use of e-mail is determined by district policy and may be a class-wide activity if students do not have individual accounts.)

- 1.30 Open an e-mail attachment and save it to the desktop. (District discretion applies.)
- 1.31 Use correct terminology in speaking about electronic communications (e.g., browser, search engine, online).
- 1.32 Create a slide presentation using appropriate applications.
- 1.33 Identify and use drawing and painting applications as appropriate for class projects.
- 1.34 Identify appropriate applications for a classroom project.

Standard 2. Demonstrate responsible use of technology and an understanding of ethics and safety issues in using electronic media.

PreK-4 Performance Indicators

- 2.1 Follow classroom rules for responsible use of computers.
- 2.2 Develop understanding of the school's rules for safe and ethical Internet use. (Use of Internet in this grade span is under close supervision and determined by district policy.)
- 2.3 Explore practices for evaluating Web sites (District policy determines Internet use.)
- 2.4 Develop understanding of how the computer is a tool for learning.
- 2.5 Explore issues of ergonomics and safety in using computers.

Grades 5-6 Performance Indicators (Continue to address earlier skills as needed.)

- 2.6 Explain and demonstrate understanding of classroom rules regarding responsible use of computers (responsible behavior around equipment, respect for other people's work, and appropriate collaborative behavior).
- 2.7 Explain and demonstrate ethical and legal behavior in copying files, applications, and media.
- 2.8 Explain potential problem of computer viruses and exercise caution in opening e-mail attachments from unknown sources. (Use of e-mail is at district discretion.)
- 2.9 Explain safe practices for sharing personal information via e-mail and the Internet. (Use of e-mail is at district discretion.)
- 2.10 Explain proper e-mail etiquette. (Use of e-mail is at district discretion.)
- 2.11 Describe and demonstrate knowledge of the school's Acceptable Use Policy, and know the consequences of violating that policy.
- 2.12 Validate a Web site for authenticity (e.g., find site sponsor, author, and date the site was

last updated).

2.13 Explain how media and technology can be misused to distort or exaggerate information.

2.14 Write correct citations for text and images gathered from electronic sources. Understand that use of materials is limited by the fair use rule of copyright law.

2.15 Develop an awareness of the issue of ergonomics (e.g., Repetitive Stress Injuries) and how to use equipment safely.

Standard 3. Demonstrate ability to use technology for research, problem-solving, and communication. Students locate, evaluate, collect, and process information from a variety of electronic sources. Students use telecommunications and other media to interact or collaborate with peers, experts, and other audiences.

Pre-K-4 Performance Indicators

3.1 Explore and develop understanding of how to gather information from a variety of electronic sources, including teacher-selected Web sites, CD- ROM encyclopedias, and automated card catalog.

3.2 Explore the use of application programs (e.g., word processing, database, spreadsheet) for organizing information into charts, tables, and diagrams.

3.3 Explore the use of content-specific tools to enhance understanding of curriculum content (e.g., environmental probes, sensors, robotics, simulation software, and measuring devices).

3.4 Collaborate with classmates and teacher in creating a multimedia presentation to communicate learning with others.

3.5 Collaborate with classmates and teacher to exchange e-mail with another classroom (at discretion of district and teacher).

Grades 5-6 Performance Indicators

3.6 In keeping with the research process outlined in Standard 24 of the English Language Arts Curriculum Framework, identify electronic sources of information (e.g., Internet, CD-ROM, online periodical databases, and online catalogs).

3.7 Use search engines effectively to find relevant, unbiased, and current information on a subject. (Standard 2 performance indicators apply—i.e., evaluate Web sites and write correct citations for sources.)

3.8 Organize information that is collected using a variety of tools (e.g., spreadsheet, database, saved files).

3.9 Communicate results of research and learning with others using the most appropriate tools (e.g., desktop-published or word-processed report, multimedia presentation).

3.10 Manipulate data using charting tools and graphic organizers (e.g., concept mapping, flow charting, and outlining software) to connect ideas and organize information.

3.11 Under teacher's guidance, and at discretion of district, use e-mail to communicate with others (e.g., students in other classrooms, experts in a subject, teachers).

Four Year Plan

2006-2007

HP APPS RACK SERVER
HP FILE RACK SERVER
SERVER RACK
UPS
HP AUTOLOADER
HP Procurve Switches
CAT 6 Cables
WIFI Access Points
Cabling Drops
Cabling Patch Panels
Badge software replacement
Exchange Enterprise License
Exchange User CAL's
W2K3 Server License
W2K3 Server User CAL's
Windows XP Licenses
Asset Management Software
USB Wireless Network Cards
Samsung Ides Phone System
Financial Management System

2007-2008

SonicWALL Firewall
Color Copier with Printing and Scanning capabilities
DVD/VCR Combos
Remote for Laptop presentations
Xwall Spam Filter for Exchange Server

2008-2009

Mac Mini Lab with wireless keyboard and mouse
Elementary classroom HP desktops
Leadership laptops
Wireless Access Points mounted

2009-2010

Wireless Laptops for Student Support staff
Projector for FASST meetings
AimsWeb Progress Monitoring Software
Color printer for Kindergarten
Student/Staff Management System

Health Office software
 Lunch ID system
 Library Management software
 Video Conference Camera
 Upgrade of Exchange Server to version 2007
 Upgrade of Office to 2003
 Firewall upgrade
 Increase of Building Bandwidth
 Update of AntiVirus Server and Client systems
 Upgrade of Domain/DHCP controller

Four Year Budget

Detailed budget available upon request.

Fixed Inventory Assets List

DESKTOP MACHINES		
Quantity	Description	Details
200	IBM Blue Mini Desktop	Celeron, 567MHz, 128 MB RAM, 7.5 GB HD
22	IBM Black Desktop	Pent. 4, 2.6GHz, 256 MB RAM, 40 GB HD
130	HP Desktop	Pent. 4HT, 2.8GHz, 1024 MB RAM, 80 GB HD
5	HP Desktop	dc5800 SFF PC, Intel, 2GB RAM, 80GB-HD
7	HP Desktop	dc5700
29	Black clone	Pent. 4, 2.4 GHz., 512 MB RAM, 40 GB HD
52	White clone	Pent. III, 1.0GHz, 256 MB RAM, 20 GB HD
5	Dell Optiplex	Pent. III, 500MHz, 168 MB RAM, 20 GB HD
9	Compaq	Pent. II, 400MHz, 256 MB RAM, 6.4 GB HD
3	Imacs	
2	Special Compaq	
27	Mac Mini Desktops	Apple # MB138LL/A, 1.83GHz speed, 1GB RAM

LAPTOPS	
Quantity	Description
14	IBM R40E
31	Toshiba
10	HP 6715b

Software Inventory

Accelerated Reader
Accelerated Math/STAR Math
Adobe Acrobat Reader
Adobe Photoshop Elements
Brainfuse Quick Connect
Inspiration
Interactive Metronome
Internet Explorer
Jump Start Typing
Kid Pix
Lexia Early Reading
Lexia Primary Reading
Lexia Strategies for Older Students
Mailbox
MS Office (Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher)
Read Naturally
Scott Foresman Successnet
Storybook Deluxe Weaver
Timeliner
United Streaming by Discovery Education
Windows Movie Maker

School Administrative Software

Accelerated Math & Reading Manager
AccuFund
AimsWeb Progress Monitoring
ADP
BASC
BASC-2
Card Access
Card 5
Destiny Library Manager by Follett Software
iPass Suite: iPass, iTeacher, iStaff, iParent, iHealth
Guard Plus
Health Pro
Integral
Lexia Manager
MS Office (Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher)
Quickbooks
Testwiz
PAR
Scholastic Reading Inventory
Scott Foresman Math Test Generator
WISC-IV Writer
Work Order Database by Vibrance Technology Corporation
Woodcock Johnson III