

Shared Vision for Adairsville Elementary School

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## Shared Vision for Adairsville Elementary School

### **Vision Statement**

Technology is an essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skill that students need to be successful in the world today. Stakeholders have worked together to develop a vision to support this technology. The vision of Adairsville Elementary School is for all students and faculty to have equitable access to technology while being actively engaged in acquiring 21<sup>st</sup> century skills through collaboration, application, problem solving, and creativity. Adairsville Elementary School is committed to preparing students for application of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills by providing a strong standards-based instructional community with integration of technology and national technology standards throughout the school to ensure that every student meets his/her potential.

### **Rationale**

Why do we need a shared vision statement? The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) states that the shared vision serves as a paddle that steers an organization toward the future. The shared vision should come from collaboration of stakeholders.

In order to collaborate for the shared vision, a survey was administered and stakeholders responded. Stakeholders responded that our vision needed to include technology that is equitable, available, and used daily for instruction with higher ordered thinking skills.

Why did we include 21<sup>st</sup> century skills? According to Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning (P21), all learners need and deserve 21<sup>st</sup> century learning opportunities

to thrive as tomorrow's leaders, workers, and citizens. A profound gap currently exists between the knowledge and skills most students learn in school and the knowledge and skills they need for success in their communities and workplace.

What are 21<sup>st</sup> century skills? 21<sup>st</sup> century skills can be defined as abilities that are essential to being productive individuals in the present and in the future. Some of these skills include: critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, information literacy, media literacy, and ICT (information, communications, and technology) literacy.

Our vision is for our students to be successful in their application of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills; therefore, these skills have been included in our vision.

Our school board, director of technology, superintendent, and stakeholders have established a technology vision for the county and we must work to fulfill this vision. Our vision statement is a reflection of their vision. The county vision statement says that the Bartow County School System is committed to providing quality instruction and excellent educational experiences while insuring academic achievement through technology for the students we serve.

### **Diversity Considerations**

According to Creighton, 2003, much evidence exists indicating schools are not doing enough to see that all students get the technological skills and abilities they will need in the future. We, at Adairsville Elementary School, have strived to implement technology at a 1:1 ratio. While this has occurred in grades 4 and 5 it has been a struggle to implement in grades K-3. There is a digital divide that exists, however; we are working to find ways to remedy this divide. There is one I Mac and three older desktops in every classroom as well as a classroom set of I pads and a classroom set of MacBook

Airs that can be checked out from the media center. With this technology there needs to be more for use within lower grades. Our vision is to bridge this gap so that every student has access to technology at a ratio of 1:1.

### **Stakeholder Roles**

The first stakeholder involved in the success of this vision is the teacher. The role that the teacher plays is vitally important. Without this stakeholder the vision will not be successful. They are essential in facilitating, guiding, teaching, and modeling technology for students. In order for them to do their job they must have equitable access to technology and the knowledge to teach 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. The teacher will integrate technology and national technology standards on a daily basis during their standards-based instruction.

The next stakeholder involved is the student. The student must be willing to work and acquire 21<sup>st</sup> century skills through use of technology. They will work collaboratively to problem solve and apply learned skills in creative, innovative ways.

Another stakeholder involved is the principal. Their role will involve technology acquisition, support, and development of professional training and education for teachers. The principal will work to ensure that technology is being used and national technology standards are integrated into standards-based instruction.

Parents are also involved as a stakeholder. Their role is to keep informed, use data provided, encourage students, and to offer their thoughts about progress when asked.

All stakeholders involved are important to the success of the vision and implementation of effective technology.

### References

Adairsville Elementary School. (2014). *School Improvement Plan 2014-2015*.

Adairsville,GA: Bartow County Schools.

Creighton, T. (2003). *The principal as technology leader*. Thousand Oaks: Corwin Press.

*Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning*. Retrieved July 6, 2015, from

<http://www.p21.org/our-work/p21-framework>

### Appendix A

1. There is a clearly shared vision for implementation of technology in your school.
  - a. Unaware of a shared vision
  - b. Aware that a shared vision for technology exists
  - c. Aware that a shared vision for technology exists and there is beginning to be implementation
  - d. Aware that a shared vision for technology exists and feel there is some implementation
  - e. Aware that a shared vision for technology exists and feel there is full implementation.
  - f. Other
  
2. What would you like to see included in a shared vision for technology?
  
3. All of our students have equitable access to technology on a daily basis.
  - a. Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree
  
4. All of our teachers have equitable access to technology on a daily basis.
  - a. Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree
  
5. What professional development would be beneficial in integrating technology in your classroom?
  - a. Edmodo/Blackboard
  - b. MacBook basics
  - c. Web 2.0 tools
  - d. Aims Web
  - e. Class Dojo
  - f. Brainpop
  - g. Mobymax
  - h. Other
  
6. How could you integrate technology using present and future technologies?
  
7. How do you implement the use of technology in your classroom?
 

	Never or rarely	Sometimes	Often	Daily
To achieve curriculum goals				
For assessments				
To motivate students				
For supporting student needs				

- 8. Technical assistance for maintaining and using technology is:
  - a. Inconsistent and inadequate assistance is provided for faculty and students
  - b. Some assistance for supporting faculty and students but understaffed
  - c. Assistance for supporting faculty and student is adequate
  - d. Adequate assistance and plan for supporting faculty and students in technology
  - e. Other \_\_\_\_\_

- 9. To what extent are shareholders involved in technology in your school.  
Unsure Not involved Somewhat involved Involved Very Involved
  - Parents
  - Faculty
  - Administration
  - Students
  - Business Community