

Integrating Technology with Limited Resources



The views and opinions expressed in this Webinar are those of the panelists and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of Vantage Learning.

Discussion topics:

- Effectively implementing educational technologies while working within budget constraints.
- Making wise decisions about where to spend your technology monies.
- Teachers and administrators working together to guarantee successful technology implementations.
- Best practices for using educational technologies in the classroom.



Jarod Parnell

Computer Systems Administrator
Beaumont Independent School District, TX

BTSD

BEAUMONT ISD

- Approximately 20,000 students
 - Approximately 70% are economically disadvantaged
- 31 campuses
- 7 Administration/Support locations
- Approximately 3000 staff

OUR TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE

- Approximately 10,000 computers
 - 8000 desktops (leased)
 - 2000 laptops (purchased)
- Thousands of peripheral devices (printers, scanners, etc.)
- Approximately 100 servers, of which 70 are now virtual
- Hundreds of network switches connected via Gigaman circuits back to the data center at our administration building (our network has a gigabit backbone with 100 megabit speeds to the desktop)
- 802.11 Wi-Fi at each location
- VOIP phone system
- IP security cameras
- IP based access control

OUR TECHNOLOGY SOFTWARE

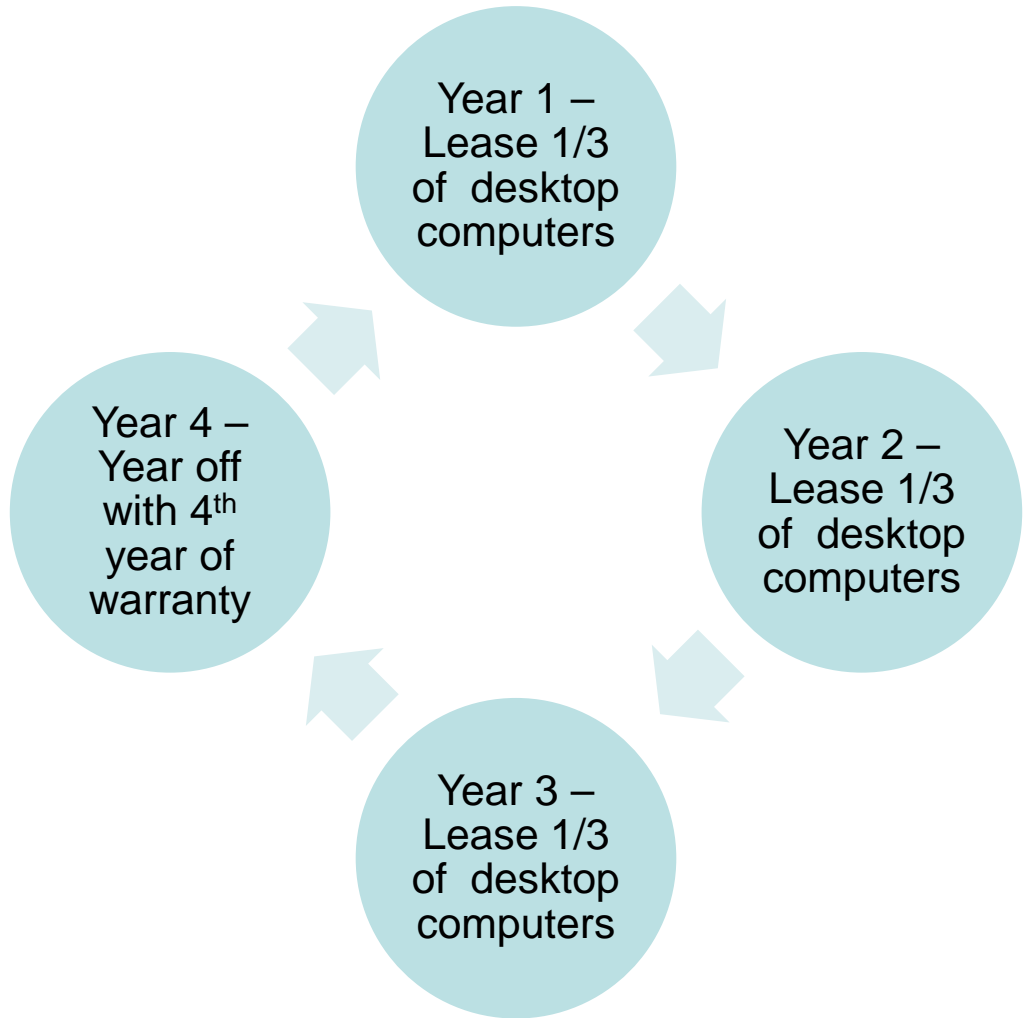
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional
- Microsoft Office 2007 Professional
- My Access!
- Accelerated Reader
- READ180
- Waterford Early Literacy software
- Earobics
- Various curriculum specific titles
 - Adobe Design Premium
 - Expression Web
 - FAAST Math

OUR TECHNOLOGY STAFF

- Our IT Department is comprised of 14 people
 - Director of IT
 - Systems Administrator
 - 2 Network Administrators
 - Programmer
 - 4 Technicians
 - Webmaster
 - 3 student data specialists
 - Secretary
- Our Instructional Technology Department consists of one Instructional Technologist and one programmer

COMPUTER LEASE CYCLE

This illustrates the lease cycle our district has used for acquiring new computers. It is very similar to a copier lease that many districts already utilize. We lease only the desktop computers; not the monitors or peripheral devices.

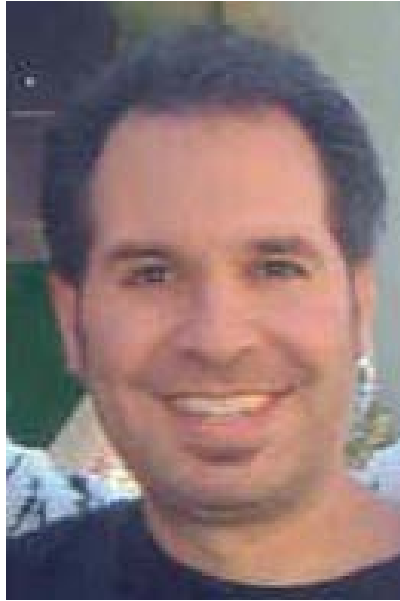


PLANNING AND FUNDING

- State requires a 3 year technology plan
- Technology Allotment from the state
- E-rate funds
- Grants
- School/Business Partnerships
- Bond funds*

SUMMARY

- Use technology as much as possible to save man hours by automating recurring tasks
- Search for grants and companies that are willing to partner with your school or district to accomplish your goals
- Contact other districts who are willing to share their strategies for stretching their technology dollars



Neil Shore

Instructor of Media Technology
Lumberton Middle School &
Bobby's Run Elementary School, NJ



Lumberton Township Schools
"Leaders in Educational Excellence"

Technology Courses I Teach

- 4th Grade Computers
 - Type to Learn
- 5th Grade Computers
 - Microsoft Word
- 7th Grade Broadcasting
 - Audio Production
- 8th Grade Broadcasting
 - Video Production

Bobby's Run School – Grades 4 & 5

Every Student Takes Computers

- 4th Grade computer class focuses upon keyboarding
 - Type to Learn 3.0
 - Site License
- 5th Grade computer class focuses upon Microsoft Word
 - Site License

N-Computing

- **N-Computing** is a desktop virtualization company that manufactures hardware and software to create virtual desktops which enable multiple users to simultaneously share one computer. The company's approach is similar to thin clients but provides better media streaming and audio performance and lower costs.

Benefits of N-Computing

We have 8 computer towers in our lab. However, 30 students can independently log on to their own workstations.

This allowed us to create another computer lab with the remaining computer towers.

Lumberton Middle School – Grades 7-8

Broadcasting is an Elective

Students have the option of choosing the class. The broadcasting courses combine technology, creative writing, and public speaking.

- 7th Grade focuses upon audio production
 - Cool Edit 2.0
 - Out of print software
- 8th Grade focuses upon video production
 - Adobe Premiere
 - Site License

Broadcasting on a Budget

7th Grade – Audio Production

- The Cool Edit software (or similar audio production software) is rather inexpensive for a site license.
- We use inexpensive headsets, and utilize the audio cards that are factory installed on the computers.
- Aside from replacing the occasional headset, there are very little expenses.

Broadcasting on a Budget

8th Grade – Video Production

- We use Adobe Premiere, however most new operating systems come with some sort of movie making software. (I-Movie, Windows Movie Maker, etc).
- We use high-end video cameras. However, technology has become VERY affordable. Digital “flip cams” could be obtained for under \$100 each.

Questions from Audience



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Thank you for attending!

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