Memorandum

To: Mary Hulse, Superintendent
CC: Board Members
From: Joe Gioia, Technology Director
Date: 4/11/2012

Pleasant View School district constantly strives to provide every student with the best possible education, preparing students to live, learn, and work successfully and responsibly in an increasingly complex, technology-driven society. Our staff has the responsibility to teach and help develop competencies in using and applying a broad range of technologies to support lifelong learning.

It has become evident to me, after analyzing data from the Technology Integration self-assessment survey sent out to all teachers in the district, that a large percentage of teachers are not using technology to its full potential. Only 9.7% reported using Tier 3: Powerful Student-Centered 21st Century Learning Environment in their classroom. A large percentage, 72%, reported only using technology for their own productivity with no student-centered collaborative learning activities taking place. The remainder of staff, 17%, reported partaking in teacher facilitation of large group learning activities and student productivity use of technology but no collaborative learning activities taking place. This data shows that only a quarter of the staff are using technology to facilitate higher-order thinking skills, motivate learners, promote problem solving capabilities, and most importantly prepare our students for the future. Along with these alarming statistics is the fact that Pleasant View School district failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress due to subpar math scores. There have been numerous studies (http://tinyurl.com/6qf23dh) showing the benefits of technology on raising math scores.

To address these issues I have come up with a professional development program for teachers, principals, and administrators. The professional development will help promote the effective integration of technology resources into the classroom which will ultimately enhance student achievement.

The following strategies will be used:
• Provide training and support strategies to guarantee that the staff has the appropriate competencies and on-going support required to use educational technology to deliver and support instruction.

• Provide opportunities, thru district technology training, for all staff to develop their educational technology knowledge and skills.

• Provide staff with technological resources in the form of software and hardware, to help students meet high academic standards.

• Develop school plans in regards to technology that define measures for documenting success in raising student achievement levels.

• Align technology with district and state content standards to help reach high academic success.

• To address the low math score the district has purchased a subscription to Study Island [http://www.studyisland.com/](http://www.studyisland.com/). Study Island is a web-based instruction, practice, assessment, and reporting math program that will be built to our state standards and is backed by research-based proven results.

• All staff will be trained to use Study Island effectively in their classroom.

In order to use technology effectively in the classroom, educators need to be comfortable and able to use the current technology that supports academic and curricular issues. In order to achieve this they must enhance their skills through professional development programs. This professional development program I have composed will help to meet this need and provide educators in our school an opportunity to learn how to use new software, create new, engaging curriculum, and integrate it into their classrooms.

Sincerely,

Joe Gioia