

Christian Family & Children's Center Champion Christian School Technology Plan Outline January 2009

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Leadership team of the Christian Family & Children's Center and its programs which includes Champion Christian School to be continually growing in computer and technology integration in the operations of the Center. This would include the provision of the most advanced hardware and software that does efficient work in accomplishing the operational tasks that are suitable for technology, while being financially prudent in terms of the overall financial operation of the ministry. Our vision for most efficient technology would not necessarily be the fastest or best, but the hardware and software that utilizes Center resources in terms of personnel and finances in the most efficient way to accomplish the program goals that relate to our overall mission. It would also include having the best educational opportunities available for the students of Champion Christian School and to have technology integrated within the curriculum and to be dealt with from a Christian World View.

Mission

It has been determined by the leadership team of the Center that technology is an integral part of the future and for the ministry to be effective it must be able to understand the overall mission of the Center and how it relates in that context. Staying on the current practical edge of technology should provide the most cost effective and yet relative way of doing this. The effective use and understanding of technology will be critical to the needs of students in our school. Finally, it is important that the Center understand the issues of technology in the perspective of a Christian World View. In that context we believe that staff training and integration of all staff (as opposed to IT staff being the technology integrators) into the tech process is important. It is then a major focus of the organization to train staff in terms of basic technological skills and information, the utilization of software to accomplish mission driven tasks, and the focus on local, regional and global communication and interaction as a function of that training and technology.

Introduction to the Technical Plan

The following technical plan is adapted to meet the needs of the programs, committees and functions of the Christian Family & Children's Center and its programs, including Champion Christian School. This technical plan encompasses a three year strategic planning process as part of the Center's overall plans for development. Under the group section of the goal will be the code of the group assigned to meet that goal. The primary groups involved with goals established here will be the Board of Directors (Administrative Board), Staff, Student Directed Study Students, and our Technology

staff and consultants. These goals will serve as a guide for the overall technical plan of the Center, specific plan for E-rate for Champion Christian School, and the goals of the staff relating to programs that utilize the Internet, telecommunications systems, web publishing, and other program driven technology services.

Past History

Technology has always been an interest in the Center and particularly Champion Christian School. A pivotal event happened in 1996 which was the receipt of a multi-funding source grant of \$21,000 to purchase several machines at the Center, wire the Center for a LAN, and get connected to the Internet. At the end of that year another significant event happened in the life of the Center which was to develop a relationship with a provider out of Seattle, WA to bring Internet service to the local area. The Center became a marketing and technical support service and received 20% of revenue from the services provided plus a direct connection to the Internet. This provided an early introduction to technology and continued through three different service providers until the Center handed those services off to the Local Telephone Company several years ago.

We have built upon that history to continue to develop services, adding a paid IT department, utilizing industry professionals from the Center's community, and even our Alumni who were training during the early start up years. We have brought many of the services in-house, and continue to hope to expand as funds are available to us.

Review of Hardware and Software

We have nearly 70 computers spanning from two campuses, and four different buildings including our North Campus which is the Middle/High School Campus, South Campus which is the Elementary School, our Garage Facility, and Greenhouse. Our labs range from Pentium 2 and Pentium 3 computers. Our office computers range from Pentium 3 and Pentium 4 computers. And all of our classrooms have AMD Athlon X2 Dual Core computers. In house we run our own Web server, backup webserver, file servers, proxy servers, e-mail servers, spam filters, and a redundancy server that backs up all of our servers files every night.

We have utilized Corel Office Software, Linux Server Software, Windows 2000, XP, and Vista, provided a Local area network in both of our classroom facilities and a Wide Area Network to all three facilities, and two small modem based networks to external facilities including our sports complex, external greenhouse and science area. Champion Christian School South Campus also receives satellite series via Direct TV. This system is expandable to the LAN.

We have recently purchased 15 digital projectors that are currently being ceiling mounted in all of the classrooms, that teachers and students will utilize daily for greater learning that adapts to the growth of technology in the classroom. All of our students are learning and using computers well from the elementary level and up.

All of our computers are connected on a Local Area Network (LAN) in each campus, and then connected to the other buildings by a Wide Area Network (WAN). Our computers are connected to the internet via High Speed Fiber Optic Connection.

Needs Assessment

As part of the annual goal planning process, various aspects of the Center's leadership team address the needs of the ministry as they relate to technology. During this process the following needs have been identified:

1. Need for additional security (both external and internal) on the Networks and Wide Area Network. Although our technology is secure, it is becoming increasingly important to deal with internal security of documents, communication, and student security.
2. The need for ongoing integration of technology in the context of the Center's mission and services to utilize technology to become more efficient.
3. The need to continue to refine and expand upon our internet safety protocols to make it easier and more seamless for students in the use of Proxy servers and filters. In addition, we are continuing to educate students about what is appropriate and safe online behavior as well as teach the online safety courses. We are in compliance with all CIPA requirements.
4. Need for upgrading of existing hardware, throughout the network for increased efficiency and the upgrading of operating systems so that all systems are Pent IV or above.
5. Need for additional database development and utilization geared to relating to our public's and student driven needs
6. Need for better communication outside the center via expanded webservices, webinar utilization and other secondary communication services.
7. Need to continually upgrade training on web publishing, web-based database utilization, and other skills utilizing email communication with clients, parents, and others.
8. Need for additional time for staff to be able to use equipment in a hands-on way. A good deal of training has happened and the staff feels a need to have more time to learn to utilize that training in their respective settings. There are a variety of hardware and software options available to staff who have to find time from busy schedules to learn how to utilize it.
9. The need to develop filtering services that are mission based more effective in-house for use with Center networks, and to be able to develop that same technology for

use in the community.

10. The Facility is currently completely wired with Category 5 wiring. Each room has at least two Internet connections, and general areas have more.

11. Funding for technology has historically been supplied through Grants, E-rate, Special Giving, Donations, and operational revenue for the Center

12. Previous upgrades of the overall electrical system of the older facility make every room in the facility have more than enough electrical access to provide the hardware desired in this three year plan. Our new buildings were fully wired with technology needs in mind.

13. There is a need to develop the resources to be able to obtain additional, more effective educational software such as expanded uses of accelerated reader, accelerated math, and other educational and diagnostic software.

Maintenance of Hardware, Problem Solving, Technical Support and Troubleshooting

The current level of machines at the Center requires various leadership teams to take care of the many needs of a growing technology program. Currently the following groups have responsibilities to maintain the equipment at the Center:

Technology Staff: There are technical staff hired on a part time basis to maintain the system, implement upgrades to hardware and software, and work with the Director to establish, research, and implement new Goals of the Center in terms of technology.

Staff: The Executive Director of the paid staff is trained in computer technology about repair and upgrades, has led the direction of technology from the inception of technology integration at the Center, and is committed to the ongoing development and integration of those resources in terms of accomplishing the mission of the Center. Although these staff members work on machines, their primary focus is to continue to train teachers and students to do minor repair.

Directed Course Study: CCS High School has a directed study opportunity for students in High School to learn to work on computers, manage network and functions, and do repair.

Technology Consulting Group: This group is a loosely tied volunteer group of adult volunteers who have a significant interest and skills in the professional world of technology. They would provide direct consultation one on one and as a group to the Center's growing technology program. They often are a part of implementing new direction by lending their expertise and services to our needs.

Public Relations

The Development Office at the Center handles all public relations done with the technology at the Center. Primarily this is done through marketing through the Internet by providing educational opportunities for the students as well as offering services to the community. Significant gifts are acknowledged via local papers. The Development Office also solicits donations on behalf of the technology needs of the Center both in the form of grants, donations of software and hardware, and financial gifts.

Security

Physical security of the equipment is handled by staffing (from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and a professional security system. Content security from the Internet is handled by our Use Policy that addresses adequate supervision anytime students have access to computers. This is supplemented with full proxy service internally. Password protection, security use protocols, and ongoing training are utilized to assure confidentiality in communication and data. In-house server functions for web, data, email, proxy, and other services allow for internal controls which increase our ability to control security in all aspects of our services.

Implementation and Evaluation

Evaluation is and will be done at the end of each year to reset and establish goals for each area of the technology development.

A separate and current goals' list is attached.

Revised: January 2009