

Gemini Technology Plan

*Enhancing our students' education by using current and engaging technology
so students uphold digital citizenship while collaborating and creating innovative technology products.*

Introduction

It is Gemini's mission to serve each student with high levels of support and provide opportunities to develop to their fullest potential. Our vision is to have a culture of dedication, collaboration, and lifelong learning to serve all Gemini students by maximizing their potential and empowering them with essential skills to learn, work, and succeed in the 21st century.

Current State of Technology at Gemini:

All classrooms are configured with 21st century standard technology equipment that includes:

- 1 ceiling mounted projector
- Qomo Document Camera
- Lightspeed Audio System
- DVD/VCR combo
- 1 teacher machine
- 3 student machines
- 1 Logitech HD Web cameras

Technology Access and Utilization:

Gemini teachers and students have access to technology in many different ways each day:

- 1 Open Computer Lab with 27 Lenovo desktop computers and teacher station for projector based learning
- 1 Computer Lab in the Media Center with 24 desktop computers for projector based learning including an Epson interactive whiteboard
- 1 Mobile Chromebook cart with 25 Chromebooks
- 1 Mobile cart with 24 laptops
- 2 Mobile iPad carts totaling 45 iPads available for checkout
- 3 sets of mobile classroom response clickers totaling 75
- 15 Qomo pads
- 10 Playaway ebook devices available for student checkout in the Media Center

Professional Development

Members of the Technology Leadership Team will plan a technology centered Professional Development day on February 16th of this year. Based on the teacher needs survey, there will be three sessions for teachers to attend: Explain Everything, Poplet/Padlet, and NearPod.

Gemini will send members of the Technology Leadership Team to attend the 2015 FETC conference in Orlando. Upon their return, the team will share new tech integration ideas and best practices to the faculty.

Our Media Specialist and Technology Associate will collaborate with the South Area BPS Tech Integrators to plan two Google docs trainings for our teachers throughout the school year.

Teachers on the Technology Leadership Team will contact our district technology integrators to set up trainings for their students to learn Google Docs and Edmodo.

Professional development is offered throughout the school year through faculty meetings, after school sessions, and inservice days to support all teachers in the use of iPads and school/district subscriptions including:

- iPad apps

- Google Apps

- Brainpop/Brainpop Jr.

- Discovery Education

- Tumblebooks

- WorldBook/Kid InfoBits

- Online Textbooks: Journeys Think Central, Pearson Realize, Connect ED, and myNGConnect

Gemini teachers will participate in our annual full day technology training dedicated to learning new apps and innovative, research based programs on the web. Teachers will attend in small groups (6-7 teachers) per day, so there is more one on one interaction and collaboration. Teachers will have time to create technology enriched standards-based lessons that can be implemented immediately.

Gemini teachers will seek out training opportunities with a focus in differentiated technology integration and will share all new information at faculty meetings and with vertical articulation teams.

Since its inception, Gemini has sent a teacher representative to the annual summer PAINT academy training. These teachers become proficient in their use of the following tools: iPads, clickers, Qomo pads, Blackboard, etc. They then become the teacher tech leader the following school year.

Engaged Community Support

Our Technology Leadership team will plan a Technology night for all parents . We will invite Lt. Tod Goodyear from the Brevard County Sheriff's Department to present the latest information related to Internet Safety and Cyberbullying. A separate session will be available for parents to learn more about the new Florida Standards, Gemini's SiteHoover, and apps/web-based resources for parent and student support.

Gemini teachers and staff communicate with a representative from the Hometown News (The Beaches) to keep our community informed of events and activities centered around our technology campaign.

Gemini teachers will continue to update their Edline web page throughout the school year highlighting upcoming events, assignments, important links, and accomplishments. We will also continue to encourage families to activate their Edline account.

Gemini teachers in several grade levels will reach out to members of our community to have the opportunity to participate in live Skype sessions on various topics related to current curriculum. Possible topics include photography, careers, book authors, animal adaptations, etc.

Our Media Specialist, Technology Associate, Principal, and Student Leaders will present at a Melbourne Beach Rotary meeting once per semester to inform members of our school's progress with the Accelerated Reader program. Rotary will continue to fund the \$5,000+ bill for this program for the next three years.

Needs Assessment/Gap Analysis:

Gemini administrators and teachers would like to improve accessibility to wireless devices (iPad and laptop carts) across our campus. Our wireless carts are checked out well in advance. Teachers find it difficult to plan technology integration lessons that far out. These carts are also stored in the Media Center. Teachers often find it difficult to access them during those teachable moments in the classroom. Teacher survey results indicate that having at least 4-5 devices per classroom would allow for small group instruction or student. partner, or group work and projects.

In analyzing our 2013-14 Instructional Personnel Performance Appraisal System (IPPAS) teacher evaluation results, 26 out of 34 teachers (76%) were rated as "Proficient" according to the rubric for Dimension 2, Element VIII, which states: 1. Uses technology to construct teaching materials and learning activities. 2. Students are actively engaged in using technology as a tool rather than passively receiving information from the technology. Only 8 out of 34 teachers (24%) scored "Distinguished," which states: 1. Creates a rich learning environment in which students *regularly* engage in activities and *create products* that would have been difficult to achieve without *student integrated technology*. This is a clear indication that providing professional learning for teachers and making technology devices more accessible to teachers will improve their craft, promote technology integration, and positively impact student achievement.

Technology Goals:

Gemini students will continue to use educational technology as responsible digital citizens and learn how to leave positive digital footprints.

Gemini teachers and administrators will work with our PTO to raise funds to purchase a wireless cart for each grade level pod. Each cart will contain at least 12 iPads for K-2nd grade and 12 Laptops for 3rd-6th grade. Our ultimate goal will be to have a one-to-one ratio (device to student).

Gemini's Media Specialist will host monthly after school technology share sessions devoted to integrating iPads into the curriculum.

Gemini teachers will all receive Google Docs training and use the program to collaborate with their grade levels, administration, and their students.

Gemini students in grades 2-6 will practice typing skills a minimum of one day per week by using our new school wide license to Garfield's Typing Pal.

Gemini Technology Leadership Team will strive to raise funds in collaboration with business partners, PTO and/or grant opportunities to replace and improve the quality of our TV Production studio equipment. We will also purchase 27 all-in-one Lenovo computers for our Computer Lab.

Gemini students will have consistent access to technology devices to take online assessments, collaborate (locally and globally) and create products.

Gemini's Technology Leadership Team will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of educational technology integration (instruction, student learning, devices, and resources).