

## Technology Committee

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The Tech Committee met on March 23<sup>rd</sup> with Melissa Woods MCPS Director in the Division of Technology Support and Shelley Johnson MCPS Director Instructional Technology and Partnerships.

All the MCPS schools are wireless and using fiber optics now & this was a huge investment

Investment has been made in upgrading servers and updating software roughly 20M

There is a program/detailed deployment list whereby the Tech Modernization program changes out old computers (criteria 4 years old) every year. There is a detailed plan by school

The state is evaluating and collecting baseline data on National Standards to see where we are on the Technology Standards and a gap analysis is being done by MCPS by grade level. We should have the output by the end of the school year

Other information on the integration of curriculum to infuse tech skills into the curriculum:

- The Information and Communication Technology - Grade 6 (ICT6) course, which was offered last year in the five middle school reform schools, was expanded to the 15 schools involved with middle school reform in FY 2009. Students feel that this course is very engaging and are learning 21st century knowledge and skills through robotics, game development, software applications, and multimedia. Teachers are receiving specialized training so that they are prepared to teach this rigorous course.
- At the high school level, the Maryland State Department of Education recently approved a new pathway called Multimedia and Interactive Media. Implementation of this program is planned for four or five high schools in FY 2010. The pathway includes game development, multimedia, focused instruction with Adobe software, and more. Specialized training is being provided to teachers during summer 2009.
- Promethean board technology is being used in K-12 classrooms throughout MCPS, engaging students as they learn 21st century knowledge and skills in a variety of content areas.

A Cyber safety informational brochure has been developed as a joint project of the Montgomery County State's Attorney's office Montgomery County Police Department and Montgomery County Public Schools, dedicated to providing information to parents and students about Internet Safety and is being distributed in all schools. See <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/cybersafety/-17.2KB> - MCPS web

<http://www.21stcenturyskills.org> This is the framework that MCPS and the State are modeling the standards after

## Framework for 21st Century Learning



The framework presents a holistic view of 21st century teaching and learning that combines a discrete focus on 21st century student outcomes (a blending of specific skills, content knowledge, expertise and literacy's) with innovative support systems to help students master the multi-dimensional abilities required of them in the 21st century.

The key elements of 21st century learning are represented in the graphic and descriptions below. The graphic represents both 21st century skills *student outcomes* (as represented by the arches of the rainbow) and 21st century skills *support systems* (as represented by the pools at the bottom).

While the graphic represents each element distinctly for descriptive purposes, the Partnership views all the components as fully interconnected in the process of 21st century teaching and learning.

21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems

[Download PDF version of the Framework](#)

