

Technology Services

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Technology Division Philosophy

Lyons Township High School District 204 recognizes that in today’s world and for the foreseeable future, technology can be viewed as both a means and an end within an educational setting. As a means, it is a tool to accelerate teaching, learning, and working, enrich our experiences and augment our opportunities. As an end, we must learn how to use various technologies in order for us to be more effective, efficient, and creative, as well as ethical users of technology.

Through technology, Lyons Township High School provides access for students and staff to resources from around the world. Instructional and administrative technologies take students and staff beyond the confines of campuses thereby expanding the reach of the classroom; providing opportunities for enhancing, extending, and rethinking the teaching/learning process; and technology assists in preparing each student to be a technologically responsible and literate citizen.

Instructional Technology

- Technical Support
- 7 Networked Business Labs
- 4 Networked Discovery Center Labs
- 2 Networked Graphic Labs
- 1 Networked Aviation Simulator Lab
- 4 Networked Library Labs
- 1 Networked Vocational Lab
- 25 Networked Science Labs
- 1 Networked Music Lab
- 2 Networked Publications Labs
- Internet access via Illinois Century Network and AT&T Opti-man Service

Administrative Technology

- Networked IBMiSeries (AS/400)
- MS Exchange (email & calendaring)
- Nortel Networks PBX
- Voicemail
- Technical Support
- Student Information System
- Human Resource Information System
- Financial Information System
- VMware Virtualized Data Centers



Standards for Student Learning with Technology

Lyons Township High School has established Standards for Student Learning with Technology through a collaborative process that involved its students, faculty/staff, parents, and the community. These technology standards have been developed in order to set levels of student understanding and proficiency of technology and to provide departments and divisions a guide by which to incorporate technology into their programs, courses, and instruction. There are eight general technology standards, and each standard has additional specific standards which are available upon request. Finally, these standards have been posted in each computer lab within the District's facilities as well as in each classroom.

- Standard I** Students will recognize the importance of information to a democratic society.
- Standard II** Students will practice ethical behavior with regard to information and information technology.
- Standard III** Students will participate effectively in groups to pursue and generate information.
- Standard IV** Students will pursue information related to personal interests.
- Standard V** Students will access information efficiently and effectively.
- Standard VI** Students will evaluate information critically and competently.
- Standard VII** Students will use information effectively and creatively.
- Standard VIII** Students will use technology to create and deliver information for a variety of audiences and a variety of purposes.

Business Labs

Seven labs with more than 30 computers each are dispersed through the two campuses. The Business labs' computers are used to directly support teaching students the skills necessary to succeed in a computerized world. For example, they are used for keyboarding, accounting business practices, (such as spreadsheets and databases) web development, server and network architecture knowledge. Microsoft Office is the core software tool of the Business Education program.

Graphics Labs

Each campus boasts two labs used for graphics applications. Each lab is used by teachers and students scheduled in art, graphics, design and drafting classes. All have access to the latest graphics tools, such as color printers, plotters, digital cameras, software, and scanners.

Discovery Center Labs

Each campus has two networked labs of 32 computers in its Discovery Center (DC). Each lab is outfitted with color and black and white Laser printers, color scanners, and projectors. The DCs are open to all classes and have very heavy usage. In fact, a visit to any DC may find an English class working on a term paper, while a science class is taking a test on computers, and study hall students research on the Internet. Each DC is staffed with a coordinator that provides support to teachers in planning and delivering lessons using the technology in the lab, as well as a supervisor who assists in the operation of the lab and who assists students. In addition, there is a center area in each DC, outfitted with additional computers, that is reserved for individualized peer tutoring, teacher work, and students from study halls.

Libraries

Each campus has a library with 2 computer labs, as well as non-lab computers for general use. Each library has access to an electronic catalog of all books. They also have access to magazines, newspapers, and other research information on the Internet.

Classroom Computers

In addition to the lab facilities, instructional computers are in every classroom at LT. Classroom computers are used for writing, drawing, as well as applied technology projects by students and staff. They are also used for faculty to present curricular materials and guide learning experiences, as well as to electronically enter grades and attendance records. There are also 25 science labs that focus on physics, biology and chemistry with computers at each lab station.

Administrative Technology

Offices throughout both campuses have access to technology for tracking student and staff information, budgeting, purchasing and payroll. The office computers are networked throughout both campuses to allow for clear lines of communication.

Internet

LTHS has access to the Internet via Illinois Century Network (ICN) and AT&T Opti-man Service. Each campus also has a complex system of main and intermediate distribution wiring centers that provide high speed access to every classroom, lab, and administrative office. The two campuses are connected via redundant links, which consist of one high speed FCC-licensed microwave link and telco-cabled link. This network provides student and staff access to real-time and up-to-the-minute experts, information, pictures, sounds, and news from literally from around the world. Research databases and full text articles are readily available.

LT has a significant web presence. Our website, www.lths.net, contains over 5,000 pages of content that provides information to students, staff, the community, and the world. LT also provides parents with up to date information on their students' progress via Edline, an online web-hosted service.

Extra Help

Some lab facilities are open before and after school hours, so students and staff have an opportunity to use technology when it is most convenient. Some evening hours are also available. Computers are also available in the new Student Tutoring Centers.

Staff Development Program

LT is always looking for new and better ways to ensure that the staff maintains a particular level of technical abilities. Two staff development centers were created to meet this need head on. These labs allow teachers to enhance their technology skills, more deeply embed technology into their curricula and instructional practices, and to experiment with software/hardware. These professional learning labs are supported by seven part-time staff developers / Technology Enriched Curriculum (TEC) coaches.