

2018 Technology and Capital Projects Levy

Why is this technology funding necessary? Not unique to the Blaine School District, needs and expectations specific to technology access for staff and students are continually escalating. Not only is it necessary to have staff technology on a cycle of replacement at least once every five years, we are also seeing limited, overall progress in assuring that each student in the system has the opportunity to have a technology device in hand for learning support, at minimum a lower cost “tablet”. Many school districts have in place a technology levy that serves to assure the ongoing purchase and replacement of technology equipment. The Blaine School District does not. A Capital Levy can be utilized to provide for this need, and as such we are targeting expenditure of \$1.5M over the six-year period for this purpose. Below you will find a more detailed description of Blaine School District’s Vision and Goals for Technology over the next six years.

Collaboration. Connectedness. Creativity. Citizenship.

In the Blaine School District, we believe that all students should have equitable access to technology that supports and enhances their learning. Technology combined with high quality teaching can empower learners with opportunities to solve problems, think critically, and make meaning of the world around them. The meaningful, respectful, and ethical use of technology can increase students’ quality of life and help them become contributing members of society.

The Blaine School District’s Technology Committee has identified three key goal areas, each of which will require enhanced recourses that would be greatly supported by the 2018 Technology and Capital Projects Levy:

1. **Student Access**

- a. **1 to 1 Ratio of student devices!** (Chromebooks, or tablets, in specialized settings and in the younger grades)
- b. **Enhance infrastructure/wireless access to support 1:1 use**
- c. Fully fund and keep up with a replacement schedule for student devices
- d. Update classroom technology tools for instruction (interactive whiteboards etc.)
- e. STEM related tech tools (curriculum embedded & specific to content)

2. **Student Use**

- a. Provide exciting and engaging hands on and interactive learning
- b. Skills continuum and aligned instruction based on state standards
- c. Student safety training and ethical use of technology
- d. Technology standards embedded in content standards
- e. Technology for problem solving and creation of/communication of new ideas and learning
- f. Increase alignment and consistency of use across classrooms

3. **Professional Learning for Staff & Staff Access to Tools**

- a. Understanding of technology standards and related teaching strategies
- b. Effective and consistent use of foundational set of tools and applications
- c. Embedded content training for staff (i.e. tools and uses specific to STEM, mathematics, literacy)
- d. Classroom structures and management strategies that ensure meaningful, safe, and productive use of technology
- e. Development of teacher leaders in technology
- f. Fully fund replacement schedule and updates to teacher laptops