District Vision
21st century technology learning team

The Curriculum and Instruction/Student Support (CISS) Division was charged by the Board with drafting an Instructional Technology (IT) Plan. To implement this charge, an informal group called the Digital Natives was brought together to present ideas and recommendations that would assist Broward County Public Schools with implementing its vision. In order to successfully move this vision forward, it will take the collaboration and support of various departments within the CISS Division along with ETS, BECON and direction from District Principals. This on-going networking will secure the key components of strategy prioritization, progress monitoring and allocation of resources.

This document sets forth the vision for the role of instructional technology in the curriculum and instructional programs of Broward County Public Schools. The goal of the document is to provide initial steps to assist in reaching the vision of empowering students to become lifelong learners capable of using technology for critical thinking, problem solving, virtual learning and increasing student achievement.

Major points include:

1 *Digital Learning Environment Study:* This initiative would engage school-based administrators and teachers in a Plan, Do, Study, Act cycle to reveal the issues and impact of transitioning to a digital learning environment. Part of this study would include creating "test sites" that provide access to technology to students on a 24/7 basis.

2 *Curriculum Development/Instructional Management:* This initiative Broward Enterprise Education Portal (now known as BEEP) creates a single access point for curriculum and instructional resources for all teachers and over time will be available to students, parents and administrators.

3 *Staff Development:* This initiative would expand the existing comprehensive technology integration staff development programs offered by the district for teachers and administrators.

4 *Leasing vs. Purchasing:* This issue explores leasing as an option to procure hardware as a potential cost reduction alternative and as a method of addressing obsolescence and disposal of computer hardware.

5 *Re-designing classrooms:* This section provides initial ideas on how the physical classroom might be re-designed to meet the needs of an educational system that supports BCPS vision for future learning.

6 *Curriculum Resources:* This section looks at the issue of standardizing on the curriculum tools and software available to schools to ensure consistency of education for all students in BCPS.

7 *Cost Implications:* This section gives preliminary cost figures for the proposed projects.

To attain this vision, a collaborative group has come together to formulate specific goals and objectives designed to focus our efforts and achieve measurable outcomes. The group, which is called the **21st Century Technology Learning Team,** consists of leadership in the following departments:

- Instructional Technology
- Learning Resources/Instructional Materials
- Program Development and Alignment
- Core Curriculum
- Educational Programs
- BECON
- HRD
- ETS
- Multicultural & ESOL
- ESE

This group, which includes principal representatives from all four levels, will meet on a regular basis to monitor these goals and objectives and continue to plan for the future.

Goal I: Effectively communicate the District's technology vision, to ensure it is understood by all departments and schools in alignment with the One Voice Plan (OVP).

>   **Objective A.**   By June 2007, all major technology initiatives (involving 3 or more schools) will be identified and aligned to the Instructional Technology (IT) and One Voice Plans.

Goal II: Set specific standards for the purchasing of applications, school technology infrastructure, support requirements and maintenance.

>   **Objective A**. By June 2007, develop a software review and recommendation process to be implemented school year for core products (inclusive of integrated learning systems). The process will include District Curriculum Staff, principals and teachers within the content area(s) being reviewed.

>   **Objective B**. By January 2008, develop a software review process for supplemental products in order to support individual school needs and conform to the District technology requirements.

>   **Objective C**. By January 2007, establish a technology standard for school infrastructure and support by January 2007 inclusive of server settings, teacher access and on-site and District support for maintenance.

Goal III: Create a seamless pathway for the implementation of technology projects and initiatives that are consistent with the District vision and involve the media center as the information focal point of the school.

>   **Objective A.** By January 2007, a minimum of 75% of Broward's teachers will have accessed BEEP for lesson plans or other instructional resources.

>   **Objective B.** By January 2007, up to 90% of media specialists will complete the District-modified, DOE Technology Assessment Tool via Quintessential Instructional Archive (QUIA) survey in order to develop a customized training plan delivered through the Digital Education Technology Academy (DETA), Human Resource Development (HRD) and Broward Virtual University.

>   **Objective C.** By June 2007, enhance and expand the current BEEP project plans and the number of lessons/units specific to the media center and media specialists.

>   **Objective D.** By June 2008, develop Classroom Walkthrough (CWT) protocols specific for media centers and include in appendix of OVP.

>   **Objective E.** By July 2008, identify both a virtual credit recovery system and expanded course offerings in student majors for secondary students and delivered through Broward Virtual High School.

>   **Objective F.** By March 2007, develop a plan to assist schools in building internal capacity to continue various models and/or programs previously funded through one-time and/or limited-use resources.