

# Mount Laurel School District 21st Century Learning Plan

## **Mission Statement of the Mount Laurel School District**

*The mission of the Mount Laurel Township School District is to prepare all children to be successful citizens and workers in the 21st century. As aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, this includes educating students to read with comprehension, write clearly, compute accurately, think critically, reason, discover, innovate, collaborate, and use information to solve problems.*

## **Mount Laurel 21st Century Vision Statement**

*We support lifelong global learners in mastering the essential skills of creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration through opportunities that are natural to the way individuals work and think in and beyond the classroom.*

## Goal 1: 21st Century Thinking Skills

*Students will achieve mastery of essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and digital literacies.*

Identified Needs: Mastering the essential skills of creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration requires experience in a wide range of activities, from S.T.E.M. to student-centered learning, as well as the development of digital literacy and responsibility.

Strategies/Activities/Projects/Tasks	Timeline	Person Responsible	Indicators
<p>Expand use of problem based and student-centered learning to support computational thinking and problem solving.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot makerspace units at K-4 elementary level</li> <li>• Expand S.T.E.M. programming in grades K-4 using “Engineering is Elementary” or similar curricula</li> <li>• Develop “Hour of Code” projects in all schools</li> <li>• Continue ongoing development of S.T.E.M. and coding cycle and/or elective courses in grades 5 through 8</li> </ul>	<p>July 2016 - June 2019</p>	<p>Classroom teachers, media specialists, technology teachers, GAP teachers, S.T.E.M. teachers, administrators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student projects and assessments</li> <li>• Administrative observations and walkthroughs</li> <li>• Teacher unit plans</li> <li>• Classroom schedules of usage of digital devices</li> <li>• Chrome extensions and Apps</li> </ul>
<p>Increase digital literacy and fluency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand student access to digital devices</li> <li>• Develop digital roles for students based on <i>Who Owns the Learning</i> (i.e. (student tutorial designers, scribes and researchers, and global communicators and collaborators)</li> <li>• Improve student skills in website evaluation and online research</li> </ul>	<p>July 2016 - June 2019</p>	<p>Classroom teachers, media specialists, technology teachers, administrators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student projects and assessments</li> <li>• Administrative observations and walkthroughs</li> <li>• Teacher unit plans</li> <li>• Classroom schedules of usage of digital devices</li> <li>• Student surveys measuring</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build students' organizational and study skills through use of programs such as Google Classroom, Calendar, Read &amp; Write and Exit Ticket</li> <li>• Increase effective online mathematical practice through programs such as Realize (Investigations)</li> </ul>			pre/post readiness (NJTRAx)
<p>Cultivate digital responsibility in all students to empower them to participate safely and effectively in our digital world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce curriculum supporting digital responsibility, such as that provided by Commonsensemedia.org</li> <li>• Implement lessons promoting positive online communication, proper use of social media, and relationship building while addressing critical issues such as cyber bullying and internet safety</li> <li>• Support students in developing ethical research skills using programs like Noodletools.com and Kidrex.com</li> </ul>	July 2016 - June 2019	Classroom teachers, media specialists, technology teachers, administrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student surveys measuring pre/post readiness (NJTRAx)</li> <li>• Student projects and assessments</li> <li>• Teacher unit plans</li> <li>• Student contracts</li> </ul>
<p>Establish ongoing opportunities for digital collaboration and communication in global and community-based forums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate literacy skills and technology through blogging, digital publishing, and similar programs</li> <li>• Communicate with diverse audiences via Skype, ePals, Voicethread and other platforms</li> </ul>	July 2016 - June 2019	Classroom teachers, media specialists, technology teachers, administrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre and post student surveys measuring readiness and growth (NJTRAx)</li> <li>• Student projects and assessments</li> <li>• Teacher unit plans</li> <li>• Administrative observations and walkthroughs</li> </ul>

**Goal 2: Professional Development: Develop Collaborative Learning Communities -**

*The Mount Laurel School District will develop and implement meaningful professional development and collaborative learning communities that support student-centered, 21st century learning environments across all grade levels.*

Identified Needs: Teachers and staff need ongoing professional development to support them in staying current with today’s rapidly changing learning environments. The culture of learning in Mount Laurel will continue to support opportunities for teachers to learn from one another, study new technology tools and curricular resources, and develop effective strategies and practices.

Strategies/Activities/Projects/Tasks	Timeline	Person Responsible	Indicators
<p>Implement staff development focused on creating common understandings of 21st Century learning and digital literacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide access to varied professional development opportunities based on staff needs survey</li> <li>• Provide training for Google Classroom and other digital tools designed for simplifying and improving instruction</li> <li>• Utilize Digital Leadership Team to support collaborative professional learning and risk-taking by teachers</li> <li>• Differentiate learning materials, training and curricular resources (including but not limited to technology such as laptops, Chromebooks, apps, and websites)</li> <li>• Incorporate ISTE Standards for Teachers into training:  <a href="http://www.iste.org/standards/ISTE-standards/standards-for-teachers">http://www.iste.org/standards/ISTE-standards/standards-for-teachers</a> </li> </ul>	<p>June, 2016 - July, 2019</p>	<p>Administrators, ScIP teams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre and post surveys measuring professional growth (NJTRAx)</li> <li>• Professional development session hours documented through agendas, sign-in sheets, and common planning time/team and department meeting notes.</li> <li>• Administrative observations and walkthroughs</li> </ul>

<p>Create and manage a shared online learning library of professional development resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize online storage space and accounts (Google Drive, Dropbox, YouTube)</li> <li>• Provide training for using video and audio apps (Voicethread, Youtube, Screencastify) and recording devices (iPads, laptops, and digital cameras)</li> <li>• Promote and utilize library during faculty meetings and/or professional development opportunities</li> </ul>	<p>June, 2016 - July, 2019</p>	<p>District supervisors (infrastructure), Staff (content), administrators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online repository of lessons, student tutorials and resources for student and staff use</li> <li>• Professional development session hours documented through agendas, sign-in sheets, and common planning time/team and department meeting notes.</li> <li>• Pre and post surveys measuring professional growth (NJTRAx)</li> </ul>
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### Goal 3: Infrastructure

*The Mount Laurel School District will continue to provide technology hardware, software and peripherals and improve infrastructure that supports the 21st century learning needs of our students.*

<b>Strategies/Activities/Projects/Tasks</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase availability of digital devices for students at K-4, 5-6, and 7-8 grade levels.</li><li>• Update teacher computers</li><li>• Upgrade network services and equipment</li><li>• Recycle technology</li><li>• Provide methods for teachers to better monitor student online work in the classroom</li></ul>	June, 2016 - July, 2019	Technology Department, Network Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ratio of laptop devices per student</li><li>• Increased access to additional digital devices</li><li>• Installation of interactive whiteboards and projectors in classrooms</li><li>• Increased network connect speeds district-wide</li><li>• Improved network equipment (Building switches, Wireless controllers and access points)</li><li>• Recycled outdated equipment</li></ul>

### ***Technology Inventory Acquisitions 2018-19***

#### **Computers and Mobile Devices 2018-19**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
HP G5 Chromebook	Student	500
iPad 128GB	Student	100
Epson Interactive Projector	Staff	20
ActivPanel	Staff	7

#### **Network Services 2018-19**

<b>Connection</b>	<b>Speed</b>
Comcast ISP	1 Gbps

### ***Technology Inventory Planned Recycling 2018-19***

#### **Computers and Mobile Devices**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Activboard	Staff	27
Hitachi Projector	Staff	27