

## Executive Summary

In order to prepare students to live, learn, work and thrive in the world of the 21st century, the Tupelo Public School District provides an environment where technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum, instructional methodology, student achievement, assessment of instructional programs and school management processes. Technology plays an integral role in providing and extending learning opportunities for students. By providing rapid access to a wealth of data, technology supports staff members by helping to focus collective thinking and action on critical student learning needs. Dictated by a rapidly changing and diverse society, Tupelo Public School District staff members realize that technology can make a significant difference in children's lives by preparing them for the world of work, supporting them in becoming productive citizens, and enabling them to become life-long learners.

The Tupelo Public School District's Technology Plan is designed to support the goals of the TPSD Strategic Plan and to provide a framework for the utilization of technology in attaining these goals. The plan will assist decision-makers with the allocation of electronic resources for equitable access to a continuum of unique learning opportunities. The development of the 2007-2010 TPSD Technology Plan involved collaboration of staff from the district technology department, representatives from the professional development committee, the Communication Advisory Council and members of the Core Educational Technology Planning Team.

Information from the Mississippi Online Technology Evaluation Survey and results from the Technology Needs Assessment Survey served as primary sources of data. The collection and compilation of the district's survey was made possible by WebSurveyor.

WebSurveyor is an on-line resource that enables designated groups to assemble survey questions, administer the survey to specific groups, and compile the response data by individual group or by all respondents. Technology information collected through WebSurveyor helps committees make data-driven decisions in the areas of planning, budgeting, resource identification, technical and instructional support, teacher and student skill needs, classroom use of technology and professional development needs.

Since the initial publication of the 2007-2010 TPSD Technology Plan, two significant events have occurred that will impact the district's technology environment and infrastructure across plan years 2007-2010. The first event was the announcement in February 2007 by Toyota Motor Corporation that a major automotive production plant would be located in Blue Springs, Mississippi just a short distance from the Tupelo Public School District. Employment at the Toyota Mississippi Facility is projected to be approximately 2000 when the plant opens in 2010. Slow, steady growth is projected the TPSD as one result of the opening of Toyota Mississippi and related suppliers. The second major event is the reorganization of the TPSD K-6 elementary schools in school year 2009-2010. When implemented in Fall 2009, the K-6 schools will be reorganized to have four K-2 attendance zones serving four 3-5 attendance zones with one grade 6 school. Reorganization of the K-6 elementary schools in combination with the projected slow, steady growth of the district resulting from Toyota Mississippi has led the district to construction

of 42 additional classrooms that will need to be supported in terms of technology environment and infrastructure.

Four specific themes are addressed by the various components of the TPSD 2007-2010 Technology Plan. The themes are as follows: Teaching and Learning, Educator Proficiency, Leadership and Support, and Environment and Infrastructure. Each theme is developed through a narrative followed by specific goals, strategies and an implementation timeline.

## On page 33-Under Environment and Infrastructure

### Where We Are Going

In light of our current status, TPSD has analyzed and anticipated our future needs **taking into consideration our projected population growth due to the new Toyota plant and their suppliers coming to the Tupelo area** for equipment/software upgrades, staffing, and emerging technologies to foster the further integration of technology. Some targeted needs include network stability and infrastructure, our transition to centralized web-based applications, our need to upgrade hardware in a reasonable time frame, our need for more technical support staff, our need to increase the accuracy of data and the efficiency of processes, increase security and improve communication.

**Wide Area Connectivity:** As demands on bandwidth increase due to technological advances **and growth** in all areas, especially with the need to transport voice and video content, the Tupelo Public School District infrastructure and telecommunication, and/or fiber, and/or wireless services will be expanded to meet these needs. Our network will continue to provide the infrastructure to support efficient use of technology in our district. The Mississippi Department of Education will continue to provide the connection from the district to the World Wide Web until June 2008 or until which time they decide to no longer provide service. When that service is no longer available, TPSD will provide connectivity at the district level and will continue school level connectivity through a telecom and/or internet service provider. While it is rarely seen, its presence and proper operation are essential to providing a seamless and stable computing experience for our students and staff. Additional circuits will be added as needed to support data, voice and video.