

Moriah Central School
Preliminary
Smart Schools Investment Plan
First Submission

The Moriah Central School District was allocated \$931,051 as part of the Smart Schools Bond Act. Based on the Technology Plan adopted by the District and approved and on file with the NY State Department of Education, the District plans to utilize the funds available to further enhance teaching and learning in the classroom using technology.

Moriah Central School District proclaims its instructional technology mission to be the provision of a technological environment that promotes learning and opportunity for all students in our community.

We are dedicated to the goals of providing faculty, staff and students the resources necessary to use technology as a tool to achieve educational excellence and preparation for college and careers.

Classroom Technology

A school-wide staff survey was given to better understand what student needs and educational tools are needed in a 21st century community. The following needs were identified as a result of the survey:

- Progress monitoring, diagnostic testing and data tracking
- Differentiated instruction on a daily basis with the implementation of co-teaching/consultant teaching
- Remediation and enrichment
- Increased student involvement in learning activities

We believe that through the use of technology, we will be able to provide an environment where all of the above needs will be met. In order to enable staff to meet these needs we would like to implement a three year phase in where we will begin to incorporate mini wireless labs into each classroom, eventually getting to a 1:1 computing environment. A classroom laptop set with cart for each elementary grade level and each high school department will provide teachers with the tools needed to meet all of the above needs. Most students have been introduced to mobile technology at home and at school on a limited basis. Devices in the classroom and at home will further encourage the proper use of technology as they progress through their educational careers. We also plan to purchase desktop replacements as computers age over five years, in areas that do not require mobility.

High-Tech Security Features

Upgrade existing security cameras

Upgrade/convert to new security camera software system

Budget Allocations

Classroom Technology: \$ 257,000

High-Tech Security Features: \$ 75,000

Totals: \$ 332,000

Enhance Differentiated Instruction

The District will focus on the availability of individual technology devices that will open the door for a wide range of learning opportunities within individual classrooms. Some of the technological devices the District is seeking to obtain are additional mobile lab units consisting of laptops which will allow staff and students the opportunity to expand how students research and interpret information for classroom activities that align with the common core learning standards. Areas that we hope to improve on include differentiated instruction, consultant teaching, project based learning activities, remediation and enrichment, interactive lessons and the ability to progress monitor student learning on a daily basis. Our goals include giving students choices about how to learn and how to demonstrate their learning. Using mobile technology, teachers will be able to create learning activities based on a student's individual needs.

Expand Student Learning Inside and Outside the Classroom

The District plans on utilizing Google Apps and Microsoft Office 365 to allow students to manage their online portfolios of work while at home and at school. This will facilitate the ongoing teacher-to-student discussions regarding classroom work and research projects. Students will be able to transfer these computer technology skills to their college education and eventually to their place in the workforce.

Benefit Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners

The District's plan does include equitable access to instruction, materials, and assessment for the needs of students with disabilities. The District will continue to contract assistive technology services in order to ensure that students with disabilities have the ability to utilize specified hardware and software that allows them the opportunity to be mainstreamed in a regular classroom setting with the ability to learn with their peers.

Currently, students with disabilities utilize technology to help enhance their individualized educational programs. Students are instructed at an early age the basic components of a computer and taught basic typing skills that the student will use throughout his/her academic career. For students who have severe high needs, a more complex assistive technology program may need to be designed and implemented to help student academic achievement. Staff also receives professional development on assistive technology devices and software that allows students the opportunity for academic growth.

Contribute to the Reduction of other learning gaps that have been identified within the district

The mobile technology devices acquired will be used as a supplemental tool to help students close the academic gaps in writing, reading and math. The district is utilizing several software programs in conjunction with our Academic Intervention Services and have accessible mobile devices will only help in reducing these learning gaps within the district.

Enhancing Communication and Technology Partnerships

Technology has become an essential part of school and community learning. It not only accommodates different learning styles, but can also motivate students to become more active in the learning process in the classroom and beyond. Teachers can facilitate student-led exploration, discovery, and research through technology. As these skills are taught in a school setting, students will be able to transfer these skills to the community.

Professional Development

Professional Development in technology is an integral part of the district wide plan. Participation in BOCES, in-house and out-sourced training provides ongoing, adequate training to the District's staff. The District will also utilize webinars designed around specific software for various programs. The District will also be utilizing professional development opportunities through NERIC to expand on staff knowledge in the areas of Office 365 and SmartNotebook.