



# Illinois Technology Plan Online

Lyons Township High School District 204 -- 2006-2009 - FY 2006-2009

## Section 4: Vision

### Vision Explanation

With the District's Mission Statement as a foundation, and input from the various other technology-related stakeholders, the Technology Advisory Team (now renamed the District Technology Committee) collaborated to author a statement which captured the essence of LT's vision of the role of technology for our District. The statement which resulted from this partnered effort was then shared with the entire LT community and officially approved by the Board of Education as part of their review of the District Technology Plan.

The vision was embraced by the District, as evidenced by the fact that technology planning is now fully integrated into all school improvement planning and any change efforts undertaken.

Additionally, as part of the periodic review of the plan, the vision was reaffirmed with only minor adaptations to address the progress of the District and evolutions in the technology industry.

### Vision Statement

Lyons Township High School District 204 recognizes that in today's world and for the foreseeable future, technology can be viewed as both a means and an end within education. As a means, it is a tool to enhance and accelerate teaching, learning, and working. As an end, we must learn how to use various technologies to be more effective, efficient and creative as well as ethical users of technology.

Through technology, Lyons Township High School provides access for students and staff to resources from around the world. Instructional and administrative technologies take students and staff beyond the confines of campuses thereby expanding the reach of the classroom; providing opportunities for enhancing, extending, and rethinking the teaching/learning process; and in preparing each student to be a technologically responsible and literate citizen.

### What We Believe about the Relationship of Technology to Education at LTHS

We, the LTHS learning community, believe that learning is a life-long process and that technology is an essential component of that process. By giving students the opportunity to select and use appropriate technology tools, we provide authentic experiences that prepare students for the world outside the classroom and school. The focus of learning should be to engage learners in real-world applications using technology on a daily basis to access information, communicate, collaborate and creatively solve problems in an efficient and effective manner.

We believe the Lion Vision for technology at LTHS can best be exemplified by a snapshot view of how a day in the life of a typical student might look in the next three to five years. For example, the engaged learner will be able to:

- Review a homework assignment at home via the Internet.
- Submit assignments via e-mail or web.
- Create, perform and digitally record original compositions through the use of a computer in a music lab.
- Analyze nutritional information for a Foods and Wellness class using the FDA Internet site and a spreadsheet program.
- Research information for an American Studies Social Action Project in the Library Media Center or Discovery Center using web-access databases.
- Use an electronic ID to reserve and check out library materials, purchase a meal, transact business in the bookstore or log onto the network.
- Go onsite in a Physics class to collect data, analyze it, and present findings to a world-wide audience via the Web.
- Work as a student technician in the LTHS community or as an intern in LT's Technology Services Department.
- Use technology resources in an ethically responsible manner.

We envision specific technology applications at LTHS during the next three to five years to include...

- Ubiquitous access to the technology tools, LT's network and the Internet and its wealth of information with numbers of computers in every classroom appropriate to the curricular needs of the courses being taught within.

- Portable / Mobile / Remote methods of access to LT resources in a secure / safe manner for staff and students.
- Enhanced electronic IDs for students reducing the complexity of transactions and streamlining security.
- Efficient and effective converged communication for all faculty and staff (unified voice, fax, and email / text-based messaging).
- Expanded curricular opportunities via distance learning.
- Increased efficiency in daily administration by using attendance and grading utilities.
- Increased access to timely information, including event schedules, news, grading, communication with faculty and staff, etc. for parents and guardians of students.
- Robust data management and security eliminating processes necessitating duplicate data entry.
- Staff access to information (appropriate to job function) to use and create timely and relevant reports.
- Increased technology services to the community.

We believe that the reasons for learning are global, yet personal and unique. In summary, we hope to provide each and every student, staff, and faculty member with the tools they need for today and for creating a learning pathway to their futures.