

**REQUIRED SUBSTANTIVE COMPONENTS
OF THE
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

Schools, school districts, and libraries that want to apply for Schools and Libraries support, commonly referred to as "E-rate," must first prepare a technology plan. Beginning with FY2011, technology plans are required only for Priority 2 services (Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections). An approved technology plan sets out how information technology and telecommunications infrastructure will be used to achieve educational goals, specific curriculum reforms, or library service improvements.

A technology plan designed to improve education should cover the entire funding year (July 1 to June 30) but not more than three years. The plan must contain the following elements:

- Goals and realistic strategy for using telecommunications and information technology**
- A professional development strategy**
- An assessment of telecommunication services, hardware, software, and other services needed**
- Ongoing evaluation process**
- Policies**

The technology plan must be approved by a USAC-certified technology plan approver before discounted services can begin. The state is the certified technology plan approver for libraries and public schools. www.usac.org, August, 2011.

LEA/Charter Name:	Transylvania County Schools
LEA/Charter Number:	880
Superintendent Name:	Dr. Jeff S. McDaris
Superintendent Signature	
Local Board Chair Name:	Tawny McCoy
Local Board Chair Signature:	
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**Transylvania County Schools
Technology Plan**

2014-16

Final July 2014

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Transylvania County Schools-Technology Planning Committee/MTAC

Member	Job Title/Position
Chris Whitlock	Director of Technology
Dr. Jeffrey S. McDaris	Superintendent
Audrey Reneau	Curriculum Director
Dr. Scott Elliott	Assistant Superintendent
Tammy Bellefeuil	Federal Programs Director
Jeremy Gibbs	HR Director
Kerry Putnam	Principal
Brian Weaver	Principal
Carrie Kirby	Instructional Technology Coordinator
Sarah Kevitt	Technology Support
Blake Tesnow	Technology Support
Chris Lambert	Technology Support
Brenda Byrd	Technology Support
Sarah Justice	Media Coordinator-RHS
Tom Sweet	Accountability Director/PowerSchool Coordinator
Cathy Zandecki	Instructional Technology
Chris Williams	Instructional Technology
Tawny McCoy	BOE Member
Dr. Bo Williams	Community Member/Retired Educator

Transylvania County Schools Technology Plan 2014-2016 Vision Statement

Believing that all students can learn, Transylvania County Schools will make use of technology to support the teaching of skills necessary for productive citizenship and to promote a thirst for lifelong learning that will allow students to meet the demands of a changing society. Technology as a tool for teaching and learning will be fully integrated into all areas of curriculum and instruction. In equipping Transylvania County Schools with technology, it is our aim to provide an effective tool for students, as well as, and to improve teacher and administrator productivity and efficiency in order to maximize time available for students.

Our schools will be active, flexible environments where students are engaged and have the opportunity to work both individually and collaboratively on challenging real-world tasks. Teaching with technology will be commonplace as all classrooms are equipped with peripherals such as LCD projectors, visual presenters, and other interactive tools. Media and Technology resources will be flexibly scheduled to allow maximum access and collaboration among teachers, media coordinators, and technology facilitators. Media centers will serve as hubs for learning and instruction with a wide variety of electronic resources.

The students will have the support of technology-proficient, visionary staff at all levels to provide direction, motivation, and momentum:

- Strategic placement of both technical and instructional support personnel in the schools will provide the support backbone required to maximize availability and efficient use of technology, thus freeing the teachers to focus on students.
- Teachers, media coordinators, instructional and technical support personnel will collaborate to integrate information resources into both teaching and learning.
- Administrators will demonstrate a commitment to technology integration through their use of technology to better manage resources, enhance communication, and maintain strong school-community alliances.
- Staff development will be timely, ongoing, and relevant to the classroom setting.

The ultimate dream for this county would be: total 1:1 immersion for students as they used their technology in every classroom instructional setting; a total “tech world” where tapping new resources would always be viewed with excitement and enthusiasm. An eye toward accepting and receiving new options, where Transylvania County Schools would perhaps have a tech magnet school where graphic design, commercial art, and sci-vis software use, and explorations of new ideas and technologies are common everyday occurrences. As with all initiatives, TCS’s desire to ensure equity of access by providing the 1:1 device for each student and recognition of the possibility of having to explore the concept of BYOD is present in the system.

The highest level of student achievement occurs when families, schools, and community organizations work together. We will utilize technology to provide another avenue of communication with parents and the community that will help foster family participation in a child’s education.

Technology is used as a tool for determining students’ needs, designing instruction based on those needs, and measuring our effectiveness in maximizing student learning.

Through an *EverGreen* technology plan, we will anticipate future trends and maintain a position of readiness for new technologies as they appear. Transylvania County Schools is on the edge—the cutting edge—in its use of technology. We intend to remain in that position using the technologies we have with an eye to the future that is often already here. The visions of tomorrow’s technology will continue to be a part of our today.

Transylvania County Schools Technology Plan Strategic Priorities Overview (2014 – 2016)

Transylvania County Schools intends to remain in the lead in the use of technology as both instructional and administrative tools. This system recognizes the responsibility that leadership holds in providing the best strategic plan to ensure equity is achieved for all our students.

Equal access to technology and 21st century opportunities are critical to ensuring the success of all students. The integration of 21st Century tools will prepare students to be career and college ready. Core content mastery is essential but not inclusive when applying knowledge to communicate, collaborate, analyze, create, innovate, and solve problems. Our students need 24 hour access to technology.

Introduction of these technologies must be accompanied by ample professional development that will ensure teachers have the skills and competence needed to be instructors in this new environment.

Transylvania County Schools recognizes that for all students to be future ready, they must possess equal opportunities for taking full advantage of information and technology resources and tools, and must be taught in a way that maximizes the effective use of these technologies. Because of this need, the system will focus on equitable access to technology in this Technology Plan. While many foci are necessary to achieve this goal, the system will pursue five over-arching priorities:

- 1) participation in a statewide shared services model for platforms and infrastructure;*
- 2) pursue universal access to individual teaching and learning devices;*
- 3) participate in statewide access to digital teaching and learning resources, including digital textbooks;*
- 4) adapt the framework of the statewide model of 21st century professional development;*
- 5) ensure 21st century leadership is present in all our schools.*

TIP-Erate Components: These components are strewn throughout this entire Technology Plan. A brief composite summary is included here.

Required Element		Clear goals and a realistic strategy for using telecommunications and information technology to improve education are in place.
Priority/ Description	1,2,3	Shared services, 1:1, digital resources—all 3 priorities are in place with maximum use of current potential and plans to expand available options as they become available...including, but not limited to -- VOIP, SaaS, cloud hosted services, guaranteed CIPA protection through shared filters, provisions for internet safety. Many options we will want to explore do not even exist yet.
Required Element		A professional development strategy to ensure that staff knows how to use these new technologies to improve education
Priority/ Description	4,5	The use of all new technologies – hardware and software – are always introduced with innovative PD that not only incorporates knowledge and familiarization with the item but also includes instructions in the integration of the item into the classroom with samples, planned projects, and follow-ups to PD.
Required Element		An assessment of the telecommunication services, hardware, software, and other services that will be needed to improve education is in place and on-going.
Priority/ Description	1,2,3 AMTR	Shared services, 1:1, digital resources—current solutions have been sufficient—until now—and are now maxed. We are moving to a 1:1 solution, maximizing our digital resources for educational access for students, and tapping shared services for any options that can be provided through them.
Required Element		An evaluation process that enables the school to monitor progress toward the specified goals and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities as they arise.
Priority/ Description	Evaluation instruments	As we move into new ventures, baseline data is collected—whether we are moving to 1:1, added digital resources, RtI interventions, additional IT solutions—then follow up surveys, reports, assessments will be done to determine success of ventures...such instruments may include, but are not limited to: STNA, NCEES, online surveys, RttT data, longitudinal student info, content filter reports, Cloud agreements, Budgeting comparisons, conference attendance, AMTR, rubrics for evaluative info, network monitor reports, PLC plans, PD plans for major initiatives.

Strategic Priority 1: A Statewide Shared Services Model

Current Status and Moving Forward

Transylvania County Schools currently has an excellent server infrastructure that provides on-site storage, management tools, and services for the system. This design has been implemented with the concept of a one-to-one solution for this system. The system's original infrastructure provided the much needed connectivity and capabilities for the past fifteen years; however, a complete overhaul of design and infrastructure has been implemented in the past two – three years. The overhaul has involved upgrading equipment and adjusting the design in several capacities: expansion of wireless access and capacity; redesign of server solutions; adjustments in the method of software delivery; replacement of switches, firewalls, filters; and many additional changes.

The nerve-center for all equipment, infrastructure, software service, storage, connectivity, directory structure, learning management system, backups, and other communication tools has been moved to a control center for all activities that is located at the district office. As with any renovated older building security is a concern. This is a much better design for the system. It is, however, quite costly for maintenance and continued expansion as the need for additional tools and storage simply grows exponentially.

We recognize that even what we currently provide will only be sufficient for a period of time. With ever-changing technologies and learning opportunities occurring, we will continue to make the needed adjustments to ensure that our teachers, students, and staff will have the necessary tools, professional skills and knowledge to take advantage of the many learning opportunities for the future. This will involve all forms of telecommunication and information technology—proven and emerging—as we strive to improve education for our students. Included in these options are proven: local and long distance phones, wired connectivity, wireless access, desktops, locally installed software when needed, both backup and disaster/recovery plans.

Transylvania County intends to participate in the opportunities made available to systems in the state via the Statewide Shared Services Model. The expertise and collective knowledge available from the statewide model will facilitate the option for our system:

- *to move the focus from support of infrastructure to support of instructional needs*
- *to ensure increased infrastructure and technology efficiency and sustainability via the model*
- *to ensure greater reliability for connectivity uptime*
- *to participate in the bulk purchasing that ensures best use of dollars for the system*

Transylvania is/will continue to explore the options made available via the NC Ed Cloud initiative and participate in those that will provide better solutions to the system for needed services. This participation includes the concept of cloud-hosted infrastructure as a service, statewide collaborative tools, statewide identity management solution, cloud-hosted administrative solution tools, expansion of existing infrastructure with upgraded wireless options, switch options, and continued implementation designs for equity of access for all students via a one-to-one solution for this system.

<p>Alignment to Other Plans and Initiatives: Strategic Priority 1: A Statewide Shared Services Model TCS will utilize and align with the following key initiatives/plans to reach for the vision and complete strategic priorities of our plan</p>
<p>ACRE</p> <p>By participating in the shared services model offerings, Transylvania County will better prepare for the transition to online assessments, digital textbooks and universal access to personal teaching devices.</p>
<p>Race to the Top Local and State Scopes of Work</p> <p>By participating in the shared services model offerings, Transylvania County Schools will be better positioned to participate in the ongoing options available via the NC EdCloud-including, but not limited to, statewide firewall, filter, software licensing, administrative services (as400 replacement), wireless expansion</p>
<p>Other LEA initiatives/plans</p> <p>By participating in the shared services model offerings, Transylvania County Schools will continue to support professional development in the common core Essentials Standards Curricula.</p>
<p>Other LEA initiatives/plans</p> <p>By participating in the shared services model, Transylvania County Schools will be able to leverage better purchasing power for both hardware and software as a 1:1 solution is implemented.</p>

1. Statewide Shared Services Model				
Suggested Goals/Targets	Year 1 (7/2014-6/2015)	Year 2 (7/2015-6/2016)	Yearly Evaluation Methods	DPI use
Provide equitable and additional access to mobile devices for all students	Participate in shared services purchasing power for continued 1:1 for MS/HS, & expansion to ES; Superintendent, CTO, CFO	Maintain 1:1 to all students using shared purchasing power Super, CTO	School STNA, readiness survey presence of equip	
Provide equitable and additional access to digital resources	Continue to participate in usage of digital resources via state network: NCWiseOwl, SchoolNet: Super, Media, CTO	Continue use of state digital resources: Superintendent, Media, CTO	Usage reports available	
Facilitate a more strategic budgeting model utilizing	Continue to explore avenue for additional alternative funding	Maintain open communication with all possible funding	Budget Docs	

blended funding and reducing isolated programmatic spending	for enhancement of tech solutions in all areas of system instruction: Super, CTO	sources: Superintendent, CTO		
Promote/maintain innovative funding model by utilizing NCEdCloud offerings	Explore options available via shared services that will provide needs at a lower cost: CTO	Review capabilities, continue using the appropriate shared services: Superintendent, CTO	Record of adoption of statewide shared services system uses	
Maximize E-rate in support of instructional programs	Continue to participate in the available shared services via the statewide solution— ie:MOU connectivity& others;Super, CTO	Continue participation in shared service options to maximize erate usage for Inst prog. CTO	Record of usage via MCNC roster NC Ed Cloud opt-in agree	
Provide content filter-CIPA	Adopted shared services filter-CTO	Monitor effectiveness of filter; always search for better options	Reports of content filter usage:	

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Strategic Priority 2: Universal Access to Personal Teaching and Learning Devices

Current Status and Moving Forward

Universal access to personal teaching and learning devices refers to a computing device assigned to all members of the school, including administrators, teachers, and students, whether it be laptop, netbook, or other personal learning device.

Transylvania County believes in the importance of universal access for all personnel and students. Toward that end the system has committed to infrastructural upgrades to ensure the success of access / connectivity as the system is able to reach the goal of a one-to-one environment. All wireless access in the system has been upgraded and expanded during the past couple of years. All infrastructural appliances are currently being upgraded to provide the ultimate in connectivity for all instructional activities. Options to expand school to district WAN connectivity lines beyond the current 300 mbps are being explored.

In addition to the infrastructural improvements that have made, Transylvania County Schools has been slowly putting items in place to support and enhance the educational experiences of all students. All classrooms have become presentation rooms with mounted projectors and document cameras available for instructional use. Personal laptops have been placed in the hands of all classroom teachers for use both at work and at home. The system recognizes the need for sustainable funding to ensure continued efforts for a 1:1 solution.

Transylvania recognizes the immediate need for a one-to-one solution for all students and is working to meet this goal, exploring all options for funding for this initiative. Transylvania County Schools has created a one-to-one environment with netbooks and Chromebooks in our high schools and middle schools. Laptop carts are being placed in several other schools.

The system also acknowledges the need for extensive specific professional development to ensure that teachers have the skills / expertise to teach in the one-to-one environment.

Available research continues to indicate both general and specific improvements in student achievement and performance with the implementation of one-to-one solutions. Clearly, one-to-one implementations will foster the 21st century skills necessary for future-ready learners.

The one-to-one solution will also enable Transylvania County Schools to meet the needs of students as NC moves toward increased on-line assessments. This program will also provide the schools with the following opportunities to:

- *Better facilitate delivery of critical knowledge and skills that students "must have" as 21st century learners*
- *Provide for more real-world applications of what students learn*
- *Provide a new model for measuring school success that gives parents and educators more relevant information about how well schools are preparing students for college, work and adulthood*
- *Significantly upgrade infrastructure in preparation for tracking student growth over time, providing seamless instantaneous prescriptive feedback, and supporting more on-line testing.*

<p>Alignment to Other Plans and Initiatives: Strategic Priority 2: Universal Access to Personal Teaching and Learning Devices Transylvania County Schools will utilize and align with the following key initiatives/plans to reach for the vision and complete the strategic priorities of our plan.</p>
<p>ACRE</p>
<p>By participating in the Universal Access to Personal Teaching and Learning Devices, Transylvania County will enable option for a PD system that emphasizes using data to direct instructional practices.</p>
<p>Race to the Top Local and State Scopes of Work</p>
<p>By participating in the Universal Access to Personal Teaching and Learning Devices, Transylvania County Schools will facilitate improved opportunities for teachers and students in the development of 21st century skills by incorporating the state infrastructure into this plan.</p>
<p>Other LEA initiatives/plans</p>
<p>Utilize technology funds to enhance tech infrastructure to facilitate online real-time assessments at each school.</p>

Priority 2: Universal Access to Personal Teaching and Learning Devices				
Suggested Goals/Targets	Year 1 (7/2014-6/2015)	Year 2 (7/2015-6/2016)	Yearly Evaluation Methods	DPI
Develop a comprehensive sustainable LEA plan for universal access. <i>Resources: NCDPI, NCLTI, Ed Recruitment & Development, and District & School Transformation</i>	Maintain 1:1 initiative in MS/HS; seek funds for 1:1 in ES; Super, CTO, Principal, all state resources	Seek funds to maintain & expand 1:1 environment for grade 3-12;. Super, CTO, Principals, teachers, state resources.	STNA, RttT Evaluation Data, PD Surveys, network readiness assessment	
Communicate your plan to stakeholders	Additional 1:1 expansions shared with all stakeholders Superintendent, CTO, Principal	Additional 1:1 expansions shared with all stakeholders Superintendent, CTO, Principal	Presence of publicity, record of meetings held, info shared	
Increase overall access to personal learning devices.	Seek funds to expand 1:1 to grade 3-12. Superintendent, CTO, Principals, teachers, state	Seek funds to expand 1:1 to all schools. Superintendent, CTO, Principals, teachers, state	AMTR data that reflects the expansion of the 1:1 program.	

Strategic Priority 3: Statewide Access to Digital Teaching and Learning Resources, Including Digital Textbooks

Current Status and Moving Forward

The true power of technology in the hands of NC teachers and learners will be accessible through adequate access and proper use of digital resources. These resources are no longer CD-ROMs or locally maintained databases that must be continually updated. Digital teaching and learning resources are delivered by the Internet either through the web or as an educational application. These resources are available in many formats on many types of media.

Transylvania County Schools will continue to advocate for and use the NC digital online teaching and learning resource repository, NCWiseOwl. These resources are available for both student and parent use at home, as well as at school. In addition, TCS will explore the possibility of using the IIS resources via School Net.

With the onset of a one-to-one environment for the system, Transylvania will continue to add digital resources in every area of instruction. Digital textbooks will replace the printed materials; digital educational portals will be the avenue for applications and appropriate instructional resources.

Every piece of information the student needs should be available to him/her via electronic access—whether it be a teacher’s assignment, textbook reading assignment, an assessment, a general reading assignment, a research project.

Transylvania County will increase access to these resources in two ways: one is by providing one-to-one personal learning devices for each student so the equity is guaranteed; two is through being attentive to all purchases of any type of resource and ensuring that whatever is purchased has the needed electronic delivery system.

Alignment to Other Plans and Initiatives:

Strategic Priority 3: Statewide Access to Digital Teaching and Learning Resources, Including Digital Textbooks

Transylvania County Schools will utilize and align with the following key initiatives/plans to reach for the vision and complete the strategic priorities of our plan.

RACE TO THE TOP: LOCAL AND STATE SCOPES OF WORK

Ensure teachers and staff understand the CC/ES curriculum and related assessments

3: Statewide Access to Digital Teaching and Learning Resources, Including Digital Textbooks				
Suggested Goals/Targets	Year 1 (7/2014-6/2015)	Year 2 (7/2015-6/2016)	Yearly Evaluation Methods	DPI USE
Shift from traditional print and paper-based resources to affordable, current online resources	Use of current state provided digital res. Super, CTO, Curriculum Director	Expansion of digital resources as needed Super, CTO, Curriculum Director	Usage reports, purchase agreements	
Utilize procured resources such as NC WiseOwl, and other open education resources	Use of current state provided digital res. Super, CTO, Curriculum Director	Continue & add any new state resources Superintendent, CTO, Curriculum Director	Usage reports, purchase agreements, opt-in agreements	
Ensure equity to digital teaching and learning resources from school to school in your LEA.	Ensure that purchases for curricular areas are done at a system level CTO, Curriculum	Ensure that purchases for curricular areas are done at a system level CTO, Curriculum	Purchase agreements, usage reports	

Strategic Priority 4: A Statewide Model of Technology-Enabled Professional Development

Current Status and Moving Forward

Technology professional development no longer means learning technology “skills” in isolation. A more integrated approach must be used in order for teachers to better understand the application of technology skills in the delivery of instruction.

Transylvania County designs professional development within the framework of presenting content and technology enhanced skills for use in instruction in the classroom. These sessions may be blended, face-to-face, and/or independent study. The design of technology professional development no longer looks at how to use anything, rather it develops the bridge of how to use this particular concept successfully in the classroom. Professional development invariably involves collaboration, modeling, and support in follow-up sessions. Successful competence in the areas of technology professional development will be reviewed with such tools as teacher competence self-surveys, STNA, NCEES, ERO (electronic registrar online) reports. Each of these provides analysis of the level of competence present for instruction.

Technology-enabled professional development will necessitate the use of technology as a tool for most professional development.

Teachers are moving into the realm of coach/facilitator in the classroom rather than sole source of information. This is truly a paradigm shift for many personnel.

Teachers, administrators, and staff will be prepared to use 21st Century skills and assessment systems for instruction and measurement of 21st Century knowledge, skills, performance, and dispositions.

Every strand of curriculum in every grade level encompasses many technology-related standards. Transylvania County stands prepared to provide the needed technology-enabled professional development to ensure best instructional practices and therefore enhanced student performance in all areas.

<p>Alignment to Other Plans and Initiatives: Strategic Priority 4: A Statewide Model of Technology-Enabled Professional Development Transylvania County Schools will utilize and align with the following key initiatives/plans to reach for the vision and complete the strategic priorities of our plan.</p>
<p>ACRE</p>
<p>Per Priority 4, provide technology-enabled PD to all staff in our schools</p>
<p>Career and College Ready, Set, Go!</p>
<p>Race to the Top Local and State Scopes of Work</p>
<p>Other LEA initiatives/plans</p>

4: A Statewide Model of Technology- Enabled Professional Development				
Suggested Goals/Targets	Year 1 (7/2014-6/2015)	Year 2 (7/2015-6/2016)	Yearly Evaluation Methods	DPI
Implement a plan for embedded tech-enabled PD for teachers/admins	Survey teachers to determine needs. Include as part of TCS Strategic Plan (or SIP Plan); continue early release days. CTO, ITFs, Principals	Survey teachers to determine needs. Include as part of TCS Strategic Plan (or SIP Plan); continue early release days CTO, ITFs, Principals	Survey Results, Strategic Plan or SIP	
Support models that promote and further the ideals of technology- enabled and integrated PD.	Continue Instructional Technology Facilitator training at school level; continue early release days. CTO, Principals, ITFs.	Continue Instructional Technology Facilitator training at school level; continue early release days. CTO, Principals, ITFs.	Agendas/plan, Attendance roster	

Prepare media specialists and ITF's to support digital reform.	Provide PD to ensure skills in digital reform-CTO, Media Director	Provide PD to ensure skills in digital reform: CTO, Media Director	Evaluative instruments, surveys, observation results	
Deliver Common Core and Essential Standards training to teachers with integrated technology as a model for additional class integration.	CC/ES training is provided using tech model for integration: CTO, Curriculum	CC/ES follow-up training is provided using tech model for integration CTO, Curriculum	Record of PD, Agenda; NCEES results, ERO	
Prepare staff for online assessment delivery.	Training given as online assessments begin: Accountability Director	Added training given as online assessments begin and are added Accountability Director	Agenda from trainings	
Provide support for teacher and administrator progress and evaluation per NCEES standards.	Training provided yearly for new and returning teachers-prn HR, Curriculum	Training provided yearly for new and returning teachers-prn HR, Curriculum	NCEES results, agendas from training, sample survey training, survey	

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Strategic Priority 5: 21st Century Leadership for All Schools and Districts

Current Status/Moving Forward

The Transylvania County School system provides opportunities for all personnel to develop technology skills aligned with ISTE-NETS, National Educational Technology Standards. Our Board of Education and Administration support the development of quality professional staff in the expectation that all certified personnel will earn three technology Continuing Education Units during each renewal cycle. This is consistent with Transylvania's Strategic Plan that calls for a system of continuous learning to support high performance of all employees. The overall approach is to build a community of learners where "teaching everyone takes everyone!"

Leadership at the school level— principals and priority committees – adds strength to the staff development initiative. All personnel develop a Continuous Improvement Instrument which relies on state standards for classroom, technology and media positions. Technology and Media rely on the North Carolina Professional Standards for guidance and standards.

Technology resources are employed in every aspect of TCS employees' daily activities. In addition to the instructional applications, web-based resources include the following: PowerSchool, CECAS, ERO, ISIS, e-Procurement, Timekeeper, E-mail, Electronic Forms, automatic technical support requests and work orders, EVAAS, automated generated K-2 Report Cards, Data Analysis, On-line survey data, and customer satisfaction surveys. TCS also recognizes that newer and more efficient software are continually developed. TCS will continue to monitor new software with an eye toward implementation of those that will provide best practices solutions for the system.

Our leaders are already leading our schools in the creation of a 21st Century environment. Leaders are facilitating this development through modeling the use of technology tools in their own work environment. In addition many are stepping out to use new emerging technologies in their schools to raise the level of expectation for technology integration in their schools. Leaders are also reviewing the use of technology in instruction and recording those results in the current evaluation instruments.

Mechanisms are in place for our leaders to begin the creation of this 21st learning culture. Excellent wireless capacity has been installed, switching appliances and needed additional connectivity wiring has been pulled. Our system currently provides 300 mbps connections to the central office with a 250 mbps MCNC connection to the Internet. Plans to increase the WAN links from the schools to the central office for committed bandwidth are in place, expanding the capacity for access for a one-to-one environment.

Professional development opportunities are available via our learning management system-Moodle. These learning options includes core content information, technology integration, personal educational development, and many others.

Transylvania County is in the 21st Century in leadership, in instruction, in training. The largest piece we have left for realization of the 21st Century culture completion will be the addition of a complete one-to-one solution for all out students.

<p>Alignment to Other Plans and Initiatives: Strategic Priority 5: 21st Century Leadership for All Schools and Districts TCS will utilize and align with the following key initiatives/plans to reach for the vision and complete the strategic priorities our plan.</p>
<p>ACRE</p>
<p>Per Priority 5, Transylvania County Schools will provide PD for all leadership to gain skills in using data to direct instructional practices</p>
<p>RACE TO THE TOP - LOCAL & STATE SCOPES OF WORK</p>
<p>Per Priority 5, TCS will participate in the evaluation of RtT initiatives and use the resulting data and conclusions to improve effectiveness.</p>
<p>Other LEA Initiatives/Plans</p>
<p>Transylvania will provide PD for leadership to enhance competence and skills in using tech and in evaluating technology integration in the classroom.</p>

5: 21st Century Leadership for All Schools and Districts				
Suggested Goals/Targets	Year 1 (7/2014-6/2015)	Year 2 (7/2015-6/2016)	Yearly Evaluation Methods	DPI use
Create and lead a vision for 21 st century education	Strategic Plan is developed per TC needs Superintendent, CTO	Strategic Plan is developed per TC needs Superintendent, CTO	TCS Tech Plan is reviewed and updated as needed using focus groups, committees, and customer satisfaction surveys.	
Create 21 st century learning culture	Strategic Plan is developed per TC needs Superintendent, CTO	Strategic Plan is developed per TC needs Superintendent, CTO	TCS Tech Plan is reviewed and updated as needed using focus groups, committees, and customer satisfaction surveys.	

**Appendix A: Policies and Procedures
Transylvania County Schools Technology Plan
Policy, Procedure, & Guidelines Implementation Chart**

Policies, Procedures, & Guidelines	LEA Policy or Procedure	LEA Adoption, Implementation or Revision Date
Policies Required		
A. Materials Selection Policy including internet resources (<u>GS §115c-98(b)</u>)	IIAC, IIACR	06/18/2012
B. Disposal of Equipment / Replacement of Obsolete Equip (<u>GS §115c-518</u>)	DN	11/07/1988
C. Hardware and Software Procurement (<u>GS § 115c-522, 115c-522.1</u>)	IIAC	06/18/2012
D. Copyright and Plagiarism Policy (<u>PL §94-553, 90 Stat. 2541</u>),	IIAB	06/18/2012
E. Acceptable Use Policy (<u>PL §106-554</u>) (including existing 1:1, BYOD)	IIBG, IIBR	06/18/2012
F. Equipment/Materials Donation Policy (<u>GS §115C-518</u>)	IIAC-R	06/18/2012
G. Data Privacy Policy (<u>20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99 (FERPA)</u>)	IIBGA	06/18/2012
H. Inventory Control Policy (<u>GS §115c-539, 115c-102.6A-C(5)</u>)	DID	08/19/1985
I. Access to Services Policy (<u>GS §115c-106.2</u>)	IIBG, IIBR	06/18/2012
J. Online Assessment and Instruction Policy	TBD	10/17/2005
K. Advertising and Commercialism Pol (<u>GS §115c-98</u>) (Procurement /gift ethics)	IIBG & R	06/18/2012
L. Internet Safety and Ethical Use including Cyberbullying and Harassment (<u>Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, CIPA, FERPA, GS 115C-407</u>)	IIBG, JFC	06/18/2012 01/21/2014

M. Use of Equipment, Materials, & Supplies (<u>N.C. GEN.STAT§115c-523,-524</u>)	IIAD	06/18/2012
N. Web page development (U.S. Const. Amend. I; Electronic Communications Privacy Act, <u>18 U.S.C. 2510-2522</u> ; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, <u>20 U.S.C. 1232g</u> ; <u>17 U.S.C. 101</u> et seq.; <u>N. C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-325(e)</u> , -391)	IIBF	06/18/2012
Procedures		
A. Hardware and Software Deployment	P1	10/17/2005
B. Equipment maintenance and repairs	P2	10/17/2005
C. Outdated Resources and Equipment Replacement	P3	10/17/2005
D. Disaster Recovery of Data and Hardware	P4	10/17/2005
E. Administration of Online Courses	P5	10/17/2005
F. Administration of Online Assessment		
Guidelines		
A. Policy Translation	G1	10/17/2005
B. Use of Digital Media and Resources		
C. Instructional Use of Videos	G3	10/17/2005
D. Development of Online Resources	G4	10/17/2005
E. PowerSchool	G6	10/17/2005

Addendum to 2014-16 LEA880 Technology Plan:

Transylvania County Schools always seeks to provide the most comprehensive instruction for our students. TCS is ever searching for “best solutions” for the instructional environment in each of our classrooms. TCS recognizes the diversity of instructional strategies, the numerous options available for instructional delivery models, and the myriad of resources available to supplement the instructional environment.

This school system stands ready to embrace statewide initiatives that will not only enhance the learning environment for the students but also will provide the teachers with much needed support to facilitate an atmosphere for them that is truly more conducive to planning and preparation as well as instructional delivery.

NC’s Home Base by definition is designed to be the end all for everything in the instructional world for public schools in North Carolina. Copied from the NCDPI web site is the following definition/description:

Home Base is a statewide, instructional improvement (IIS) and student information system (SIS) for teachers, students, parents and administrators. Teachers will be able to use Home Base to access student data and teaching and learning resources. Students will be able to access their schoolwork, grades, and learning activities. Parents will be able to view their child's attendance and progress, and administrators can monitor data on students, teachers and schools. Not only does Home Base put data and resources at the users' fingertips, it does so with single sign-on access to the integrated system made up of the following components: Learner Profile and Student Information; Standards & Curriculum; Instructional Design, Practice & Resources; Assessment; Data Analysis and Reporting; and Professional Development & Educator Evaluation.

TCS recognizes that some portions of the Home Base portal will be available to all systems with no cost and that some modules will be available at a cost to each system. TCS plans to review all modules, to spend some time this year weighing the pros and cons of the “cost” modules. We will weigh what we perceive as their effectiveness in the instructional environment against ease of use, strategic value to the system, value-added functions for the system, consistent proper operation of the modules available, efficiency of delivery of information across the modules. In addition TCS will evaluate carefully the effectiveness and the benefit of the modules being made available. If those modules do not seem to provide consistently valid and correct data when accessed, TCS will enter such ventures cautiously.

The first portion of the Home Base initiative was the roll-out of PowerSchool this summer. Apparently, there are many patches and enhancements that are still being applied to the Power School. TCS is using the Power School, as are all other systems in the state. This SIS (Power School) will be available for all systems.

Rollout of Power School: TCS began introducing its staff members to the Power School and Power Teacher products during the spring of 2013. Because we recognized that this conversion from NCWise to Power School was on schedule and would occur over the summer, we chose to provide PD in the use of the new product using the following methods.

- 1) Spring 2013: Encouraged all staff members to introduce themselves to the Power School/Teacher product via the PowerSource portal provided by Pearson. Part of this encouragement came in the form of CEU's awarded for time spent reviewing the training modules provided in PowerSource.
- 2) Summer 2013: Attendance by select individuals at intensive training provided by DPI/Pearson. One set of the training was 3-day; one set was 5-day training. Four (4) slots were allocated to TCS. Those slots were used by the PowerSchool Coordinator; one of the instructional technology facilitators, one principal, and one data manager. The intention of this selection of persons was designed to provide much needed expertise to persons in our system and to develop a train the trainer model. These persons committed to provide training for additional personnel in the system, and to serve as support for PowerSchool in their respective schools.

- 3) Summer 2013: Immediately prior to the opening of school during teacher workdays, these trainers visited all schools and provided face-to-face training in the most basic needs teachers would have for the beginning of school--taking attendance, setting up and using the gradebook.
- 4) On going 2013-14: These persons continue to provide support for the teachers in the school when issues and questions arise.
- 5) 2013-2014: In addition to the training listed above the Power School Coordinator has spent much time with the Data Project Manager assigned to this district; verifying data, providing and uploading needed data files; maintaining a separate local Power School server to be used in training staff members. The Coordinator has been and continues to provide much guidance and training to the Data Managers in the schools to ensure accurate data. The Coordinator also serves as the liaison between the district, Pearson and DPI.

Rollout of Additional Modules:

TCS is interested in pursuing all those modules that will benefit our system. Seven persons (7) from our county participated in training during the summer of 2013 where many of the features were introduced. These persons will be responsible for providing initial overviews, introductions, and use of the Home Base modules. TCS reviews each Home Base Update with an eye toward introducing these modules to the teachers and administrators in the system. Our Power School Coordinator monitors very closely the accuracy of data being delivered via the SchoolNet portal--from correct reporting of attendance and grades to the presence of test items correlated to the Common Core Standards. As these products become stable, there are seven people will be introducing the modules to the staff and will be encouraging additional portal access to others. TCS is currently looking closely at the assessment modules and looking also at the Open Class features. We are weighing the benefits of moving to Open Class from our current LMS- Moodle. TCS currently maintains two (2) virtual Moodle servers with appropriate backups to ensure access for teachers and students when needed. TCS requested and DPI provided the system two seats at a pilot rollout/introduction to OpenClass held in the fall of 2013. After attendance the system will once again review the pros and cons and make a decision concerning adopting OpenClass pilot. As decisions are made for adoption, introductory sessions will begin with teachers second semester of the 2013-14 school year.