



2025 - 2026 Technology Update

Technology Staff

- ▶ **Jacob Stella**
 - ▶ Hired in 2006, became director in 2020
- ▶ **Missy Thompson**
 - ▶ MS/HS
 - ▶ Started in the technology department in 2007
- ▶ **Rob Hauch**
 - ▶ Elementary School
 - ▶ Joined the technology department in 2022
- ▶ All 3 of us can be reached **techstaff@nbas.org**

What's New?

- ▶ **Hardware:** Upgraded all network switches district-wide, replacing 8-year-old 1Gbps equipment
- ▶ **Speed:** Network now operates at **10GBps** thanks to new underground and internal fiber-optic cables
- ▶ **Infrastructure:** Fiber-optic cables are now ran to outdoor facilities around the multiplex
- ▶ Installed rooftop antennas on all buildings for fax machines and elevators due to AT&T discontinuing copper landlines in the county

Device Transition: iPads

- ▶ **The Switch:** Decided to transition away from Chromebooks this school year
- ▶ **Pilot Program:** Admin team met with Apple in Chicago and launched a 20-iPad pilot program for staff/students across 3 buildings
- ▶ **Feedback/Survey Results:**
 - ▶ **Elementary & Middle School:** Highly positive about switching to iPads
 - High School:** Staff and students chose to continue using **MacBook Airs** and will take a look at their replacement next year (iPad vs. MacBook Neo)

District Communication & Forms

- ▶ **Unified Platform:** Successfully implemented **Bloomz** district-wide (including athletics) with overwhelmingly positive feedback
 - ▶ Special thanks to Ashley Jager for leading staff training and coordination
- ▶ **Online Forms:** Transitioned to **Follett MasterLibrary** for building usage forms, enabling online invoicing and payments
 - ▶ All major district forms are now moving online

Security Enhancements

- ▶ **Surveillance:** Added new security cameras outside the elementary school and around the multiplex
- ▶ **Access Control:** Integrated more doors and transportation gates into the card reader system
- ▶ **Safety Systems:** Connected the district intercom system directly to the Emergency Notification System
- ▶ **Vape Sensors:** Following a successful test run, sensors are being expanded to all remaining middle school and high school bathrooms

Upcoming Projects

- ▶ Replacing 115 current wireless access points and adding **33 new ones**
- ▶ Replacing the 20+ year old intercom/PA system
- ▶ Upgrading and centrally managing digital signage across the district
- ▶ Upgrading or replacing the district phone system after this school year
- ▶ Exploring plans to become an official CLEP testing center

Thank you!

- ▶ Building Technology Coaches
 - ▶ Helping us integrate technology into the classrooms
- ▶ School Board
 - ▶ Thanks for providing the technology department with the tools and funds to keep our district one of the most technologically advanced schools in the state