HTH Technology

Despite its name and its impressive technology infrastructure, High Tech High is not a technology high school. Some HTH students may specialize in computer programming, but all students use technology to engage in a wide range of pursuits: scientific, mathematical, literary, historical, and artistic, and aesthetic. Every student creates a digital portfolio that includes a personalized learning plan, resume, work samples, and links to the student's work on other web sites.

Technology Infrastructure

HTH's network infrastructure includes high-end Cisco switching and open source Linux routing equipment. HTH employs leased T-1 lines, a wireless T-1 service, and a wireless network for voice and data.

HTH has 260 desktop, laptop and server computers, including Intergraph systems, Dell and Gateway PC's, and Macintosh desktop G4's, iMacs, and eMacs. An animation lab offers high-end Intergraph workstations with Wildcat Video Graphics Card solutions.

Seminar rooms are equipped with Smart Boards and a rack mounted audio-visual cabinet with video projector, CD player, stereo receiver, Dell Pentium 4 computer, cordless mice, DVD player and a VCR.

Every teacher has a personal workstation/cubicle with a Dell computer and an optional cell phone.

Applications

Students use a wide array of technology applications to do their work, including:

- Word processing (Microsoft Word)
- Email communication (Microsoft Outlook with web access)
- Group collaboration (Microsoft Exchange)
- Internet for investigative research

"Some of the students come here knowing a lot about computers, but most of us don't. I've been learning how to use different programs for the projects that I am working on. I learn the most from other students working in the Great Room...they help me when I need it. "

Isabella Ballesta
Grade 10

"I look at the technology here as a tool that students have readily available to them, in a wide variety of contexts. It opens up new realms of learning to them."

Peter Estacio
HTH Director of Information Technology

HTH LEARNING

An affiliate of the Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs High Tech High   www.hightechhigh.org

- Multimedia and web tools (e.g., Microsoft PowerPoint, Dreamweaver and Flash)
- Photo and video tools (digital still and video cameras, Adobe Photoshop, PC and Mac video-editing workstations)
- Computer illustration and design tools (AutoCAD, Maya, Adobe Illustrator and others)

Teachers use an array of technology tools and web-based learning resources, including:

- Spanish: active use of Web-Based and audio Spanish-language resources
- Physics: "Constructing Physics Understanding" (CPU), a Computer-Supported Learning Environment <http://cpu project.sdsu.edu> in addition to various bridge building soft ware packages
- Math: a personal tutor model developed by Jared Wells, for core math literacy.
- Assessment (in development): a system for assessing student projects using online rubrics, with reports available to students and parents by a secure web interface.

Administration

Current administrative applications include an on-line web based dynamic attendance system and an electronic accounting system. In 2002-2003 HTH plans to test finger print scanning technologies for user authentication to enhance network security and user privacy. For data management (e.g., grades and projects, transcripts, progress reports, attendance), High Tech High has adopted PowerSchool by Apple Computer, <http://www.powerschool.com>

Technology Support and Implementation

HTH employs a full-time Information Technology Director, responsible for network maintenance and security, voice and data systems, equipment support and maintenance, and student and teacher training. Supporting the Information Technology Director is one full-time assistant system administrator responsible for the Powerschool infrastructure and one full-time technical specialist responsible for break/fix and webmaster duties.

For more information:
www.hightechhigh.org

HTH
LEARNING