INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

DIRECTOR - CRISTIN KENNEDY

GOALS

- Leverage technology to transform traditional classrooms into digital age classrooms
- Create and support effective and ethical digital age learning environments
- Empower digital age learners, teachers, and administrators to use technology tools to enhance engaging learning experiences with technology tools

CURRENT STATUS

The Cobb County School District focuses on innovation and student engagement to facilitate deeper learning. The Instructional Technology (InTech) Department is a team of twenty-seven Technology Training/Integration Specialists (TTIS) that collaborates with other divisions in Technology Services to ensure every staff member leverages technology that enhances quality instruction and prepares digitally literate students for college or career. Cobb’s TTIS team provides quality professional learning that ensures teachers’ integration of District resources and technology to effectively assess student learning, differentiate instruction, and provide rigorous, relevant, and engaging learning experiences including choice and voice for all students.

Vision

Preparing digital age learners for success in a global, ever-changing society.

Professional learning occurs at the school and district level using face-to-face, job-embedded, blended, and online models. The TTIS team members are change agents who collaborate with teachers, staff, and leaders to provide targeted technology support leading to innovation and improvement in classroom practice and student engagement. Their professional learning methods integrate research-based instructional strategies proven to increase student achievement and focus on students as creators, collaborators, and critical thinkers.

Cobb students engaged in a Digital Age Classroom.
CCSD InTech strategically develops empowered educational technology leaders throughout the District with active listening and coaching practices built around relevant and intentional tools that support student learning and growth. TTIIs facilitate the design and implementation of technology infused educational experiences that emphasize creativity, higher-order thinking skills, and problem-based learning in a digital age classroom. Virtual learning spaces, blended learning, distance learning, and flipped instruction using an array of compatible classroom resources that foster collaboration are just a few of the instructional models used in Cobb schools and supported by CCSD InTech to reach beyond classroom walls. In addition, TTIIs support teachers with earning certifications such as BYOD, Digital Citizenship, and Microsoft Innovative Educator. Working with teachers and leaders translates an increase of student use of technology for demonstrating learning (creation), collaboration, communication, and critical thinking.

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INTECH HIGHLIGHTS 2015-2017

- Served 113 schools supporting the District and Technology Services' vision
- Supported CTLS Assess in partnership with Assessment Department
- Provided District-wide training for digital age classrooms
- Implemented Microsoft Innovative Educator certification training for all District staff
- Implemented a Digital Leadership professional learning community for principals
- Created two online professional learning courses for BYOD and Digital Citizenship
- Supported distance learning in Cobb schools
- Provided technology training for classified employees
- Produced webinars, Twitter chats, newsletters, support videos and blogs
- Provided Windows 10 and SMART Learning Suite training for all District staff
- Maintained a department web page and CTLS Teach Community

@CobbInTech

InTech's Digital Leadership professional learning community for principals.
"We help teaching geeks use technology tools effectively to engage learners and increase teacher and student success."

MOVING FORWARD

CCSD Instructional Technology remains committed to increasing achievement through technology integration as TTIS team members coach teachers on building digital age classrooms that prepare tomorrow's future ready students. The team will continue to develop District technology leaders to model implementation of digital age learning elements. In addition, the team will encourage further technology collaboration by increasing local and global participation in their professional learning community. CCSD Instructional Technology will continue to intentionally leverage current and future technology tools across the District as a necessary supplement to the engaging teaching and learning that leads to student success.

THREE YEAR GOALS

In the next three years, the Instructional Technology Department plans to develop, implement and support the following:

1. Continue the development of digital age classrooms throughout the District using research-based coaching and training methods and digital age classroom professional learning academies.

2. Develop, promote, and facilitate Microsoft Innovative Educator training with at least 50% of CCSD teachers and staff becoming certified by May 2020.

3. Promote schools to attain Microsoft Showcase School status to amplify student and school success.

4. Promote InTech department professional learning community (PLC) locally and globally with development, promotion, and maintenance of web pages, blogs, webinars, social media, featured teachers, and online learning experiences.

5. Continue to provide technical training and support for CTLS in collaboration with the Teaching & Learning departments.

6. Continue to provide differentiated, high-quality professional learning trainings at all levels in the district to support elements of a digital age classroom, school, and District.

7. Develop and host a regional instructional technology conference.

Instructional Technology