



# ***BASD 1:1 - A Journey, Not a Destination***

BASD has experienced an evolution of technology changes over the past 20 years. What started out as a computer for each classroom, usually for the teacher, has evolved into a highly integrated 21st-Century learning environment, with a computer for each student. BASD currently has a 1:1 ratio of computers to students; however, they exist in the form of laptop carts or computer labs, but students cannot take them home. The computers we have are utilized to assist students in the learning process. They also engage, motivate, inspire, and challenge students in their preparation for college, workforce, or military service. BASD students currently have access to various multimedia forms such as laptops, hard-wired computers in labs, interactive whiteboards, and various online subscriptions such as RAZ-Kids, Study Island, and dozens of different teacher-chosen sites that enhance learning opportunities. Technology even assists parents via the parent portal, district and individual school websites, and teacher pages. BASD is committed to staying in the forefront of technology for education and provides technology opportunities that are often limited in public schools. To that end, BASD will be employing a 1:1 student device initiative beginning in the fall of 2015. Students in grades 9-12 will be provided a Microsoft Surface Pro 3 for use in school and at home. This will give students extended learning opportunities beyond the traditional eight-period day in addition to other goals as enumerated below.

Rationale and goals of the 1:1 initiative were developed over a several month period with career preparation for students as the primary purpose. BASD will provide a comprehensive technology plan to all students participating in the 1:1 program. Emphasis will be on cyber safety, appropriate use, appropriate expectations, extension of curriculum and higher order thinking skills, curricular use of devices, and assessment through completion of International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards. The vision statement of BASD's technology initiative is to

**"Create a teaching and learning framework that inspires all students to develop 21st Century Career and Life Skills."**

The vision statement was developed and adopted by the BrightBytes Technology Committee. This committee is comprised of teachers, parents, students, and board members and serves multiple purposes, among them being:

- o Refine vision and goals.
- o Provide feedback for implementation plan.
- o Establish practicing procedures and protocols (security).
- o Keep stakeholders informed of the process and status of implementation.

# **BASD 1:1**

**BASD supports the 1:1 initiative to give students the best opportunity for career success.**

The purpose of the 1:1 initiative in the BASD is to:

- Transform the learning process in the classroom.
- Foster 21st-Century skills through greater collaboration and problem solving.
- Incorporate a project-based approach into instruction.
- Assess student learning through multiple methods.
- Provide ubiquitous access to technology and bridge the digital divide.
- Prepare students to be successful in their future employment.
- With the outlook of a global competitive job market, it is necessary that the students of Bloomsburg are not only academically prepared, but technologically as well.

## **Goals**

The major goals of this initiative are to provide students with 21st Century learning environments both at home and in school, and to give all students access to technology resources. The BrightBytes Technology Committee also identified several goals encompassing all stakeholders in the district, which include:

### **District Goals**

- Provide digital access for all students.
- Support parents and guardians with tools, resources, and strategies to manage technology use in their home.
- Prepare students with essential digital literacy skills to choose and use technology for learning.
- Create interdisciplinary connections through rigorous, engaging, and meaningful instructional strategies.
- Promote and facilitate student critical thinking, creativity, and innovation for lifelong learning.
- Cultivate leadership, collaboration, and teamwork through digital communication and productivity tools.

### **Teacher Goals**

- Teachers will have access to a comprehensive program of professional development that will train them to use technology as an integral tool to enhance teaching and learning.
- Teachers will be able to develop lessons that will allow students to meaningfully integrate technology.
- Teachers at all levels will be able to recognize and use instructional technologies for teaching critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to enhance student achievement.
- Teachers will support their classroom environments with multiple assessments, such as project-based learning, cross-curricular projects, and collaborative learning.

# Goals

## Student Goals

- Students will effectively use technology to access, communicate, apply knowledge, and foster creativity.
- The district will provide to all BASD students hardware, software, and online learning tools that provide access to rich content resources and are aligned to academic content standards.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to utilize grade-level appropriate computer skills and information, and apply and communicate these skills in research and presentation of their work.
- Students will receive instruction through the integration of technology in all content areas to become proficient with technological literacy skills.

A summary of the BASD 1:1 goals and objectives can be classified into the 4 Cs of 21st-Century Career and Life Skills, which are: collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and communication. The 4Cs are intangible skills required to be competitive lifelong learners in a global economy. The Teaching and Learning Framework relevant to student success through the 1:1 device initiative includes increased student engagement, authentic real-world learning, and personal responsibility for learning, research and organization skills, digital literacy skills, and communication literacy skills, to include reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

We believe that students learn best through personalized learning, with a student-driven approach to accomplish their personal goals. Personalized learning, coupled with customized learning, allows the teacher to develop and deliver information based upon student goals. The 1:1 initiative will allow for a hybrid approach to the way classrooms look from traditional rows to more small-group instruction, which involves collaboration, technology, and one-to-one instruction.

The point of contact (POC) for the 1:1 initiative regarding technology is Mr. Gary Honabach at 570-784-5000 or [ghonabach@bloomsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:ghonabach@bloomsd.k12.pa.us). The POC regarding day-to-day operation and for instructional use of the 1:1 initiative is the high school principal, Mr. Dan Bonomo at 570-784-6100 or [dbonomo@bloomsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:dbonomo@bloomsd.k12.pa.us). Other questions regarding the 1:1 initiative can be directed to Dr. Cosmas C. Curry at 570-784-5000 or [ccurry@bloomsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:ccurry@bloomsd.k12.pa.us).



**BHS teachers receive their Surface Pro 3 devices in the initial rollout of the 1:1 initiative. Teachers will receive regular professional development training on best practices to support student education. Training will begin this school year and will be an ongoing practice.**

**The policies are the lifeblood of this initiative as they describe the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and all other participants in the 1:1 initiative.**

## ***Policies***

The policies are the lifeblood of this initiative as they describe the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and all other participants in the 1:1 initiative. While all policies have an integral part in the success of this process, policy 252B provides the most detail for the day-to-day use, expectations, and plans for student use for on- or off-campus use and damaged devices. The 1:1 policies are listed below:

- o 009 – District-Issued Device Responsibility List
- o 224 – Care of School Property
- o 252A – District-Provided Technology Resources: Student Use, Rights and Responsibilities: Student E-mail Accounts and Web and Cloud-Based Storage and Web and Cloud-Based Applications
- o 252B – District-Issued Devices: Student Use, Rights, and Responsibilities
- o 352 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Administrative Employees)
- o 452 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Professional Employees)
- o 552 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Classified Employees)
- o 893 – Remote Access, Monitoring, and Tracking of District-Issued Devices

The aforementioned policies can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<http://bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com/domain/57>

## ***BASD District-Provided Insurance for Student Devices***

The district shall provide a 1:1 device for student use for educational purposes along with an extended warranty and accidental damage and handling (ADH) for each student's device. The extended warranty covers any manufacturer's defects for three years and the ADH covers up to two accidental incidents such as accidental spillage on a device, a dropped device, or accidental breakage. Parents/students shall be responsible for costs for any damage not covered under the limited warranty and ADH, in addition to lost or stolen devices (like they would a textbook).

## ***Consent to Participate in the 1:1 Student Device Initiative***

Students of Bloomsburg High School will receive a 1:1 device and are required to submit the "Agreement for Use of Device" Attachment A or B as a condition of receiving a device in October. The Agreement for Use of Device will need to be submitted once for each student unless the parent or guardian wishes to change to a different agreement. Parents and guardians are free to change to a different agreement at any time throughout the school year. Agreements and policies can be accessed by clicking the following link: <http://bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com/domain/57>.

- o **Agreement for Use of Device (Attachment A)** – This agreement would allow your child to bring the device home after school.
- o **Agreement for Use of Device (Attachment B)** – This agreement would not allow your child to bring the device home after school.
- o Signing and returning either agreement indicates that your child agrees to abide by Policy No. 224: Care of School Property, Board Policy 252A: District Provided Technology Resources: Student Use, Rights and Responsibilities, Board Policy 252B: District-Issued Devices: Student Use, Rights and Responsibilities and the Best Practices Guidelines relating to the safe keeping and use of the 1:1 student devices. If your child previously submitted a signed agreement, then he or she continues to be bound by the above board policies and other documents. The above board policies are accessible on the district's website at [bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com](http://bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com). Additionally, paper copies of the board policies are available upon request made to your child's school.
- o Policy 252B also describes the agreement between parents and BASD. The agreement details the expectations for device use off and on campus. This includes administrative and technical assistance, delineates each BASD employee's role, common sense rules that align with the student handbook rules already in force, applicable policies, expectation for device use during summer months, the fact that the device is BASD property (just like a textbook, only more expensive), how and where to have the device serviced, who has access to files and for what reasons, and penalties for violating the common sense rules. The same agreement exists with the same information in version B of Policy 252B; however, the B version is for on-campus use only.

### ***Providing Devices to Students Whose Devices Have Been Seized***

Students who have had their device seized based upon reasonable suspicion that the student violated the law, school rules, or district policies shall be permitted to use a loaner device in school, but shall not be permitted to take the loaner off campus, unless required by laws pertaining to students with disabilities.

“**Care of the device is the student’s responsibility.**”

## ***Responsibility for Use of Devices***

Please review the following information to help ensure a productive school year:

1. The devices that will be issued to all high school students are the property of Bloomsburg Area School District.
2. Students are responsible for the appropriate use of these devices both at school and at home.
3. Care of the device is the student’s responsibility.
4. If devices need repair or maintenance, students are to report to the technology center in their building.
5. Vandalism to any devices or accessories is strictly prohibited.
6. Students must present their school-issued picture ID when they bring their devices in or pick them up from repair.
7. If a device is **missing or suspected stolen**, the student must report this immediately to the principal/assistant principal in his/her building. To report a device missing or stolen on campus during the school day, the student must contact the principal/assistant principal by phone, electronic mail, or by visiting the main office. To report a device missing or stolen after school hours, the student must e-mail the principal/assistant principal. If the device is suspected to be stolen while off campus, then the student and/or parent/guardian must also make a report directly to the police.

## ***Remote Access to Devices by District Personnel***

District devices are equipped with the ability to be accessed remotely in the following scenario:

In some instances, it may be necessary for a school technology staff to access the device remotely to resolve a technical problem. A student does not need to be asked for permission prior to remote software maintenance or to resolve a technical issue. Software maintenance may involve the correction of altered code or programming and in some cases may remove files from the device if the files are deemed to be a threat to the operation or security of BASD-Net or are stored in unauthorized software.

## ***Web-Blocking Software***

Although students are primarily responsible for the use of the devices and BASD-Net, the district has installed blocking software on devices designed to protect students from obscene material, child pornography, and other visual depictions deemed harmful to minors (as defined by the Children’s Internet Protection Act) when accessing the Internet through BASD-Net. An authorized administrator may disable the technology protection measure if needed for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

## *Device Distribution*

High school technology staff will distribute devices during October of 2015. Each device will have a label containing the serial number, which will be tracked through the asset management system. This serial number system will record the student name and any maintenance done to the device. If you have any questions, please visit the link for "Technology" and then "One to One" on the homepage of the BASD website at [bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com](http://bloomsburgasd.schoolwires.com).

## *Best Practice Guidelines for Use of Student Devices*

Students are responsible for the appropriate use of their devices, both at school and at home. The devices are for the use of students for educational purposes. All commercial, illegal, unethical, and inappropriate use of these devices is expressly prohibited.

1. You may not copy or duplicate copyrighted material. Copyright is the set of exclusive rights granted to the author or creator of an original work, including the right to copy, distribute, and adapt the work. Copyrighted materials include books, maps, prints, musical compositions, dramatic works, photographs, paintings, drawings, motion pictures, computer programs, sound recordings, choreography, and architectural works.
2. Downloading games, applications, or software is expressly prohibited.
3. Downloading purchased songs or songs from a purchased compact disc is permitted (ex. songs purchased from iTunes and downloaded). Any personal information or material on the laptop is the express responsibility of the student and should not interfere with device usage or school-related work.
4. Only BASD licensed or approved software is to be installed on the devices.
5. Do not lend your device to anyone, and do not share your user name or password.
6. Always keep track of your device and take reasonable precautions to keep it safe.
7. If you place your device in your locker, make sure it is completely closed and locked.
8. Since your carrying bag will be the primary storage for your device, make sure that you never leave your device-carrying bag unattended.
9. When carrying your device, always place it in the sleeve provided.
10. Do not place the power cord or adapter against the device screen in your backpack, as the screen may break.
11. Be careful not to drop or fling your backpack.
12. When closing and storing your device, either turn it off or put it in standby mode to protect it from overheating.

## ***1:1 Device Tips***

The priority of the device issued to you is instructional purposes. The device issued to you belongs to the Bloomsburg Area School District and is on loan to you as an important tool for learning. It is your responsibility to maintain your district-issued device with the care and responsibility as if you bought it yourself. Here are some tips to help ensure that the device serves you well academically and lasts during your entire high school experience.

### ***Security***

- o Never leave your device unattended or unsecured. Remember, your device is your responsibility. We suggest you lock the device in your locker when it is not in use.

### ***Using Connectors and Ports***

- o Never force a connector into a port. When connecting your device, make sure the connector matches the port and that it is positioned properly. When plugging it in, plug it into the wall outlet first and then connect to the computer, and when unplugging it, do so in reverse order.

### ***Device Carrying Bag***

- o The device comes with a carrying bag. Please use the carrying bag for the device only and don't stuff it with extra papers, books, bottles, etc., as it could damage the device. Please make sure your bag is completely zipped when transporting the device. Close the device completely before putting it into the bag and keep two hands on it because if you drop it, it's going to break. Be sure to remove your pen/pencil from the keyboard before closing the screen or it will crack.

### ***Shutting Down and Sleep Mode on Device***

- o It is recommended you put your device into sleep mode before transporting it between classes. Note: when you close your device (fold the keyboard and screen together), the device will automatically go into sleep mode. It is best to shut down the device if you are going to be away from it for any period of time or distance in travel. Shutting down and restarting the device will allow any maintenance and updates to be applied to it.

### ***ID Label***

- o Do not remove the ID label, replace stickers, or other markings on the device. When you return your device at the end of the year, it should look like it did when you received it.

### ***Network Home Folder***

- o Your network home folder will be mounted automatically to allow for a shortcut for easy access.



## ***Saving and Local Access***

- You can use local folders on the device. Remember that files that are on the local machine are not included in the district's nightly backup plan.

## ***Saving Files from Applications***

- Saving files from most applications will default to your documents locally. Remember to navigate to your server location when necessary.

## ***Backing Up Important Files***

- It is your responsibility to back up important files, which can be done to our servers or on a USB drive.

## ***Web Browser***

- Your device will have IE, Firefox, Chrome and Metro IE preinstalled. These browsers will automatically be updated as new versions are released from the district's update server procedure.

## ***Printing***

- You will be able to print to the printer in any classroom you are in, as set up by you, the administrator of the device, as directed by your teachers or what you may personally own at home. All print jobs are logged on the print server.

## ***Optical Drive***

- An optical drive is not provided by the district.

## ***Battery***

- When you take your device home overnight or on the weekend, be sure it is fully recharged for the next school day. To conserve battery power, you can:
  - Disconnect any peripherals when not in use;
  - Close applications you are not using;
  - Reduce screen brightness when using battery power;
  - Put your device to sleep whenever you can.

## ***Tutorials***

- For tutorials on the Surface Pro 3, please log in to the district website at <http://www.bloomisd.k12.pa.us/it/surface/default.html>, which contains numerous files.

## ***Technical Assistance***

- If your device is not functioning properly, notify your teacher, who will try to assist you. If that step is unsuccessful, you need to talk to the technology technician in the library and/or librarian to see if either can assist you.

**1:1 Device Questions**

1. What will students do with their devices during physical education classes and after-school activities?
  - Students should lock them in their lockers during physical education class. For after school activities, it is recommended students leave them in the school with the technology technician or coach. It is their responsibility to keep the device safe and secure once they receive it.
2. Will students be able to use their devices on school buses?
  - Yes, as long as they are careful.
3. Will students have to purchase device bags to carry their device in?
  - No, the bag is included. Items such as a mouse, protective screen cover, or any other cover are not provided but may be personally purchased as an added layer of protection for the device.
4. If the accessories to the student's device are lost or stolen, how much will it cost to replace them?
  - Cost would be a depreciated value of the device over a four-year period and full replacement for the accessories.
5. Will students be given a new battery if theirs goes bad?
  - The battery is enclosed in the device and is not replaceable. If it is still under warranty when the battery fails, it will be replaced. If the device is out of warranty, a replacement device will be given to the student.
6. Will students be able to install software on the device?
  - Students will be considered administrators to the device so they would be able to install software. The district will have inventory/accounting systems in place to ensure the software installed would be legally licensed.
7. Can a student use their iPod, digital camera, or other accessories with the device?
  - Yes, the Surface Pro 3 has a full-functioning USB port.
8. Can students load music and photos on the devices?
  - Yes,
9. Can a student use his/her device over the summer?
  - No. All devices will be collected at the end of the school year. At that time, inspection and maintenance will be performed on each device to ensure the device is up to date with system upgrades, patches, and software upgrades. This will begin with a complete system wipe of that device. Each student should save their work to the network or the cloud using Microsoft One Drive prior to returning the device. The device will be up to date as of the time the image was put on the device. During the first time the student starts the device on the network, it will receive any updates that occurred from the image date to the present date.
10. Will BASD provide maintenance on the student's device?
  - Yes, all software updates, upgrades, and patches will be automatically pushed to each device when they are available.
11. If students need a printer at home, will there be facilities to back up the files students create on their device?
  - They have full rights to the "My Documents" folder on the device. So, they can save files there to have access to them or they can save them to Microsoft's One Drive and have access to them via the Cloud. They are also an administrator to the device so they can add any printer they want on our network or at home.



## 1:1 Device Questions

12. What if a student leaves his/her device at home?
  - BPSD will have a limited number of loaner devices. Much like a textbook and other materials needed for class, the student must make every effort not to forget their device.
13. What if a student does not charge his/her device prior to the next school day?
  - BPSD will have charging stations; however, charging station access points may preclude your child from using the device in a class or classes. Be responsible and develop a routine where the device is charged while you sleep.
14. Will students be able to access their files saved to the network servers?
  - Yes. While on the network they will have full access. They will have access to save files to the Cloud whether Office 365 or Microsoft One Drive is used.
15. What will the school do to prevent students from going to inappropriate sites?
  - Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant software will be installed on all devices so they will be filtered both on and off the district network.
16. How do we handle computer viruses?
  - Each device will have the district antivirus installed. Maintenance and updates will occur automatically by the districts servers.
17. Will there be training for students?
  - Yes, they will have access to all help documents on the [technology surface website](#). There will also be general support given at the time of the distribution of the devices. The Surface Help Desk computer technician will also be available. BPSD will host student professional development (PD) for device use and integration into classrooms. The PD will occur by utilizing a conference format for students as planned by the administration.
18. What will a student do without a device in his/her classes if his/her device is being repaired or replaced?
  - A replacement device will be issued, if available. Also, various other devices may be available in each classroom for student use.
19. Will there be training for parents?
  - Yes, we will hold various stakeholders' meetings to review the program and answer any questions. They will have [access to copies of the policies on our district website](#) and [access to the Surface Technology Help website](#).
20. Will all teachers be expected to use their devices with students?
  - Yes.
21. What about insurance against theft or breakage through carelessness?
  - Each device will be insured with a three year manufacturer's warranty in addition to a three year Complete Care Extended Warranty with ADH (Accidental Damage from Handling). The ADH will support two incidents. After the two incidents have been exhausted, the ADH is no longer available for the Surface and parents/the student will be responsible for replacement (like a lost or damaged textbook). The manufacturer's warranty will still be valid for the remainder of its term.
22. Will students be able to use their devices for Internet access at home?
  - Yes, as long as they have wireless Internet access available. If the student only has wired access they could purchase a USB to Network adapter for access.
23. What if a student does not have Internet access at home?
  - He/she could still use the device as a laptop without internet access. He/she could also go to a WIFI hotspot such as the library, Mc Donald's, Dunkin Donuts, or any other available access point.

## 1:1 Device Questions, contd.

24. What if a student already has another model or brand of device?
  - He/she will still be issued a device so that each student will have the same software that would be required for the classwork.
25. How will this 1:1 initiative be evaluated?
  - Evaluation will occur through surveys of staff, students, and parents. Test data, graduation rates, BRSD curriculum requirements, success in mastery of academic standards, will also be utilized.
26. Will a student have the same device when he/she is in high school?
  - Yes, each student will be given the same device each year unless the device has a system failure or is damaged beyond repair. At that point a replacement device will be given to the student and any warranty will apply.
27. What do I do if the green site camera light turns on by itself and remains on after the camera is used?
  - The device should be immediately rebooted. If the light remains on, it should be brought to the Surface Help Desk for service ASAP.
28. What do I do if I suspect my device is missing or stolen?
  - Notify the principal of the building immediately.
29. Can homeowners' or personal insurance be used in lieu of the district-provided insurance?
  - No, unless your policy states otherwise. Check with your insurance company.
30. Can a parent purchase additional accidental insurance?
  - No, because it is not the students/parents device.
31. Do I need to turn in a copy of the agreement for device use form and an acceptable use policy form, and, if so, to whom?
  - Yes. Forms shall be returned to your homeroom teacher, who will forward them to the technology technician.
32. Can my student bring in his/her own device and use it rather than using the district provided device?
  - No. The district is using specific licensed software for instruction other than Office 2013 & Office 365, that is not available for student owned devices.
33. What will be the procedure for students that are attending sporting events or practices? Will there be a secure place they can keep the device?
  - Students can always lock the device and its bag in their locker. The bag fits nicely in either the top or bottom of the locker. We are also working with the coaching staff to provide other options.
34. Can a parent purchase the device from the school?
  - No, because BRSD would not be able to provide the ADK insurance and licensed software.
35. Who is the point of contact regarding technology-related policies?
  - Dr. Curry at 570-784-5000.
36. Who is the point of contact for instructional use of devices?
  - The student's content teacher.

# ***BHS, ALREADY THE LEADER OF THE PACK***

The Bloomsburg High School staff and students are very proud to have been recognized as one of the 2014 Best High Schools as recognized by the "U.S. News and World Report". The high school has also received this recognition in 2010 and 2012, but the 2014 recognition has been our highest ranking to date. As a high school we rank 45th in the state out of 598 public, 65 charter, and 28 magnet schools. We rank 1758 in the nation from 19,400 public high schools from 50 states and the District of Columbia. The criteria for being chosen for this prestigious award includes our student/teacher ratio, college readiness, math proficiency, and reading proficiency. Congratulations to our staff, students and parents for their efforts to continue to make Bloomsburg High School one of the best schools in the nation.

## ***Technology***

Technology is ever changing here at the high school. Our students currently use technology in many of their classes. Mr. McGarry's English classes have used a strategy known as "flipped classroom," which utilizes technology to have students listen to a lecture at home and apply what they have learned under the direct guidance of the instructor. Another example of our current use of technology comes from our entrepreneurship course taught by Mr. Jerry Davis. The students of this class were able to use Skype one morning to view and speak with a class of students from England. Our business department also utilizes technology through the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) club, with Ms. Kyla Burns as the advisor. Over the past few years, we have earned numerous awards through their work in many areas that almost all include the use of technology.

The new technology we will gain due to the one-to-one initiative will not only enhance instruction in the classrooms, but allow our students to explore, apply, and rise above other students for their career choices of today as well as tomorrow.

The following is just one of the many examples of how our past and current use of technology has helped our students to achieve over the past year. Just wait and see what our one-to-one initiative will do to change our students to be at the top of tomorrow's workforce.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Bonomo, Principal

## Highlight: FBLA

The mission of FBLA is to "bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs." Each year, students select one competitive event in which to participate. There are over 45 competitive events and each event is aligned with at least one of the following National Business Education standards: accounting, business law, career development, communication, computation, economics, personal finance, entrepreneurship, information technology, international business, management, and marketing.

Each year, the FBLA Regional Leadership Conference is held in January at Penn College of Technology and the State Leadership Conference is held in Hershey. Bloomsburg High School students, through their learned use of technology have not only competed against students across the state of Pennsylvania, but against students from across the nation. I am very proud of our FBLA students for their accomplishments throughout the years of competition. Our students represent our school and community very well while away at their conferences.

### 2014-2015

#### State Leadership Conference - Hershey, PA

Nicole Albertson - Economics  
Olivia McGaw - Public Speaking 1  
Brendan Erwin - Word Processing  
Meagan Garman - Word Processing  
Patrick Halye, Mac Seidel, Cong Zheng - Management Information Systems



#### Regional Leadership Conference - Penn College of Technology

Twenty-four Bloomsburg High School FBLA members attended the FBLA Regional Leadership Conference at Penn College on January 7. Students attended the opening session, workshops, and the awards ceremony.



## *Honoring our Fallen Columbia County Soldiers*

Our eighth-grade students have been offered a great opportunity to honor our county's fallen soldiers. Local veterans have approached our students and asked if they could help paint crosses to commemorate the over 351 soldiers that have died in combat from Columbia County. These crosses will be painted white, have the name of each veteran, and the war they fought and died in.

The painting of the crosses will take place at the middle school. Once painted, these crosses will be displayed at our school-wide Memorial Day assembly in May. They will also be used in area parades, displayed at the Bloomsburg Fair, and other schools in the county. The local veterans involved with the making of the crosses are excited to have students involved and having a permanent way to remember their fallen comrades. This is one small, but meaningful way our students can pay tribute to our veterans and fallen soldiers.



## *Hybrid Learning*

Bloomsburg Middle School has received a Title One Reading grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This grant will be used to implement an innovative teaching model called Hybrid Learning. Hybrid incorporates three types of instruction: direct, collaborative, and independent. Students interact with technology on a daily basis, receive more intensive one on one instruction, and develop collaborative soft skills needed in the 21st Century. Many Reading and Harrisburg area schools have implemented Hybrid with great success. Students comment that they never feel "bored" and that they have "ownership" in their education. Educators love this model because they get to know their students on a more personal level and students are consistently engaged at a high level. By and large, all educators state that they will never go back to the old way of teaching.

This Hybrid model will start in sixth-grade social studies and science in the 2015-16 school year and move to seventh and eighth grades over a three year period. Our social studies and science teachers have begun intense professional development to prepare for this transition. We are excited to begin this innovative and effective teaching model next year. We believe this teaching model will both engage and prepare our students for the 21st Century.

## Taking a Look at K-5 Technology

We are very fortunate to have the technology that we do at W. W. Evans. We use SMARTboards, Elmos, laptops, and a dependable wireless infrastructure every day to enhance learning and achievement. But what if the elementary schools didn't have any technology? Could we still provide an education befitting of the 21st century we live in? Think about it...no laptops, no desktops, and no SMARTboards. Opportunities to video-conference or to virtually visit far-away destinations would be eliminated. The ability to share student-created projects would be severely limited. There would be no Remind 101, email, texting, or posts! But does removing all that mean we could not provide a high-quality 21st century education? First, let's clarify what a quality education is.

The focus of the Bloomsburg Area School District, based on its mission, is to prepare its students to become contributing, responsible citizens and life-long learners with the ability to adapt and to succeed in a competitive world. Students arrive at our school every day ready to responsibly contribute to their peers, their teachers, and their school. Speaking and listening skills are emphasized through peer dialogue, group work, and presentations of their work. Students are taught and recognized for consistent use of good manners, positive words, and cooperative actions. Learning skills and strategies are stressed more than straight content knowledge, developing students who have the ability to be life-long learners. We also constantly change the ways that students must apply their learning so that they improve their ability to adapt their strategies to new content and tasks. These skills and abilities are what will ensure our students are successful throughout life. That is a quality education.

While laptops, SMARTboards, Elmos, and other forms of technology are not necessary to achieve a quality education, they certainly enrich and accelerate the learning experience. On an almost daily basis our staff use their SMARTboards to enhance whole-group instruction by combining pictures, diagrams, and videos with an interactive writing surface. We use the limited amount of laptops we have to search the web for information we are researching, to create documents and presentations, and to practice skill development using websites like: Starfall, IXL for math, XtraMath, Raz-Kids, ABCya, Spelling City, Wegivebooks.org, Getepic.com, Sight Words.com, natgeokids.com, Sumdog, Scootpad, and EMGames. Our students are motivated to use the technology and the longer they use it, the more they improve their skills.





Our elementary school is looking forward to the additional carts of laptops so that we can increase the access our students have to these tools for enriching and accelerating their learning. Our staff is looking forward to the mobility that the Surface Pro 3 tablets will offer us during our instruction, as well as the additional capabilities they offer in video and educational apps. Overall, we intend to continue the excellent instruction occurring while expanding our use of technology to enrich and accelerate our students' learning experience.

Submitted by Joshua Tabor, Principal



# Memorial Elementary School

## Technology Update

Technology at Memorial Elementary is about to undergo an extensive upgrade for the 2015-2016 school year, as all teachers are receiving a Microsoft Surface Pro 3 to utilize in their classrooms. This is being added to the current classroom technology resources that include 10 laptops, a desktop computer, a SmartBoard and a projector. The school will also be adding four new and/or used laptop carts to the three current laptop carts already at Memorial. This will provide the school with about 110 more laptops, which will greatly impact the ability to utilize technology in the classroom.

### Technology Implementation Process

During the two recently approved Act 80 days in June, teachers will receive technology implementation training from the BASD technology department and fellow teachers that have a background in technology. Some of the training sessions are Surface Pro 3 Basics, Discovery Education, Office 365, and Apps in Education. The ultimate goal of these sessions is to provide teachers with guidance and support on utilizing the technology as effectively as possible in their classrooms. How a teacher employs the technology available to his/her will be at his/her discretion, but one of the more popular resources at the elementary level will be Discovery Education. The district recently upgraded its Discovery Education license to the Streaming Plus version, which enhances usefulness of the product.

#### Classroom Technology Resources 2015-2016

- Microsoft Surface Pro 3
- Desktop Computer
- SmartBoard
- Projector
- 10 Laptops
- Television
- DVD/VCR Player

# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## *What is Discovery Education?*

Discovery Education is a website that includes a plethora of digital content for all subject areas. Teachers can utilize many of the video clips, full length videos, audio clips, images, and much more to enhance their daily lessons in the classroom. The website also includes a variety of valuable resources that students can use as well. For example, Board Builder can be used as a project builder in the classroom. This builder tool allows students to create an interactive poster to share their knowledge of a topic. Students can safely search through Discovery Education content and import video clips, images, and audio into their posters. It is a fantastic hands-on activity that promotes creativity using technology. If you would like to learn more about Discovery Education and its uses, check out [www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com).

## *Future Endeavors*

As we all know, technology is ever changing and continuous learning is required. Throughout the future school years, teachers will have trainings on how to effectively implement both new and old resources into their daily instruction. Many of these trainings will be led by teachers that are members of the Transition Management Team. All of these technology opportunities within the classroom will provide students with a valuable education that will promote success as they live and work in the digital age of the 21st Century.

## *Brains are Awesome!*

Brain Awareness Week (BAW) is an international campaign held each March with the main focus of raising public awareness and understanding of the brain and the field of neuroscience. Bloomsburg University has participated in the event for the past five years under the leadership of Dr. Jennifer Johnson, an Associate Professor of Psychology. This year, 75 undergraduate Psychology majors presented fun, interactive activities about the brain to nearly 400 students at seven local schools, including Memorial Elementary. Bloomsburg University and local students both report high levels of enjoyment from BAW activities, and assessment has shown significant improvements in local students' understanding of neuroscience concepts after completing the program. The event is supported by the Bloomsburg University College of Liberal Arts and the Dana Foundation ([dana.org/brainweek/](http://dana.org/brainweek/)).



# Beaver-Main

## Science Fair

Beaver-Main takes great pride in being a small community school. Guests who visit our school often comment on the feeling of warmth and comfort. We do not take that feeling for granted. We purposefully take steps to ensure a strong connection to the community. One such event that we would like to highlight is our annual science fair, which was held on March 17, 2015.

Every year, the Beaver-Main Elementary School, in conjunction with Women in Nuclear group, hosts a science fair. While all fifth-grade students are required to submit a project as part of their science curriculum, every student in the school is encouraged to participate.

The rules of the science fair changed this year due to some logistical issues. Two major changes were made: (1) three best-of-show awards were given, one each from students, staff, and the community, and (2) the show was open to the community during the school day, instead of at night.

As the fair approached, the school was buzzing with excitement. Students talked about their projects with great anticipation. Finally the day arrived, and 52 projects were submitted! This was more participation than any staff member could recall. We saw projects about animals, volcanos, cereal, car dents, fruit-powered lights, and ice-melting salts. The projects stemmed from all branches of science including physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, and technology. It was truly a special event.

There were many outstanding projects submitted, but two that were especially interesting, as they explored the impact of technology on learning. One was done by Rita Nuss and another done by Lauren Boyer. Rita conducted a test to see how well students retained lists of words written on a computer screen compared to a list of words written on paper. Lauren conducted a test to see if using colors had any noticeable impact on retention rates. These two students hope the results of their projects will inform schools as to what works for learning and retention. Rita's results suggested that studying on a computer or tablet would yield better results on academic tests. Lauren's results showed that using colored text, as opposed to black and white, resulted in more information being retained. It was fantastic to see our students put their science skills to work to investigate the potential impact of technology on learning.

Overall, we are proud of the students and families for dedicating the time and effort necessary to produce such wonderful projects. We are also grateful for the more than 100 community members who took time out of their work day to attend, support, and encourage all of our young scientists! This dedication to our students and school is what makes Beaver-Main so unique. We look forward to hosting more events showcasing the talents of our students, especially events highlighting the new skills students will learn with the increase in classroom technology next year.



**Pictured are our best-of-show winners. Left to Right: Liam Zentner (2022), Nathan LaBuda (2026), Bronson Biroe (2022), Sarah Woodley (2026), and Lauren Boyer (2022). There was a three-way tie for the staff's choice for best-in-show!**

# *Bloomsburg Flood Protection Project*

As you may or may not know, the Columbia County Commissioners have contracted Allan Myers to construct the Bloomsburg Flood Protection project, which consists of building a levee around the perimeter of Autoneum and the former Windsor food plant. This project's footprint will primarily be between the intersection of Fifth and Railroad streets and continue to 11th and Railroad streets.

This levee project will include the installation of a cement-bentonite slurry wall and drilled caissons with precast wall panels along the fairgrounds. Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) walls, concrete utility control structures, sanitary sewer and storm water pump stations, and the associated underground utilities will also be constructed as part of the project. Lastly, large amounts of fill material will be imported to construct the earthen level behind Autoneum and up 11th Street.

Allan Myers understands and appreciates the high level of public interest with this project and has been pleasantly surprised with the overwhelming support received from the community. With the work beginning to get underway, we ask for your help and support as we try to keep your children and the general public safe. This project will undoubtedly perk everyone's curiosity with our work as it begins to come up out of the ground. People will see cranes, large excavators, and other construction equipment. It is very important to understand these pieces of equipment may look neat or cool, but they are extremely dangerous. These machines have blind spots and if individuals are in an area where they do not belong, the consequences could be deadly. It is important that everyone adheres to construction signage and does not enter active work zones.

Also associated with this type of work are deep holes and excavations. These hazards will be located in our work zones and protected at all times. We ask that that no one other than construction personnel enter these work areas. These areas will be delineated and marked with orange construction fence, concrete barriers, and signage.

Lastly, as our work progresses and the MSE walls and concrete structures begin to rise up out of the ground, fall hazards will be created. Again, it is important to note that all of these hazards will be contained within our work areas. Please inform your children that these hazards can be avoided if they do not enter our work areas. The potential fall exposure could be as great as 30 feet.

In closing, Allan Myers is taking the time to explain these hazards to your children during their lunch period and how we can keep them safe and how they can keep themselves safe by staying away from our work zones. These hazards are real and the potential for severe injury is possible. Allan Myers thanks you in advance for your cooperation ensuring that we all have a safe project of which everyone can be proud.

Sincerely,

Vernon Perdue  
Sr. Project Manager