



Boston Public Schools LINC III Technology Plan Pillars for Success in the Digital Age

Today's youth do not just live in a digital age – they have grown up in one. Technology is so fundamental to their daily lives that its presence often goes unnoticed. Yet its impact is profound, changing the way they think, process and analyze information, and ultimately learn. As educators, technology's ubiquity challenges our beliefs around teaching and learning and influences the strategies needed to prepare our students to be active citizens in a global, knowledge society.

Boston Public Schools (BPS) recognizes the critical role that technology must play in the education of its students to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to succeed in the realities of today and the opportunities of tomorrow. To do this, BPS teachers require the tools and understanding to use technology as a tool for instruction, curriculum planning, and classroom management. Boston's new three-year technology plan, the Learning & Information Network for the Community (LINC) III Plan, provides a strategic blueprint to strengthen the district's technology foundation and build a new technology vision that sparks educational innovation in every school, for every teacher and student.

The LINC III Technology Plan outlines a systemic approach for moving the district forward with using technology to meet educational and operational objectives. The plan's main areas of work and key initiatives outline concrete strategies to accomplish the goals of the three pillars for success:

LINC III Pillars for Success in the Digital Age:

- **Access:** Build a sustainable infrastructure to provide robust and secure technology access for students, teachers, and staff.
- **Information:** Provide access to information and resources to support data-driven decision-making, focus on the whole child, and facilitate communication.
- **Innovation:** Foster unique opportunities to advance teaching and learning, individualize and differentiate instruction, and empower students, teachers, and staff to use technology.

Recognizing the economic realities of today, the LINC III Technology Plan enables BPS to update technology equipment in schools through Project Refresh; provide flexible access to data and information by building a data warehouse, the Data Center; implement a professional development model that integrates online learning and digital content for teachers and students; ensure that students practice safe, online habits through an Internet Safety Campaign; and enhance communication and collaboration resources to improve administrative functions and connect to families.

The BPS Office of Instructional and Information Technology (OIIT), in collaboration with BPS and City leadership, will provide the foundation, vision, leadership, and support to successfully implement the district's technology initiatives. The LINC III Plan will drive OIIT's annual budget development to ensure that resource allocations are closely tied to district priorities. The LINC III Technology Plan leverages Boston's resources to advance the district's goals of moving all students to proficiency and closing the achievement gap.

