

Technology & Security **4** Students



Technology
Helps
Muskegon
County



Teachers Teach



Students Learn



Keep Schools Safe



Improve Its Future

MAISD Technology & Security Enhancement Millage

District-Specific Annual Accountability Report

For the 2014-15 School Year—December 2015

Technology Helps Improve Our Future



Dear Citizens,
Thank you for taking the time to review this District-Specific Annual Accountability Report. This is the second formal report to the community since voters supported the millage in February 2014. Back then, when school district leaders asked the MAISD to place the Technology & Security Enhancement Millage on the ballot, schools were receiving lower per pupil funding than in the year 2007, while costs kept rising. Unfortunately, this trend of inadequate funding and rising costs continues.

Today, on behalf of the 26,000 children served by public schools within our county, I would like to personally thank you for being part of the solution. With your investment, we have begun the process of making our schools safer, improving our training and support for teachers, and strengthening our infrastructure.

Most importantly, our students are being better prepared for college and careers that rely heavily on the use of technology. Instead of powering down when our students come to school, more of them are now powering up. This will make them more competitive in our high-tech global economy.

The timing of expanded technology in schools could not be better. This past spring our students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 transitioned from the 44-year-old paper-and-pencil standardized tests, to new online tests. Thanks to the millage, our schools were better able to ensure equipment was available and students were more comfortable with its use.

As a nation, we continue to see an increased level of violent intrusions into our neighborhood schools and college campuses. I'm sure you will agree there is an urgent need to bolster security in our buildings to protect our most precious and vulnerable citizens.

Please know the MAISD is committed to supporting our neighborhood schools as they make wise investments and more fully integrate technology into their classrooms and better secure our buildings.

Please contact me at 231-767-7201 if you have any questions or comments about this report or the millage.



John Severson, Ph.D., MAISD Superintendent

Dollars Spent

As of June 30, 2015, the eleven public school districts have spent funds generated by the millage the following ways:

Technology\$2,525,611

**Professional
Development.....\$ 106,957**

Security\$ 971,825

TOTAL\$3,604,393

Technology includes technology equipment (computers and other devices used in classrooms, labs, media centers, and offices), supplies and services, network infrastructure, and other services that are necessary to maintain technology.

Professional Development includes training that specifically addresses the use of technology in the instructional process.

Security includes expenses related to improving the safety and security of students, staff, district facilities and property.

Unspent Funds

The Michigan Public School Accounting Manual requires local school districts to account for all proceeds and expenditures from this enhancement millage in a **separate fund**. Because of this, districts are able to carry unspent resources forward without any concern of funds being commingled. This allows a school district the ability to set aside resources for a larger future technology or security initiative rather than borrowing money to do so. For the 2014-15 school year, the difference between the dollars paid out to the districts and the amount spent was **\$613,440.40**.

Countywide Millage Funds Technology & Security

On February 25, 2014, voters in Muskegon County said **YES** to a one-mill property tax increase to improve technology and security within Muskegon County's neighborhood public schools. Clearly voters agreed that today's 21st Century students must have secure schools and strong technology skills in order to compete in our world-wide economy.

The MAISD Technology & Security Enhancement millage is the first of its kind in Muskegon County. Although funds flow through the MAISD, school leaders and elected school boards of education have complete control and oversight of their expenditure. Over the next ten years, this funding will pay for:

- New and upgraded personal learning devices
- Security upgrades, including added cameras and single, secure points of entry
- Expanded training and support for teachers
- Improved technical support
- Maintaining infrastructure to accommodate multiple learning devices
- Sustaining and maintaining current technology

Funding Flows to Local Districts

As of June 30, 2015, the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District has received and distributed **\$4,217,834** in tax revenues generated by the Technology & Security Enhancement Millage.

Neighborhood Public School District	State Aid Membership (Student Count)	Percentage of Total Membership	Funds Distributed as of June 30, 2015
Fruitport	2,864.14	11.08%	\$467,316.32
Holton	877.96	3.40%	\$143,248.95
Mona Shores	3,739.27	14.46%	\$610,103.52
Montague	1,515.16	5.86%	\$247,215.22
Muskegon	4,320.58	16.71%	\$704,950.72
North Muskegon	1,011.19	3.91%	\$164,986.90
Oakridge	2,010.90	7.78%	\$328,100.72
Orchard View	2,472.90	9.57%	\$403,481.16
Ravenna	1,095.40	4.24%	\$178,726.70
Reeths-Puffer	3,853.72	14.91%	\$628,777.31
Whitehall	2,089.51	8.08%	\$340,926.82
Total	25,850.73	100.00%	\$4,217,834.35*

**This amount does not include \$1,489.27 in delinquent tax revenue received after June 30, 2015. These dollars have been distributed as well.*



“The MAISD has done a fantastic job of quickly and accurately distributing the funds generated from the countywide Technology & Security Enhancement Millage. Every cent is arriving in our neighborhood schools as promised and as required by law.”

— Muskegon Public Schools Superintendent Jon Felske



Fruitport Community Schools

Empowering Individuals to Positively Impact Their World



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
 2,864.14 students \$467,316.32 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

- Districtwide security camera upgrades in every building
- Secure lobby entrance redesign/construction at Edgewood Elementary
- Secure lobby entrance redesign/construction at the middle school
- Robust wireless network infrastructure added districtwide
- Fifteen Chromebook carts (32 devices each) added districtwide at Beach Elementary (2), Edgewood Elementary (3), Shettler Elementary (3), middle school (4), high school (3)
- Five Chromebook carts (10 devices each) added to all Media Centers
- Technology Coach for the secondary buildings
- Technology software, hardware and licenses purchased districtwide

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

The Fruitport Board of Education has adopted a two-phased, three-year technology deployment plan. Phase I will result in the district being one-to-one in grades three through twelve by the 2017-18 school year. This will be a combination of Chromebook carts in the classrooms in grades three through seven, and a Chromebook for each individual student in grades eight through twelve. This phase also includes providing Chromebooks for the teaching staff.

Phase II will focus on the needs for our youngest students in Kindergarten through grade two and a district computer replacement cycle both for PC's and Chromebooks. Future plans also include providing more support, assistance, and staff development for teachers and upgrading the media carts in the district classrooms. In the area of security, secure lobby construction will occur at Beach and Shettler Elementary buildings, and, depending on other factors, at Fruitport High School. Additional needs for security camera infrastructure and devices will also be part of this process.



Technology has taken teaching and learning to an all new level at Fruitport Community Schools.



Exploring today's world is just a click away for Fruitport students.



“The use of technology in the classroom has empowered students to take ownership in their learning.”

—Teacher Jessica VanderLaan

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$301,928.55
Professional Development:	\$ 13,320.15
Security:	\$ 42,724.24
Total:	\$357,972.94



Holton Public Schools

Rooted in Community,
Reaching for Excellence.



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
877.96 students \$143,248.95 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

Holton Public Schools has purchased: 72 Chromebooks and licenses, 10 Elmo document cameras, 25 Chromebook cases, 8 iPads and covers, 20 Epson bulbs for projectors, 16 laptops, 9 mobile carts, 13 Epson projectors, 3 charging carts, 61 Chromebook covers, cables for projectors/wireless, and 13 Google Chromecast Streaming Media Players. The district also paid for website hosting, installed a wireless network at the elementary building, provided staff support, training, and professional development, while also covering fees to cover the Fiber Network for internet connectivity. In the area of security, the district purchased 18 security cameras for our buildings, 4 Air-phone intercom systems, 10 bus cameras, and anti-virus software. The district also updated building security signs and numbered all entrance locations.

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

Holton Public Schools will purchase Chromebooks to further support our one-to-one initiative at the high school; support an improved replacement cycle and update all desktop computers, software and licenses; expand iPad usage in classroom stations in our elementary, support improved access to Chromebook carts at the middle school; make upgrades and improvements to our security system, servers, and cameras; complete the purchase of cameras for the entire bus fleet; add a new computer lab to the elementary school, purchase filtering software and provide professional development. The district is also exploring more ways to enhance security.



Google Chromebooks were provided to students at Holton's secondary building as a part of the district's one-to-one computing initiative.



“Through the use of proceeds from the Technology & Security millage we are able to transform the learning environment for our students. In addition, the use of technology has further enhanced the ability of our district to offer an advanced comprehensive dual enrollment program to our students.”

—Superintendent Jason Kennedy



Technical devices provide creative and innovative ways for students and teachers to collaborate and incorporate 21st century skills into the classroom.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$ 108,358.61
Professional Development:	\$ 2,415.51
Security:	\$ 32,476.56
Total:	\$143,250.68



Mona Shores Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence, Building Character,
and Impacting the Future Through
Academics, Arts, & Athletics



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
3,739.27 students \$610,103.52 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

Learning Space Technology: Presentation system - Churchill Elementary gym (PTO assisted); high school auditorium upgrades and high school cafeteria audio/technology upgrades; new Judith Wilcox Professional Learning Center presentation system

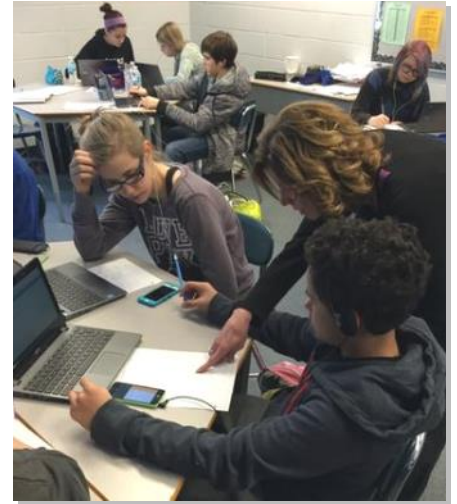
Infrastructure & Support: MAISD server/SAN/firewall hosting and support (annual costs); 55 support/clerical staff computer upgrades

Safety & Security: Video phone entrance systems and lock down buttons; security video system upgrade (280 cameras and outdoor units)

Classroom/Student Technology: Classroom Smart Cart computer upgrades (215 Chromebooks); elementary (K level) tablets pilot; elementary chromebook carts pilot; 15 added secondary level Chromebook carts for one-to-one pilots; Chromebook cart to replace Campbell lab; Chromebooks for all elementary and other district staff

Curriculum Content/Systems: GoGuardian (Chromebook management)

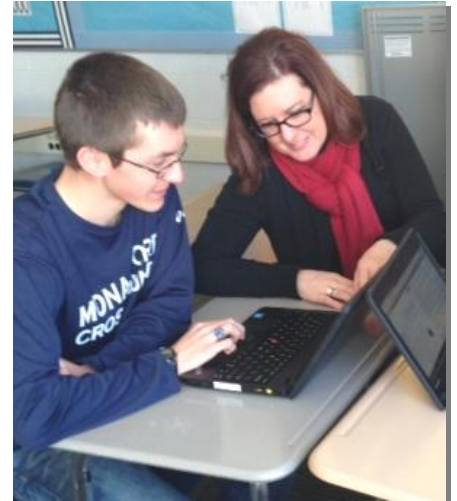
Professional Development: Teacher training and conferences



Collaboration has endless possibilities for students with Chromebooks.

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

During the 2015-16 school year Mona Shores will implement one-to-one at the high school (1,350 Chromebooks) and middle school (1,085 Chromebooks); 500 Chromebooks K-3 and one-to-one in grades 4-5; upgrade all district building core and edge network switches to support 10GB; purchase classroom projectors for fleet maintenance; add doors with access controls; continue upgrading building video surveillance cameras; and provide quality professional development opportunities for staff. Mona Shores' Strategic Plan will guide future enhancements and upgrades.



Blended learning in action at Mona Shores High School.



"The impact this millage has had at the classroom level for each student is incredible! We are becoming leaders in blended learning and will be for years to come!"

—Director of Curriculum,
Instruction & Assessment Bill O'Brien

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$396,428.16
Professional Development:	\$ 9,021.13
Security:	\$176,589.47
Total:	\$622,038.76



MONTAGUE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EDUCATION IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION



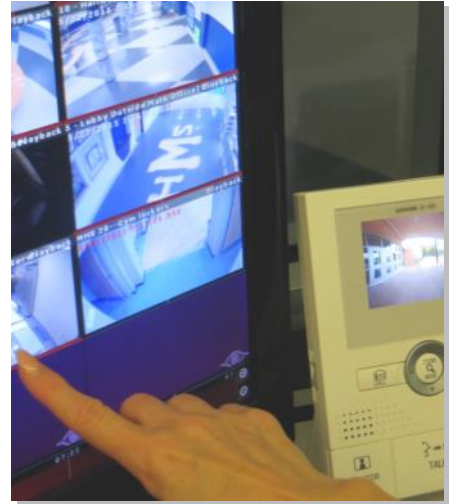
2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
 1515.16 students \$247,215.22 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

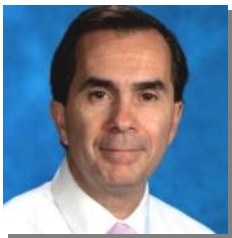
- Districtwide wireless infrastructure upgrade
- Chromebook carts at the elementary, middle, and high school
- Expanded and updated districtwide video surveillance system
- Updated building access system including access badges
- Improved parent notification system (SchoolMessenger)
- Support for important technology services, software and licensing
- Support for many hardware and software repairs and upgrades districtwide

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

- More Chromebook carts for the elementary, middle and high schools
- Chromebooks for classroom stations in grades 3-5
- Tablets for classroom stations in grades K-2
- Improved building entry security at Montague Area Childhood Center
- Graphing calculators for math classes at Montague High School
- Increased technical support
- Support for important technology services, software and licensing
- Support for many hardware and software repairs and upgrades districtwide



Surveillance cameras monitor activity throughout the building. Visitors are allowed access only after visual (and audio, if needed) contact is made.



"The integration of Chromebooks has transformed my ability to assess, modify and enrich the learning experience for my students. Now students can consistently collaborate in all aspects of the learning process, producing a more meaningful experience."

—Teacher Golman Eslick



Students in all MAPS buildings use Chromebooks for learning. An improved wireless network is fast, reliable and supports an increasing number of devices.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$141,428.14
Professional Development:	\$ 0.00
Security:	\$105,143.91
Total:	\$246,572.05



Muskegon Public Schools

The Best for Every Child, Every Day



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
4,320.58 students \$704,950.72 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

Classroom and Learning Space Technology: Classroom learning devices and Chromebook carts; support and replace select classroom technology equipment purchased with 2009 bond

Infrastructure & Support: Initiate the data core, switches and wireless infrastructure upgrade; project to support additional demand and growth; bulk of the project will be completed in year two; finish remaining 2009 bond project initiative, reroute data center and fiber connections to all buildings; technology support services

Safety & Security: Video and key card entrance systems for MHS, Nelson and Glenside; initiate security camera project upgrade, replace/add 15 security cameras; bulk of the project to be completed in year two; Initiate project for securing entrances in all buildings, including video and key card entrance systems

Curriculum Content/Systems: GoGuardian - Chromebook Management; LANSchool - Windows Lab management software

Professional Development: Teacher training and conferences



Students at Muskegon Middle School enjoy online learning accessed through Chromebooks that boot up in seconds.

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

Plans include but are not limited to securing entrances in remaining buildings, including video and card entrance systems; continuing to upgrade building security cameras; finishing the data core and switches upgrade in all buildings to support 10GB; covering annual costs of technology support (software subscriptions, projector bulbs, etc.); purchase classroom projectors; and providing training for staff. In the future, the district will enhance safety and security systems, upgrade technology and increase access to technology for all students.



Students were better prepared for online state standardized testing thanks to added Chromebooks inside district classrooms. When not in use, the Chromebooks are stored and charged in portable carts.



"Today students do not learn in the same manner in which we were taught. The millage has allowed us to engage students through the new lens of the twenty-first century making them career and trade ready."

—Principal Jennifer Halverson

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$356,754.00
Professional Development:	\$ 3,034.00
Security:	\$ 90,788.00
Total:	\$450,576.00

www.mpsk12.org



North Muskegon Schools

An Educational Community that gives our BEST and expects the BEST!



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
 1,011.19 students \$164,986.90 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

- Purchased technology-based equipment for staff
- Robotic class software/hardware
- Technology licenses, software and hardware upgrades
- Fiber additions to fieldhouse and buildings
- Door card access upgrades/additions
- Security camera upgrades
- Gymnasium audio/technology upgrades
- Classroom/hallway centralized clock system
- Technology equipment support (repairs and hardware purchases)
- Centralized computer management software
- Replacement projectors and bulbs

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

This year's project list includes, but is not limited to: finishing installation of cameras and DVR recording systems throughout the district, adding new building card access system for staff, Chromebooks for high school students, additional software licenses for student assessments and support, and instructional technology training for staff, students and the community. Over the next few years, North Muskegon will improve and expand our one-to-one computer accessibility options and continue technology training. This includes expanding our wireless infrastructure and replacing currently aged Netbooks. We also plan to continue to replace classroom audio/visual equipment and network infrastructure; improve systems for student assessments, data collection and analysis and for better support in technology repair and professional development.

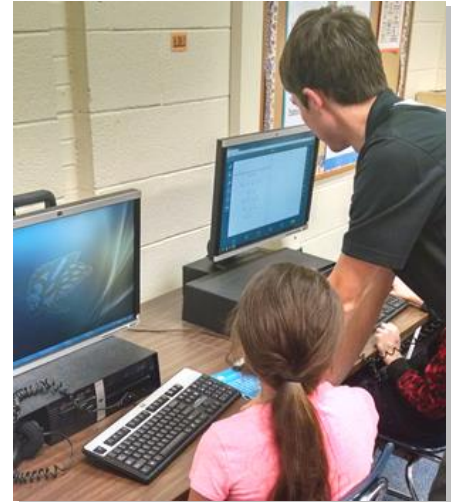


"We thank the greater Muskegon County community for supporting this millage! It has allowed us to stay out in front as it relates to integrating the use of technology into our learning environment while upgrading and expanding the safety and security of our school."

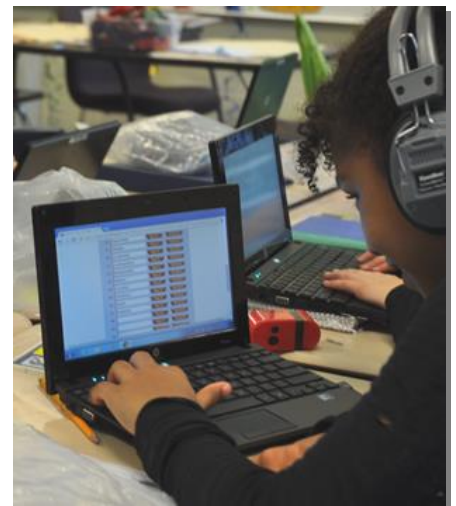
—Superintendent Curt Babcock, Ph.D.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$108,887.30
Professional Development:	\$ 0.00
<u>Security:</u>	<u>\$ 38,095.24</u>
Total:	\$146,982.54



A teacher assists students using online math tools to learn fractions.



These students are using laptops to take spelling quizzes and type fiction stories.



OAKRIDGE

Every student, safe and healthy,
college and workplace prepared



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
2,010.90 students \$328,100.72 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

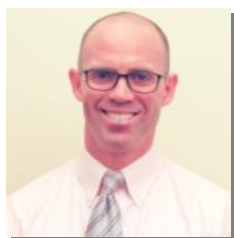
- Installed single secure point of entry at high school main entrance
- Expanded video security system
- Expanded key card door access systems
- Upgraded middle and high school band & choir room technology
- Provided training for teachers to facilitate digital learning environments with increased access to digital devices in classrooms
- Provided a Chromebook to every professional staff member
- Provided 240 additional Chromebooks for students
- Replaced antiquated telephone system with digital phone system
- Upgraded presentation system technology in classrooms and training spaces including bringing installations up to electrical code
- Sent a Digital Learning Task Force to visit other school districts that are leaders in digital learning to help inform future investment of millage funds related to technology
- Improved district branding and digital communication with redesigned website and mobile communication strategies



Families enjoy digital learning together at parent night.

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

Oakridge will continue to make strong steps forward in technology and security by completing additional initiatives in alignment with the Eagle Strategic Plan.



“Our students' future workplaces will be filled with technological innovation. These investments will greatly assist Oakridge in preparing them to take advantage of these innovations while learning in a safe and secure environment.”

—Superintendent Tom Livezey



Families enjoy digital learning together at parent night.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$192,275.00
Professional Development:	\$ 21,821.00
Security:	\$ 65,299.00
Total:	\$279,395.00



Orchard View Schools

Discover • Learn • Succeed



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
 2,472.90 students \$403,481.16 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

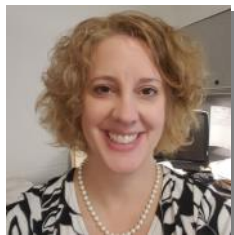
- Districtwide wireless infrastructure
- Upgraded or replaced outdated and failing desktop and laptop computer stations were (most hardware was 8+ years old)
- Cardinal desktop labs (60 units), desktop teaching stations (150 units), laptop mobile computers (60 units), middle school Lego laptops (30 units), Response to Intervention laptop lab (30 units), high school Chromebooks mobile labs (60 units)
- Mobile plug in stations for all mobile labs
- Robotic class software
- Technology licenses, software and hardware upgrades
- Technology technician services through staffing service
- Fulltime School Resource Officer
- New exit door emergency number system installed
- New key card access for designated exterior doors
- Security indoor and outdoor lighting and security camera upgrades



This student works on a Chromebook in a one-to-one classroom.

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

This year’s project list includes, but is not limited to, increased access to technology for students; the replacement of audio visual equipment, cameras and DVR recording systems throughout the district; enhanced ‘single point of entry’ and radio communications; expanding the middle school robotics program; researching one-to-one computer accessibility options and instructional technology training for staff, students and the community. Over the next few years, Orchard View will improve building security systems; provide greater technology access for all students through an enhanced wireless infrastructure; replace aging technology as needed; improve systems for student assessment, data collection and analysis; and better support technology repair.



“We thank our community for this millage which has allowed updated security and enhanced technology to help our students learn and succeed.”

—Technology Director/Technology Coach
 Heather Lorenz-Babcock



Students test their work in the Robotics lab.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$295,984.00
Professional Development:	\$0.00
Security:	\$ 63,253.00
Total:	\$359,237.00



Ravenna Public Schools

Planted in Promise, Growing in Pride



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
 1,095.40 students \$178,726.70 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

- Expanded building video security systems
- Piloted video surveillance for buses
- Installed single entry security access system at the High School
- Upgraded 6th grade students from notebooks to laptops
- Provided students in grades 6-12 with laptops
- Provided students in grades K-5 with iPads
- Maintained our one-to-one *One Step Ahead* district initiative
- Upgrades to instructional software
- Upgraded current infrastructure issues
- Provided professional development for teachers to enhance blended learning, digital curriculum delivery, integrating technology in the classroom.



Jose and Kyler (L to R) benefit from the one-to-one style of learning at Ravenna Middle School.

Future Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

Plans for the 2015-16 school year include video surveillance for all district buses, additional building remodeling for enhanced security, increased availability for districtwide radio communications, upgrades to staff laptops, and the continuation of our district one-to-one initiative.



"Ravenna Public School students continue to be educated in a safe and secure environment because of the millage. The technology upgrades allow for all students to remain connected, allow for creativity and gain marketable tech skills for the future. Thank you community for keeping our students One Step Ahead!"

—Superintendent John VanLoon



Alexis enjoys the powered-up way of life at Ravenna.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$178,726.70
Professional Development:	\$ 0.00
Security:	\$ 0.00
Total:	\$178,726.70



Reeths-Puffer Schools

A Great Place to Learn, Contribute
and Compete



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
3,853.72 students \$628,777.31 received as of 6/30/15

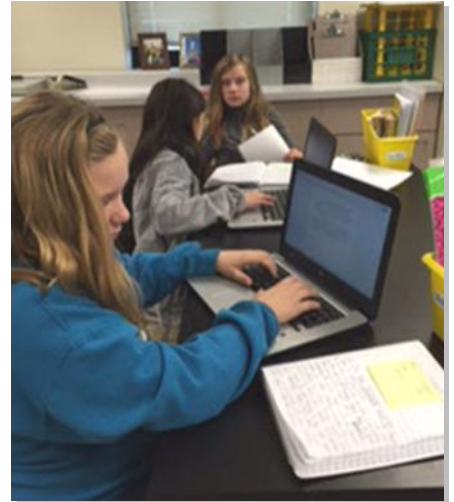
First Year Success in 2014-15

- New security entrance at R-P High School
- "The Boot" locking system was installed in all classrooms
- Security panels installed on exterior doors
- Updated visual alert and keyless entry systems, AED updates
- Security/attendance and police liaison positions at R-P High School
- Network upgrade to Microsoft Active Directory
- Library Media Center conversion to common Follett/Destiny system
- Discovery Online Streaming licenses purchased for all classrooms
- Calculator software and hand-held devices for high school math
- Support and upgrades for classroom technology hardware

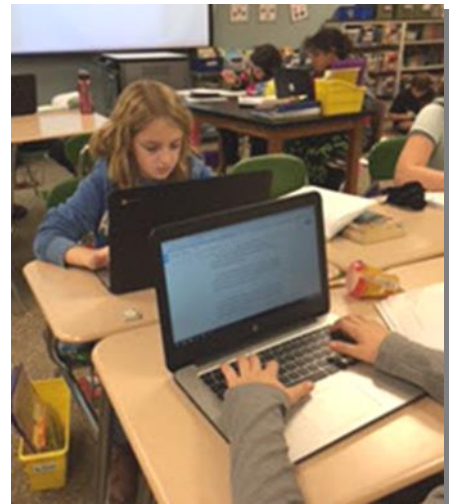
Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

Reeths-Puffer's current and future emphasis is on instructional technology and student devices and will include the following:

- Replace classroom computers used to deliver instructional content
- New computer lab equipment (30 computers) at each elementary and R-P Intermediate
- Network upgrades to accommodate more student devices
- Districtwide expansion and upgrades to security camera system
- Added technology accessories and software to enhance learning
- Outfit new classrooms with multimedia equipment
- Continued support for security staffing
- Purchase more student devices
- Offer "teacher technology proposal" process to award team projects to add technology into the classroom, tap into online instructional resources, and offer e-book checkouts for our students
- Continue to offer professional learning for use of new devices



R-P students now have access to more online instructional resources (i.e., online text) and devices (i.e., science probes, real time math graphing devices, etc.).



Students are actively engaged in collaborative learning and using technology to make learning come alive!



"I would like to thank the community members for supporting the safety and technology millage that is having a direct positive impact on our students at every level."

—Director of Teaching and Learning
Terri Portice

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$152,640.00
Professional Development:	\$ 0.00
Security:	\$346,339.00
Total:	\$498,979.00



Whitehall District Schools

**Our Mission is Achievement
for Each Learner**



2014-15 TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY MILLAGE FUNDING
2,089.51 students \$340,926.82 received as of 6/30/15

First Year Success in 2014-15

- Education Technology Specialists provided support and helped integrate technology into teaching
- Computers were provided to grades five and eight as part of the one-to-one initiative
- A room was remodeled for the Robotics program
- Teachers attended a conference on integrating technology into their classrooms
- Cameras were added to buses to increase security

Plans for 2015-16 & Beyond

- In 2015-16 the one-to-one initiative will expand to grades 4-9. The one-to-one initiative is planned to continue with those grades on a three-year replacement cycle
- Education Technology Specialists will continue to provide support for integrating technology into the classroom
- Other classroom technology and security-enhancing purchases will be made

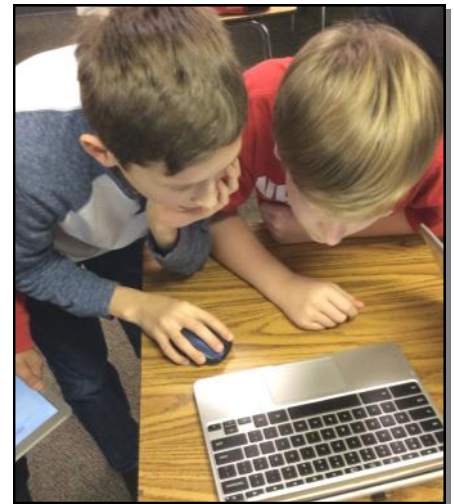


Students discover information using one-to-one devices.



“It’s amazing to come to Whitehall and see the progress of integrating technology into teaching. It’s truly exciting to see students and teachers continue to discover, learn, and succeed!”

—Education Technology Specialist Nick Smith



Technology is integrated into teaching and students help each other.

2014-15 Dollars Spent

Technology:	\$292,200.64
Professional Development:	\$ 17,345.68
Security:	\$ 11,116.96
Total:	\$320,663.28



While each school's needs are different, many are adding cost-effective Chromebooks to local classrooms.

What a Teacher Has to Say About the Millage



"Because of the technology millage, our students are more able to readily engage with inter-

active resources, take advantage of technology supports for learning, and utilize technology to enhance and demonstrate their understanding of content materials in ways that were not previously available to them. While technology is a tool among many we employ, technology is the tool which connects students to twenty-first century resources and experiences."

*—Reeths-Puffer Teacher
Joan Vincent*

Technology Helps Students Learn




The Technology & Security Enhancement Millage has made it possible for districts to begin to purchase the needed technology to improve teaching and learning. In tandem with the purchase of technology, districts have committed resources to support students and staff learning to use the new technology. This training is critical to the effective use of technology to improve learning.



For example, school district media specialists, tech integration specialists, and teachers are working in classrooms during prep hours and after school to support teachers and model integrating technology into daily lessons. In addition, school districts are continually adding to online collections of learning resources including step-by-step guides, online tutorials, and links to integration projects. Teachers are using these rich resources to improve learning in the classroom.



School districts and the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District are also providing before school, after school, and online technology integration workshops and supporting teachers as they attend multi-day tech academies and tech conferences in the summer. School districts in Muskegon County have also adopted the suite of Google tools as their educational standard to make it easier to share online resources and provide more cost-effective training.

 <http://www.viddler.com/v/baabc1af>



Of course integrating technology into daily lessons requires thousands of students and teachers to quickly and simultaneously access the Internet. Schools must have a robust wireless infrastructure and technical support to provide online access to collaborative tools and rich online resources including virtual textbooks, instructional video clips, and virtual models. The enhancement millage dollars are making it possible for these critical needs to be met as well.

Technology Helps Keep Students Safe



Our districts have taken a wide variety of approaches to keeping students safe. All have worked closely with law enforcement and have been able to implement many of their suggestions with millage funding.

For example, many have reconfigured building entries so visitors have to “buzz-in” and/or pass through the main office to access student-occupied areas. Schools have upgraded and added security cameras to buses and buildings, installed key card access for exterior doors, fitted exterior windows with impact-resistant film, and trained staff in crisis response strategies.

School districts have taken unique approaches to protect students and staff as well. For example, one school district has installed “door boots” to prevent intruders from breaking through interior classroom doors. Another has equipped on-duty police officers with building guides, maps, and master keys for each building.

Students learn best in safe and secure environments.



“We could not have made these security improvements without the support of our taxpayers. The community has played a huge role in making our schools safer. We cannot thank you enough.”

—Holton Public Schools
Superintendent Jason Kennedy

 <http://www.viddler.com/v/4b1303a5>

MAISD



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What Law Enforcement Has to Say about the Millage

“As a result of the support of our community, our area school districts have been able to create a safer learning environment for our youth. With the addition of monitored video intercom systems, districts are able to create a single point of entry which helps with screening of persons entering a building.”

—Captain Michael Poulin
Muskegon County Sheriff’s Office

“I have observed major changes in many Muskegon County school districts in the past few years in regards to security. School administrators have worked closely with local law enforcement to ensure the safety of our children.”

—Chief Jon Gale
Norton Shores Police Department

“The security of our school buildings during the school day and also during sporting events is constantly on our minds. This millage provides the funding schools need to make their facilities safer. In addition to providing a School Resource Officer, we regularly conduct site security assessments and make recommendations for improvements to lighting, fencing, door security, and other items.”

—Chief Jeffrey Lewis
City of Muskegon Director of Public Safety

It is very comforting to me, to know that our community and school districts have made the safety of our children their top priority. The additional layers of security, both procedurally and physically, have allowed our educators to stay focused on the task of educating our children. I have been in many of our school districts and the dedication and effort of the staff is very impressive.

—Chief Ken Sanford
Muskegon Township Police Department

 <http://www.viddler.com/v/a5c7a444>