

Fairfax County Public Schools

Fairfax County, VA, United States



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– David Koritko, High School Technology Chairman

Top technology for top 20 district

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in Virginia is one of the largest school districts in the United States. With a student population of 166,000 students, this district operates very much like a business, and their practices have received accolades from the corporate world. Their strategic approach to education includes detailed compliance to the No Child Left Behind Act, media relations expertise, targeted pursuit of grant and award opportunities, business and community partnerships and a thriving teacher research community.

As one would expect of a district of this size, FCPS has a comprehensive multiyear plan for effective technology use. The plan includes FCPS's award-winning Education Decision Support Library (EDSL) data warehouse system, course authoring and testing tools, classroom integration practices, curriculum-specific online content initiatives and the goal of full staff compliance with state technology competency standards. (For details, see the 2005 technology plan link on the next page.)

One of FCPS's more recent technology projects is a district-wide implementation of SMART Board™ interactive whiteboards. This implementation is made possible through the district's K12Nects (Networking Education-Community-Teachers-Students) partnership with the Fairfax County Public

Schools Education Foundation and corporate sponsorship by Verizon.

The district's interactive whiteboard strategy is laid out on page 28 of their technology plan: "Interactive whiteboards allow teachers to illustrate curriculum information visually, reinforce English vocabulary, and provide students with a variety of visual media . . . The interactive whiteboard allows FCPS teachers and students to access and display websites, run educational software, run live video from a camera, record, capture, highlight and review notes from a classroom discussion, deliver PowerPoint® presentations and more."

David Koritko, high school technology chairman and former assistant director of K12Nects program, has been working with SMART Board interactive whiteboards for over three years and offers additional feedback about the effectiveness of the technology: "The SMART Board interactive whiteboard is revolutionary because of its interactivity, flexibility and ease of use. I've seen a significant increase in teacher productivity and student performance across all grade levels with the implementation of the SMART Board interactive whiteboard within the K-12 learning environment. This technology tool is one of the most reliable

Challenge

Effectively integrate education technology in the curriculum

SMART Solution

District-wide implementation of SMART board™ interactive whiteboard

Result

Significant increase in teacher productivity and student performance

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ways for schools to change the way students interact and learn with the least amount of capital investment. Teachers will appreciate the selection of user templates and other great features that can only enhance their existing instructional methodologies. This is the technology tool for teachers and classes of the 21st century.”

For More Information

2005 Technology Plan www.fcps.edu/DIT/techplan/fy05techplan.pdf



About SMART

SMART Technologies Inc. is both the industry pioneer and global education market leader in easy-to-use interactive whiteboards and other group collaboration tools. The award-winning SMART Board interactive whiteboard is the most widely installed interactive whiteboard in the world. Many school jurisdictions have standardized on the product, which is used to provide interactive learning opportunities and enhance student achievement in more than 250,000 classrooms spanning every U.S. state, every Local Authority in the UK and more than 75 countries. SMART products also include interactive pen displays, interactive digital signage, wireless slates and software. Using SMART products, groups can access and share the information they need to meet, teach, train and present. SMART's education customers include New York City Board of Education (U.S.), Oxford University (UK), Kobe City Board of Education (Japan), Barnier Public School (Australia), University of Ottawa (Canada), United World College (Singapore), Stephen-Hawking-Schule Neckargemuend (Germany), Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (U.S.) and Harvard University (U.S.).

SMART is a private company founded in 1987. Employing more than 800 people, SMART is headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, with assembly facilities in Ottawa, and offices in Bonn, Tokyo, New York City and Washington DC. SMART has been issued and maintains a broad portfolio of patents with numerous other U.S., Canadian and foreign patents pending. In 1992 SMART formed a strategic alliance with Intel® Corporation that resulted in joint product development and marketing efforts, and Intel's equity ownership in the company. SMART products are sold through dealers across North America and distributors worldwide.



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