

Executive Summary

Recommendations for the current technology plan (Prioritized with most important at the top)

- Problem:** The phone system located at ARGS is outdated and should be replaced. This system has also been discontinued and no support is available to repair this system. Further note that no new parts are available ; only refurbished.

Solution: The phone system at ARGS should be replaced with a newer style VOIP phone system to support the increased demand on the voicemail and phone system.

Actions: ARGS I.T. and our local in house grant writer have been working together to obtain the needed funds to resolve this concern.
(Under \$50,000 – Cost of voicemail system replacement included)
- Problem:** ARGS Teachers and ARGS I.T. have identified that lab sizes are undersized for the current size of the classes. Most class sizes are coming are 20-25 students with some as large as 27. ARGS labs were sized for 1999 school opening and have not grown in size to match the growth of the school. Current lab size is 18-19 computers.

Solution #1: Part of the original plan of the school was to dedicate the Focus Area Foyers as labs (Social Science, World Language, Literary Arts). These foyers have enough space for about 30 computers if done properly.

Solution #2: Current labs would need to be refurbished to take advantage of the smaller footprint of the current computers. This should provide expansion room up to approximately 25-30 for most labs. Some labs do not have room for expansion.

Solution #3: Additional rooms need to be dedicated computer labs with at least 30 computers in each.

Action: 1. **No Action has been taken at this time.** Most teachers have worked around this issue in the past.
(\$100,000 - \$200,000)
- Problem:** Servers are not on rotation and become dated without money designated for their replacement. Establish a long-term, fully funded technology replacement program to revitalize aging and increasingly obsolete instructional and administrative technology infrastructure. The replacement cycle should be, at minimum, every five years, with a 3-year cycle preferable in order to take advantage of potential warranty and buy-back cost savings. Special attention should be given to those specific applications, mostly in Technical Education programs (e.g., AutoCAD, Adobe PhotoShop, etc.) that require operating system (OS) updates at a faster rate than the proposed equipment replacement cycle would allow. In higher-end use is for video-editing and graphics for rendering and 3-D programs in the Arts programs requiring special equipment, software, and monitoring.

Solution: Additional funding should be used to keep technology current.

Actions: New Servers were purchased in 2010 to replace the 6-7 year old servers that were in place.
(\$20,000)
- Problem:** No ITRT available at ARGS

Solution: An ITRT should be hired to satisfy the state requirement.
(Staffing - Recurring cost)
- Problem:** Infrastructure wiring has been deemed poor at best in at least two locations in the building. The areas of the building that have been identified as unacceptable are the following: First Floor Technology Foyer, First Floor Center, First Floor East, First Floor Annex, Second Floor West, Second Floor Center, Second Floor East, Basement East, Basement Center, and Sub-basement.

Solution: These areas should be rewired, tested, certified, and labeled to correct the issue. Any additional IDFs should be added as needed.

Actions: ARGS I.T. has already set in motion a plan to replace wiring in these areas and already has a contact that is willing to perform this work for an education price and work within our budgets.
(\$50,000)

6. **Problem:** Voicemail system is currently at capacity.
Solution: This system should be replaced when Problem number two is resolved to save time and money.
Actions: ARGS I.T. and our local in house grant writer has been working together to obtain the needed funds to resolve this problem.
(Should be combined with Phone System replacement cost.)
7. **Problem:** Several ARGS Departments have identified the need for the Adobe Creative Suite.
Solution: ARGS has been in process of acquiring a site license to deploy the Adobe Creative Suite in all locations in the building.
Actions:
 1. ARGS I.T. has deployed a free software solution that provides a vast majority of the features seen in the Adobe specific application.
 2. ARGS I.T. has deployed the older Adobe Creative Suite products owned by ARGS. A limited number of licenses exist for this product.
 3. ARGS I.T. and our local in house grant writer have been working together to obtain the needed funds to resolve this problem.
(\$25,000 – \$30,000)
8. **Problem:** ARGS Teachers have identified the collaboration system “Sharepoint” by Microsoft is not ready for teachers and is geared more towards a business. The current solution does not support online test taking.
Solution: ARGS Teachers would like to see this system replaced with another system that is geared towards education and would support all the features that the teachers need to host a paperless classroom.
Actions:
 1. ARGS I.T. has met with the local blackboard sales team to identify the costs involved in switching to blackboard.
 2. ARGS I.T. and our local in house grant writer have been working together to obtain the needed funds to resolve this problem.
 3. Google Sites has been deployed to satisfy most of this concern and the I.T. Department is in the process of evaluating a free blackboard type system.
(\$15,000 - \$20,000)
9. **Problem:** ARGS has no off-site storage to protect it’s data from a natural disaster.
Solution: ARGS will need to initiate a contract with a data center on the west coast to off-load all of its data. ARGS will need approx. 1-2TB of data storage and a secure channel to transmit the data.
Actions:
 1. ARGS I.T. is in the process of negotiating a contract for the 2010-2011 school year to off-load it’s data to a west coast data facility.
 2. ARGS I.T. has partnered with a school system located at least 1 hour away to backup data off-site
(\$1,500 - \$5,000 yearly based on the amount of data transferred)
10. **Problem:** ARGS does not have an on-site fire-proof/water-proof secure data storage.
Solution: ARGS I.T. should acquire the needed secure storage container and additional data storage needed and implement a plan to secure this data on a weekly rotation. ARGS should also purchase a water resistant/Air Conditioned server rack as a dry type fire suppression system does not exist in the server room.
Actions:
 1. ARGS I.T. is in the process of acquiring the additional data storage and secure storage container.
 2. ARGS I.T. has already setup a plan to implement a weekly data rotation but has not set the plan into motion.
(\$7,000 - \$10,000)

Executive Summary Notes

Total Cost to implement this plan:

\$268,500 - \$385,000 (includes reoccurring costs but not additional staff)

Funding:

Funding will come from grants, partnerships, donations, and the technology budget.

Definitions:

VOIP – Voice Over IP, transmission technology for extending voice communication over the data network, typically resulting in lower cost per line.