

# School Board Update on Technology

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*In this update*

## Highlights from the Last Three Months (August 2021-November 2021)

### Planning for the Coming Months and Years

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## Highlights from the Last Three Months (August 2021-November 2021)

### 1. Communication

#### a. Monthly technology messages for staff and families

Instituted a monthly update for both [staff](#) (mtbluersd.org Google account required for access) and [families](#) to keep both groups in the loop on technology-related issues, solutions, and support.

### 2. Digital Devices

#### a. K-5 iPads

Deployed 1000+ student iPads for use in the first week of school.

Year 2 of 3 expected deployment.

#### b. 6-12 MacBook Air laptops

Deployed 1300+ **new!** student laptops for use in the first week of school.

Year 1 of 3 expected deployment.

#### c. Hotspots

Deployed hotspots to all school libraries, steadily increasing availability as needed.

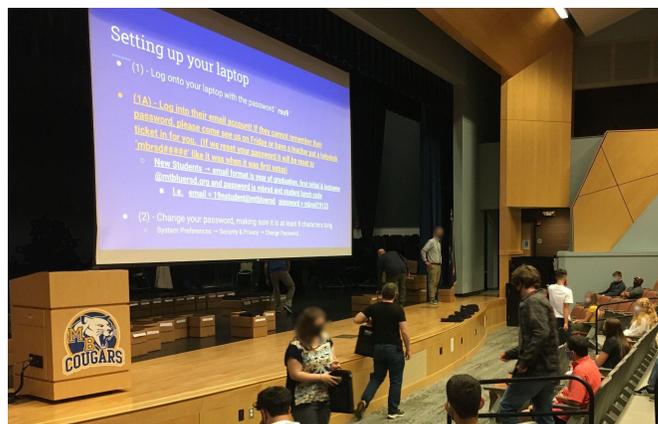
#### d. Retired equipment

1100+ retired student laptops were sold and picked up by a reseller. We hope to use proceeds received from this sale to create a technology reserve fund.

### 3. Technology Professional Development (PD) and Training

#### a. Calendar

Work began in August with a group of teachers, administrators, and technology coaches to develop a calendar of instructional technology-related sessions.



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The result is the [Learning and Tech PD](#) calendar (mtbluersd.org Google account required for access).

**b. YouTube channel development**

Created YouTube Channel to host technology-related PD and training videos.

**4. Technology Department Staff**

**a. Meet the team!**

Kevin Bremner - Jamf Administrator and District Technician

Naomi Doughty - District Database Specialist

Mark Gibson - Jamf Administrator and District Technician

Hope Gould - Technology Services Specialist

Jonathan Richard - Server and Systems Administrator and District Technician

Sean Tennent - Network Administrator and District Technician

Martha Thibodeau - District Technology Training Coordinator



## Planning for the Coming Months and Years

**1. Communication**

**a. Time-sensitive staff updates**

Create an avenue for technology-related operational issues.

**2. Infrastructure upgrades**

**a. Firewall, data closet/rack, and other systems**

Leverage ESSER and E-Rate funding.

**3. Challenges/concerns**

**a. Space**

Explore options for office, storage, and work locations for the Technology Team. This has been a concern for many years and the need for a place to work at each building has intensified with the increase in the number of devices added to our district. Additionally, a central space for the technology team would increase efficiency and facilitate communication.

**b. Staffing**

Begin planning and budgeting process for additional help. The need for more assistance with tier-one support and other needs has become clear with the increase in deployment, usage, and dependence on digital equipment and tools.