

Bremen City Schools Board of Education Board Technology Plan

Overview

It is the belief of the Bremen City Schools Board of Education that the effective use of technology at the governance level will improve the flow and use of information in the decision-making process. The governing team views technology as an important tool for accessing, interpreting and communicating the mounds of information and data needed to make better and more informed decisions. It is the intent of the Bremen City Schools Board of Education to use technology as a tool to better focus on student achievement, local education policy, fiscal matters and a host of other complex issues and items that are vital to a district's success.

Goal

The use of technology at the board level can have a substantial and lasting impact on improving the governance structure of the school district.

Current Practices in Place (Ongoing)

- Detailed FY12 Budget Posted Online at:
<http://www.bremencs.com/BremenCitySchoolSystemFY12BudgetFinal.pdf>
- Board Members Utilize Online Agendas and Internet Accessibility for Board Meetings
- A Projector and Screen is Accessible during Board Meetings for Display of Agenda and Presentations
- All Board Members Utilize Email as a Means of Communication with the Superintendent
- Two Days in Advance of Work Sessions, Board Members Access a Look Ahead Document through Email from the Superintendent to Prepare for Discussion
- All Board Members Utilize Texting as a Means of Communication with the Superintendent
- Board Members Review Improvement Survey Data, Obtained Electronically, to Inform Goals and the Strategic Plan for the School System

Short Term Goals

1. Improve the decision-making process of the local district's leadership team by making information and data more available, thus infusing data into the decision-making process.
2. Increase the focus at board meetings on the district's goals.
3. Increase accountability with the community.
4. Demonstrate effective use of technology at the leadership level and model life-long learning.
5. Increase the Board's use of accessible tools in making governance decisions.
6. Improve communications between the Board, the Superintendent, teachers, staff and the community.
7. Improve administrative efficiency in preparation and distribution of information to the board and from the board.

Long Term Goals

1. Improve student achievement through the increased use of data.
2. Improve Board decision making through the increased use of technology and data.
3. Increase communications and opportunities for input from community, community leaders and staff.

Implementation

Step One - Create the infrastructure to foster productive and effective use of technology at the governance level.

- Leadership team commits to work towards integration of technology at the board level.
- Review district goals and processes for continuous improvement, review leadership team roles and responsibilities, and explore possibilities and implications of integrating and utilizing technology at governance level.

Step Two – Integrate online tools and electronic communications into board operations.

- Provide board members and staff access to GSBA eLaw, an online school law reference manual for board members and administrators.
- Publish board meeting agenda packets, utilizing GSBA's eBoard service, online for access by board members, students, faculty and community.
- Utilize vast amount of resources available on the web to research pertinent data that could impact the decision-making process, i.e. district report cards, community demographic data, national issues, etc.

Timeline

It is the intent of the Bremen City Schools Board of Education to achieve full implementation of this board technology plan no later than June 2012.