

Technology

We believe that there is no substitute for a passionate and gifted educator and we believe that technology, in the hands of a talented educator and a curious student, can serve as a tool to make learning more powerful and engaging. We believe that MPCSD teachers are more effective and students are better prepared when everyone has universal access to digital tools that are effectively managed. We believe that technology is most impactful when teachers are provided ongoing differentiated training and given permission to experiment. We believe that technology will continue to provide new and innovative tools to make learning more personalized and compelling and that MPCSD should continue to invest in educational technology addressing the innate challenges and embracing the potential benefits. Additionally, we believe the benefits of technology should never supercede the value of learning and interpersonal interaction that does not involve a screen.

Strategic Directions 2016-2022

In the domain of *Technology*, the Menlo Park City School District will use its time, energy, and resources to...

1. Create a culture of innovation around technology that encourages teachers to seek, try, evaluate, and select the best tools which present the most promise at the most reasonable cost with a desire to scale tools district-wide that serve the purpose of student engagement, personalization, and learning.
2. Allow MPCSD's Universal Technology Tools¹ to evolve into an organic, focused, robust, and supported educator-approved toolbelt ensuring that our educators, students, and parents are not overwhelmed with too many digital initiatives and are able to focus on our teaching and learning priorities.
3. Develop universal understanding and implementation of the SAMR² Model across the district as the framework for technology integration, instructional planning, and evaluation.
4. Continue to develop high value, vertically aligned digital citizenship tools and curriculum similar to the *Digital Driver's License* created at Hillview Middle School as well as partnering with outside organizations to provide the most current and effective tools, training, and mindsets for students, parents, and staff for remaining safe and responsible online and using digital tools effectively.
5. Ensure MPCSD students and educators have universal access to up-to-date and relevant hardware and software as well as a seamless wireless network that supports the growing demands of EdTech devices and content.
6. Provide effective, differentiated, timely, and ongoing professional development to MPCSD educators as they continue to ensure that technology serves teaching and learning and allows us to remain focused.
7. Catalyze the work of the District's Technology Committee and continue to seek meaningful partnerships with technology companies and thought-leaders around EdTech who share our purpose and vision.

¹ Universal Technology Tools is a term used by MPCSD staff to describe those digital tools that are used ubiquitously throughout a site or district around which training and support are provided regularly.

² SAMR is an acronym that describes a model designed to help educators infuse technology into teaching and learning. It was popularized by Dr. Ruben Puentedura and supports and enables teachers to design, develop and infuse digital learning on a continuum. The letters in SAMR stand for: Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition.