

# Assistive Technologies

Huber Heights City Schools (HHCS) utilizes assistive technologies to enable students. HHCS maintains an Assistive Technology Library accessible by all staff.

## Gateway to Technology (Middle School): Ohio Gateway to Technology

Gateway to Technology (GTT) is the middle school component of Project Lead the Way. It also is dedicated to increasing the quality and quantity of science and technology graduates in the United States. The hope is that by exposing younger students to what engineers do, enrollment will increase in the high school PLTW pre-engineering programs. The GTT program offers middle school students an introduction to Design and Modeling and Science of Technology. As the program progresses, other modules can be offered such as Automation and Robotics, Magic of Electrons, and Flight and Space.

## Interactive Technologies

Staff at Huber Heights City Schools (HHCS) has access to a variety of smart technologies. Staff has access to interactive white boards, LCD projectors, iPods, laptops, student response systems, document cameras, and more. Staff also has access to before, during, or after school and on-demand training and support in utilizing 21st Century tools within the district.

## iPod Touch Initiative (5th Grade and Special Education)

iPods are fast becoming a valued tool within school districts to aid in individualization and reinforcement of learning. They offer portable, anytime, anywhere learning opportunities. While iPods are popping up throughout the Huber Heights City Schools (HHCS), a special initiative will begin in the 2010-2011 school year at the fifth grade level. All fifth grade students will have access to an iPod Touch with specialized tools and applications loaded to aid in learning fifth grade content. Fifth grade teachers have already started working with HHCS District personnel and Apple Computer to learn all the features that can help HHCS students in their studies. They are also learning about Ohio's iTunes U which offers 'free' educational materials and applications aligned to Ohio State Standards for Education. In addition, Special Education is expanding use of iPod Touches to facilitate individualization of learning for students by outfitting all Special Education classrooms with a set of iPods.

## MyHHCS.org

Huber Heights City Schools now has a K-12 Google Apps for Education Cloud. Cloud computing is a way for schools to cost-effectively give students home-school access to productivity tools such as word processing, presentation, spreadsheet, and drawing software. Students must have Internet access and have parental permission in order to access Cloud accounts from home. Teachers are now starting to use the myhhcs.org Cloud with students. Students work online from home or school. They turn work in online to teachers or share work for teacher input. Soon all students will have access to a myhhcs.org Cloud account.

## Netbooks and Tablets

Huber Heights City Schools (HHCS) has a goal to promote technologies that offer portability for students and staff. HHCS believes that learning takes place in and outside of the classroom. Technologies should be easily available in any learning location. HHCS has been expanding the use of netbooks with students and the use of tablets with staff to afford them the portability for anywhere learning and instruction.

## Online Access for Staff and Students (Moodle): HHCS Moodle Portal

The Huber Heights City Schools Moodle site provides online information and learning opportunities for Huber Heights City Schools students and staff. The site includes access to information, enrichment and supplemental activities, along with professional development opportunities. Content is organized into courses, all of which require students and staff to have a username, password and/or an enrollment key.

## Project Lead the Way (High School): Ohio Project Lead the Way

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a high school program dedicated to increasing the quality and quantity of science and technology graduates in the United States. PLTW at Wayne High School currently offers two strands of study for students, Pre-Engineering and Biomedical Science.

## Technology Training (K-5): Learning.com

Huber Heights City Schools utilizes EasyTech, a Learning.com product, to train students on 21st Century technology skills. EasyTech is a Web-delivered, interactive K-8 technology literacy curriculum. It engages students through interactive technology based lessons and allows students to advance at an individual pace. It provides for easy integration of technology skills into content instruction. Students have access to EasyTech at school and from home.