Crown Point Christian School
Saint John, Indiana
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Project Summary

The goal of the project was to determine the best way to increase access to computers for the Crown Point Christian School Middle School students.

Due to our growing enrollment, it was more challenging for our middle school students to have access to computers. The computer lab was needed for computer instruction. The open periods that the computer lab was available didn’t correspond with the middle school schedule. Middle School students were being dispersed throughout the elementary classrooms to complete online quizzes.

The project needed to determine the best way to integrate technology into the school to enhance instruction and learning in the classroom.

The project was a joint effort of key stakeholders from the Board of Trustees, the Administrators, and the faculty.

Crown Point Christian School is a Prekindergarten – 8th grade school with a current enrollment of 476 students located in Saint John, Indiana.

Project Results

- A consultant was hired to cast a vision for a one-to-one laptop program. The audience included members of the Board, the Education Committee, the Technology Committee and faculty members.

- A team conducted site visits to see how other schools were using technology. The team consisted of two middle school teachers, the technology instructor, a Board member, and the Business Administrator.

- The Technology Committee and the Business Administrator evaluated different hardware solutions.

- A donor gave a generous gift of $25,000 to help fund the purchase of laptops.

- A new position for a Director of IT was created and filled.

- A wireless network was installed throughout the building.

- 100 Lenovo laptops were purchased for faculty members and the seventh and eighth grade students.

- A parent orientation meeting was held to explain the laptop program to the parents of seventh and eighth grade students.

- An Acceptable Use Policy was developed and signed by each student with a laptop.

- Laptops were given to seventh and eighth grade students and a pilot program was started at the start of the third quarter.

What We Have Learned

- The pilot was well received by parents, students, and staff.

- The pilot was effective in identifying areas of the network that needed to be improved. This included installing more wireless access points and troubleshooting students inability to save their work.

- Skype was a default program installed by the manufacturer. We should have disabled student access to Skype before laptops were distributed. We had to disable Skype after that fact because students were Skyping each other during class time.

- We will be deploying laptops to the sixth grade student next year so that the one-to-one is a comprehensive program for all Middle School students.

- One of our goals for the upcoming school year is to review the sequencing of the computer curriculum. We want to make sure that students are taught the Microsoft Office programs in order to prepare them for projects in their core classrooms. We want to be proactive in our computer instruction so that teachers of core subjects do not need to spend time teaching computer programs in their class.

- We will continue to raise the bar on how technology is integrated into the classroom.

- We believe it is important to teach students how to use technology responsibly as a Christian.