Spackenkill Union Free School District

Instructional Technology Plan 2026-29

This Instructional Technology Plan is designed to bridge the three critical digital divides identified by the **National Education Technology Plan (NETP)**: the Access Divide, the Design Divide, and the Use Divide. Our goal is to ensure that technology is not just an "add-on," but a catalyst for equitable, high-standard learning "everywhere, all the time."

Mission Statement

To empower every student with personalized, high-quality learning experiences through the intentional integration of technology, ensuring academic excellence and equitable access to digital tools and literacy.

Strategic Pillar 1: Teaching & Learning (Closing the Use Divide)

The focus is shifting from **passive consumption** (watching videos) to **active creation** (solving problems).

Key Initiatives:

- **Interdisciplinary Digital Integration:** Technology is embedded into core subjects (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies) to facilitate higher-order thinking.
- **Student-Led Creation:** Students will use digital tools to demonstrate mastery through:
    - **Digital Portfolios:** Long-term curation of student work to track growth.
    - **Multimodal Projects:** Use of podcasts, video production, and 3D modeling to explain complex concepts.
- **Personalized Learning Pathways:** Leveraging adaptive software that adjusts the difficulty and pace of content based on individual student data.

Strategic Pillar 2: Professional Capacity (Closing the Design Divide)

We empower teachers to be "architects of learning" who design technology-enhanced experiences rather than just using digital substitutes for paper.

Measurement & Evaluation:

To ensure technology is effectively facilitating practice, the district utilizes the following metrics:

- **The SAMR Framework:** Moving instruction from *Substitution* (typing an essay) to *Redefinition* (collaborating globally on a live database).
- **Instructional Rounds:** Regular "tech-walkthroughs" by administrators to observe student engagement levels.
- **Data-Driven Feedback:** Using LMS (Learning Management System) analytics to identify which digital resources are most effective in closing achievement gaps.

Strategic Pillar 3: Equity & Accessibility (Multiple Pathways)

We believe "equitable" does not mean "the same," but rather giving every student what they need to succeed.

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Implementation:

Feature	Implementation
Multiple Means of Representation	Digital text-to-speech, real-time translation for EL students, and interactive simulations.
Multiple Means of Action	Assistive technologies (speech-to-text, adaptive keyboards) for students with diverse physical or cognitive needs.
Multiple Means of Engagement	Gamified learning and choice-based digital boards to increase student agency.

Strategic Pillar 4: Infrastructure & Sustainability (Closing the Access Divide)

Reliable access is the foundation of "everywhere, all the time" learning.

Short-Term Solutions (Immediate Impact):

- **1:1 Device Program:** Ensuring every student has a dedicated, district-managed device.
- **Mobile Hotspots:** Deploying cellular hotspots to families without reliable home internet.
- **24/7 Support:** A centralized help desk for technical troubleshooting for both students and staff.

Long-Term Solutions (Systemic Growth):

- **Sustainable Refresh Cycles:** Budgeting for hardware replacement every 3-4 years to avoid "tech-obsolescence."
- **Community Mesh Networks:** Partnering with local municipalities to provide free or low-cost community Wi-Fi in high-need neighborhoods.
- **Human Capital:** Investing in dedicated Instructional Technology Coaches for every building to provide job-embedded professional development.

Conclusion: Moving Beyond the Screen

By focusing on the **intentional design** of lessons and providing **universal access** to tools, this district will transform technology from a peripheral resource into a fundamental driver of academic standards. We aren't just teaching kids how to use computers; we are teaching them how to use the world.

Would you like me to create a sample Professional Development calendar to help onboard your staff to this new technology plan?