EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Katy ISD is a flourishing suburban school district that encompasses 181 square miles in southeast Texas. Its eastern boundaries stretch to Houston’s energy corridor approximately 16 miles west of downtown Houston and extend along Interstate 10 to a few miles west of the city of Katy.

In the 2014-15 school year, student enrollment has grown to more than 70,000 served by 60 schools - including seven four-year high schools. Given the highest possible rating by the Texas Education Agency, Katy ISD offers an outstanding instructional program with facilities, equipment and materials that are among the best in the state.

Katy ISD believes that there are many building blocks for success in a fast-growing school district. Its organizational structure emphasizes leadership and the hiring of highly qualified personnel at all levels. Strong community involvement is another cornerstone of success. The District utilizes needs assessments, expertise, management and monitoring for success in the development of plans and processes. In this same manner, Katy ISD’s technology division is an enterprise level service and support division that operates under these same guiding principles and guidelines.

The technology division provides the technology services required for all departments, campuses and facilities within the district. The organizational structure and communication processes are critical components to the success of integrating technology into teaching and learning and using technology to improve student achievement.

The 2015-2018 Technology Plan is based on broad based committee planning, an extensive technology bond planning process and the continuance of the district’s operational processes to determine needs. The goals and objectives identified within the planning process are aligned to the Katy ISD District Improvement Plan, the District facility plan, the Texas Long Range Plan for Technology and the National Education Technology Plan strategies and objectives respectively.

Technology is closely integrated in the District’s Strategic Plan, the District Long Range Facility Plan and district bond program. The Facilities Plan provides the technology refresh program for each campus. The district bond program provides funding for the Facilities Plan and for identified technology initiatives. The 2015-2018 Technology Plan includes funding from current and upcoming bond programs.

The primary themes of this plan are twofold: 1) Ensuring operational efficiencies and 2) Creating positive program impact on departmental goals and objectives.

The Technology department has worked closely with the Teaching & Learning department to help ensure that our technology investments make a positive impact on student learning and achievement. Together, we have implemented an innovative, student-centered program which is focused on increasing students’ learning through the use of digital resources and tools. In the last few years, there has been an increased emphasis on ensuring that students in Katy ISD have the proper tools and timely access to resources both inside and outside of the classroom. Online solutions, such as the “MyKaty” cloud, enable students and staff access to personal files, textbooks and other digital resources anywhere/anytime from any Internet-enabled device. Both departments worked together to create a shared vision for student-centered, digital learning called The “Connected Learner” Initiative. This initiative is a natural progression of Katy’s Public WiFi and Bring Your Own Device programs, which have been in place at all Katy ISD campuses for the last few years. The “Katy OnTheGo” mobile app provides students, parents, and community members another way to stay informed of district, campus and student information. These, and many more digital resources have helped to place Katy ISD at the forefront of digital education.

The Katy ISD IT Department’s vision statement is: “Through constant innovation, we are committed to providing exceptional services and solutions that will positively transform the learning environment for all teachers and students at Katy ISD.” This vision is being realized within Katy ISD and will be continued with the planning and evaluation processes that are defined within this 2015-2018 plan.