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MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

# Dedication 2008

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Taking **PRIDE** in  
our New School



## MHS Technology

By Bob Polselli, Educational Technology Coordinator



This year our focus in the Educational Technology department has been the planning, purchase, and deployment of the most effective technologies for the new Middletown high school and Woodrow Wilson middle school. Although we have been preparing for the new high school technology as well as the updated technology for WWMS for well over three years, the pace at which we are now focusing our efforts shifted into high gear beginning in May. As we get closer to the first day of school for 2008-2009, we look forward to opening both schools with significantly more technology resources.

The new Middletown high school has been designed with the most current technologies to support learning. With ten computer labs, four mobile laptop carts, and two computers in every classroom, students and teachers will be able to leverage technology to improve learning like never before. Wireless access will be provided in all common areas and the network will support very high speeds for future expansion. There is more access to current equipment in the new high school in order to meet the growing demand for technology literate students who use technology to succeed in all facets of their academics.

Each room has an LCD projector and interactive whiteboard, which will allow teachers to take unlimited notes without ever having to erase their whiteboard. This interactive technology supports varied learners by incorporating much more than just notes on a board. Specifically, teachers will be able to project full screen video, audio, and images to improve student understanding. Any content that is available on the Internet will be able to be incorporated instantly into the classroom learning environment. The most significant improvements made by the interactive whiteboard technology include the ability for teachers to save and post their lessons on their classroom website and to review material that would have otherwise been erased from the board during a traditional lesson. Also incorporated into every classroom is a document camera, which will project 3 dimensional objects and full motion video for the entire class to view. A centralized video distribution network as well as a subscription to Discovery Education will allow students and teachers to access lesson-specific video content from any computer in the school.

There are also several rooms for specialized technology instruction. A full video production studio will provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in video technology. Music students will have the opportunity to compose their own music in the MIDI lab, fully equipped with keyboards connected to computers. A world language lab provides students with the opportunity to learn many different languages in a self-paced, student-centered environment. Finally, a video conferencing center will provide a collaborative environment for students to work with peers and experts from all over the world in real time with full screen video, audio, and file sharing.

### Training for Teachers

In an effort to ensure that the new technologies have an immediate and positive impact on student learning, professional development has been developed for the end of the summer. Specifically, MHS teachers will be trained to use their new technology-rich classrooms on July 31st and August 1st at the new MHS building.

As a result of the building project, the new Middletown High School will be a place where students and teachers use technology on a daily basis to improve the learning environment.