

April 10, 2008

Dear Parents,

At the April 2nd meeting of the School Committee I presented a report on the state of technology at the Carlisle Public Schools. Technology continues to become a more integral part of education throughout the world, including the Carlisle Public Schools, as our teachers expand their use of technical tools each year. We are fortunate to have the support of the Carlisle Education Foundation to help us meet our technology needs. The Foundation has consistently raised funds for technology, and through its donations, we have been able to purchase additional mobile computer labs and electronic whiteboards. The Carlisle School Association has also been supportive of our technology-related requests, as they have provided computer supplies, an electronic whiteboard, and more. We are most grateful to our parent supporters as their generosity has made a substantial impact on bringing viable technology tools to Carlisle.

Planning for technology has been guided by the Technology Committee, which meets several times a year. We are grateful to the staff and parents who serve on the committee: Nathan Brown, James Ewing, Philip Gladstone, Ginny Lamere, Seema Peterson, Vanessa Gerade, Cyd McCann, Erin Rooney, Carolyn Luby, Claire Wilcox, and Heidi Zimmerman. During our meetings, this group has discussed computing in education, the school's network, the aging computer inventory and its replacement, wireless technology, and electronic whiteboards. A long term plan for purchasing was completed by the committee last year. The Technology Report draws heavily on the work done by this committee as well as our technology staff.

As anyone with a home computer and other technical tools knows, keeping up with technology can be expensive. We believe we have developed a realistic plan and budget for meeting our school's technology needs over the coming years. With the continuing support of the CSA, CEF, and the Carlisle community we should be able to meet our goals. I encourage you to read about our plans, and I look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,  
*Marie Doyle*