

R O M E C I T Y S C H O O L D I S T R I C T
S M A R T S C H O O L S I N V E S T M E N T P L A N
P H A S E 1 - N E T W O R K I N F R A S T R U C T U R E U P G R A D E

School Connectivity

1. [Briefly describe how you intend to use SSBA funds for high-speed broadband and/or wireless connectivity projects in school buildings.](#)

Technology will be used in the Rome City School district to promote 21st century skills and learning. Our primary technology goals are to increase communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking amongst our students. Our district views technology as a tool that can help address the diverse needs of our students through personalized web-based instruction. A solid network infrastructure is essential to the success of any 1:1 or web-based learning initiative. Our network must be responsive and allow students and faculty to teach and learn in a variety of areas.

We plan on replacing our switch infrastructure increasing our district's internal bandwidth to 10 Gbps which will ensure that each student has the bandwidth necessary to access a variety of applications throughout the school day. Many of our existing wireless access points are outdated. Our district plans on replacing all access points throughout our 10 school buildings and adding new access points as needed to saturate our instructional areas with 100% Wi-Fi coverage. This will ensure that teaching and learning can happen anywhere and at any time.

2. [Briefly describe the linkage between the district's District Instructional Technology Plan and the proposed projects.](#)

Technology will help our district reduce barriers to teaching and learning that are common in traditional learning environments by providing anywhere access to classroom content, personal files, email, and content creation tools. Email, chat, and commenting features present in Office 365 will help increase communication amongst all stakeholders, thereby reducing any confusion that may be hindering student success. Cloud-based platforms like Office 365 are also device agnostic, meaning students can access classroom content from any device, including smartphones. The topic of equity will be further addressed by providing morning and after-school open access to mobile and desktop technology, thereby providing all students with equal access to technology.

Technology will also assist with the creation of personalized professional development through the use of cloud-based surveys and interactive, multimedia-based professional development. Essentially, the power of the cloud and technology will allow our professional development offerings to be streamlined and catered to the specific needs of our faculty and administration.

3. Smart Schools Bond Act funds used for technology infrastructure or classroom technology investments must increase the number of school buildings that meet or exceed the minimum speed standard of 100 Mbps per 1,000 students and staff within 12 months.

Please describe how your district already meets or is planning to meet this standard within 12 months of plan submission.

The district currently meets the Federal Communications Commission speed requirement of 100 Mbps per 1,000 students. Our plan primarily focuses on increasing students' access to mobile technology in the classroom. In order to support our 1:1 initiative, we plan to use SSBA funds to increase our outgoing bandwidth to 10 Gbps. This will help ensure that our infrastructure can handle the increase in demands from the student devices.

4. If the district wishes to have students and staff access the Internet from wireless devices within the school building, or in close proximity to it, it must first ensure that it has a robust Wi-Fi network in place that has sufficient bandwidth to meet user demand.

The district's bandwidth is monitored by reviewing network traffic during various periods of the school day. To guarantee that the district can support the increasing number of mobile devices added to the district network, we plan to increase the bandwidth and add additional access points, progressing towards full Wi-Fi coverage in all instructional areas. When applicable, technology purchases will be modular and be able to meet current needs while also maintaining flexibility to adapt to future needs. As the district expands the network, it will research and implement preventive measures to protect the infrastructure from malfunction, unauthorized access, and misuse.

5. If you are submitting an allocation for School Connectivity complete this table. Note that the calculated Total at the bottom of the table must equal the Total allocation for this category that you entered in the SSIP Overview overall budget.

	Sub---Allocations
network/access costs	\$836,602.00
outside plant costs	
school internal connections and components	\$279,829.00
professional services	
testing	
other upfront cost	
other cost	
Totals	\$1,116,431.00