



Join us at the NJASBO Convention

Learn how to manage your school's technology costs.

Attend our Group Session (#7):

Successfully Managing Rising School Technology Costs

Thursday, October 27 at 9:30 am

Booth #: 2104



September 2005



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Five Critical Items for Your School's Technology

I hope that you have had a wonderful summer and that your school is in order for the new academic year. As the fall semester begins I would like to suggest to you five critical items that you should include in your school's technology.

Technology Plan

You shouldn't start the school year without a technology plan but, if you have, you still have time to construct one ([see my May 2005 letter, *The Benefits of a Technology Plan*](#).) The year will most likely be frustrating and expensive, if you or your staff are reacting to technology issues and associated costs without the guidance of a well-designed technology plan.

Backup

In the event of a technological failure, data backup and functional system restores are crucial to a quick and easy recovery. Make sure that your staff is providing daily, automated backups of all your critical data and applications. They should also perform random restores of data to insure that, in the event of a hard drive crash or data corruption, data can be restored from tape.

Virus Protection

Your servers and workstations should have the latest anti-virus protection. Many of the newer anti-virus packages now include integrated spyware scanning, detection and cleaning capabilities—an enormous benefit since spyware makes up the majority of workstation issues that we often handle.

Internet Content Filtering

Protect your students from the perils of the Internet with an adequate Internet Content Filtering software system in place. These systems have the ability to permit or deny access to websites based upon numerous factors including content, time and group association. The reporting capabilities of such packages are also invaluable for an administrator in evaluating Internet usage.

Planned Obsolescence

Old servers and workstations that are beginning to consume valuable time and resources to keep operational need to be replaced. Usually it is better to reduce the level of systems on your network to focus on quality rather than trying to maintain a larger network of poorly performing systems.

By insuring that these five items are a part of your school's technology administration for the new school year, you will save your school a lot of time, resources and precious dollars.

Please Note:

If you are planning to attend the NJASBO convention this year in Atlantic City , please make sure to attend our Group Session "Successfully Managing Rising School Technology Costs." If you cannot make the session please make sure to stop by our booth (#2104) and say hello.

Enjoy your school year,



Paul Crawley

Paul Crawley is an MCT, CNI and CCNA. He has taught network operating systems for both Microsoft and Novell beginning in 1994. He is President of Crawley & Associates, Inc., an education technology consulting firm founded in 1995. The company is located in Fair Lawn, NJ. Paul can be reached at pcrawley@crawleyinc.com.



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