The times they are a-changin

On January 13th 1964 Bob Dylan sang 6 words that ushered in a new generation. **The Times They Are A-Changin.** Those words are just as true today as they were 43 years ago. The times they are a-changin, the technological revolution has come and gone, and most educational systems barely noticed the whirlwind of activities and changes that occurred. While the revolution has subsided, the environment that it created continues to grow and prosper, and still; the times they are a-changin. Technology has become so commonplace we no longer think about how it is affecting our daily lives. From automatic teller machines, to DVDs, the modern "green" automobile to optically guided internal laser surgery, Bluetooth cell phones and video-iPods, we are surrounded by the results of those changes.
John Deere Corporation sells a line of tractors that can plow a field one mile long with a straight line tolerance of 3 inches, all by GPS and without human intervention? This is the environment we have created for future generations. The question is: can they survive in this new world and how can we, as stewards of their future, guide then in their changin world? Like any good guide we need a road map, that map is called the AUSD Educational Technology Plan

The creation of this plan was a monumental undertaking, akin to building a very large house. And just like in building a house the end product is only as good as the craftsmen that construct it.
So, I need to stop here and acknowledge the master craftsmen that constructed this document:
Barbara Lee, Dr. Phil Dauber, Leni VonBlanckensee, Roxanne Clement, Sean McPhetridge, Melodee Muncton, Diana Kenney.
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As an educational institution we have an obligation to prepare our students with the skills, knowledge and work habits to be successful once they leave our doors. The following document is a road map of the journey that Alameda's students will embark on as we prepare them for life and life skills of the 21st century

This plan identifies multiple goals that are the core of our Educational Technology Plan. They include:

1. Providing state-of-the-art computers and related technologies to students and teachers for multidiscipline and cross-curricular integration.
2. Develop student outcomes in all curricular areas that reflect technology as an integrated part of the learning process.
3. Promote and support staff development activities that are technologically challenging and curricular based.
4. Develop and adopt standards for hardware, software, and technology staff development.

5. Install and maintain a state-of-the-art <u>network</u> and associated infrastructure that will connect each site <u>and</u> provide access to the Internet and the rest of the connected world.
6. Coordinate <u>all</u> technology activities into one and provide a three year plan and associated budget forecasts.
7. <u>Fund and sustain</u> the necessary infrastructure, equipment and staff development to make this plan successful.

As a general rule the educational environments resists change, especially technology. We need textbooks and chalk boards, #2 pencils and wooden rulers. But all successful organizations understand and embrace change. They evolve, adapt and create new processes and procedures to encompase those changes. As educators we need to move away from the 1890's school model and into the 21st century model. Technology is a tool that we have available to use. It is a tool that the students are familiar with and readely acceptable to use. With this tool we can provide opportunities beyond our city, state, country, even our world.

This plan is a beginning, it is obtainable, it is sustainable and aligns with the District's goals and objectives.

This plan acknowledges that the times they are a-changin, and we will change with them.