A Vision and a Mission

The Information Systems department envisions an electronic network capable of distributing voice, data, and video technology to all Chaminade students whether at home or in school. In this vision, Chaminade students and teachers become users of the global information network with direct access to information and resources around the world. All school technologies are dedicated to improving instruction, to providing electronic access to information, and to enriching communication among the student, faculty, administration, family, and community.

To achieve our technological mission and materialize our vision we are committed to employing all accessible and financially feasible technologies, and to supporting and educating all of our students, teachers and staff.

In accordance with the Marianist tenet of educating for change, Chaminade accepts the mandate to meet and address the powerful technological resources that are available to educators. Recognizing that this can be accomplished only through a blending of technology and content, Chaminade has developed a curriculum for each discipline that addresses this issue.

Individual departments have devised strategies to integrate content and technology. Additionally, each department will address ethical and responsibility issues with respect to the use of technology in the curriculum. While all department strategies will not be identical, each discipline shares common goals that include fostering a climate of exploration and discovery, as well as expanding the student's scope of learning beyond the classroom walls.

Chaminade Technology Overview

Every Chaminade Parent Has:
- Web access to regularly updated student grades using NetClassroom
- Web access to daily teacher homework calendars and websites
- Web access to Chaminade’s Daily Student Bulletins
- Email access to teachers with a maximum 24-hour required response
- Access to www.chaminade.org, an extensive website with news, information, sports, photos, etc. for school’s constituencies

Every Chaminade Student Has:
- Access to numerous state-of-the art computer labs with desktop or laptop computers running Windows XP and Office XP Professional
- Wired and wireless access to our local area network from any place on campus
- Personal login name and password with individualized security permissions
- Unlimited file storage and black or color print services
- Filtered high speed access to the Internet
- Completely automated Library System and library web services
- Secure web access to his/her grades, report cards and assignments from school or home
- Access to teachers’ web sites and online homework calendars from school or home
- Access to a multitude of curriculum specific software applications
- Access to a variety of hardware and software productivity tools
- Access to a variety of digital content creation hardware and software tools
Every Chaminade Teacher Has:

- A quality laptop or Tablet PC computer running *Windows XP* and *Office XP Professional*
- Web conferencing capabilities
- Access to online electronic gradebook
- Individualized web site
- Online homework calendar
- Personal email @chaminade.org that can be checked from school or home

Every Chaminade Classroom Has:

- Mounted DLP projector with audio amplification and screen for multimedia presentations
- Wired and wireless network access
- Wired and wireless Internet access
- Computers in a variety of configurations
- Printing services

Chaminade College Preparatory Employs:

- *McAfee* antivirus protections on all computers
- Campus-wide proxy and web filtering services
- Wide area networking between the two campuses
- Separate T1 access to the Internet from each campus
- *ChamiNet* intranet web and database services
- Videoconferencing and Distance Learning systems
- *SmartBoard* electronic classroom white boards
- Classroom multimedia presentation systems
- Digital media technologies, such as digital content capturing and editing software, digital cameras and camcorders, audio editing, TV and radio broadcasting etc.
- *Blackbaud’s Education Edge* for all registrar’s office functions
- *Blackbaud’s Raiser’s Edge* for all fund raising and alumni functions
- *Blackbaud’s NetClassroom* for web access to student grades, report cards and assignments
- *Blackbaud’s Faculty Access Web* electronic gradebook
- *Infosnap* for Online Inquiry, Admissions, and Re-enrollment functions
- Numerous subscription services to various educational content providers

*Prior to accessing any network resource including the Internet, all Chaminade employees and students are required to sign Chaminade’s Appropriate Use Policy (AUP).*
Chaminade Information Technologies General Information

At Chaminade we employ a variety of information technologies in order to achieve our educational goals. Technology is an integral part of our daily operations and a certain level of expertise is required.

Chaminade information technologies can be divided into discrete groups according to the service they provide to the organization. For example, we use software common to all businesses, such as accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, inventories, employee records, etc. At the same time we utilize software specific to non-profit organizations for fund-raising, prospect cultivation and special events such as our annual Gala event.

Additionally, we use software that is unique to educational institutions, such as student records, grades, attendance, discipline, demographics, alumni, scheduling, admissions, etc., which are used extensively by our Front Offices and faculty at both campuses. Our school libraries are fully automated and their content can be searched and accessed on-campus or remotely over the web.

Further, all Chaminade employees have access to a sophisticated array of productivity tools in order to do word processing, spreadsheets, databases, desktop publishing, web page creation, as well as multimedia content creation and presentations.

Last but not least, every academic department maintains a variety of curriculum software and web-based resources in its subject area for classroom use.

In order to support and provide accessibility to all resources mentioned above, a complex infrastructure has been established at Chaminade. Both campuses are completely networked with file and print services as well as Internet access at every location. State of the art computing hardware is available to students, faculty and staff in a variety of configurations.

The entire design of the networks at Chaminade was conceived and implemented with our educational goals in mind in a user friendly, economical and practical way. Both campuses are connected into a Wide Area Network via our private T1 connection and have 24/7 access to the Internet via individual T1 lines. We maintain our own Internet web services (www.chaminade.org), intranet web service (ChamiNet), email and more.

Computing power has been distributed at both campuses in a variety of ways in order to facilitate the various teaching modalities of our faculty. We attempt to cover the entire spectrum of possibilities. For example, we have numerous state-of-the-art computer labs that can accommodate an entire class of students. We also have numerous mini labs with clusters of four to sixteen computers per classroom for smaller group instruction and independent project work. At our high school we have a multipurpose classroom that can function as a regular lecture classroom or a complete computer lab with the computers tacked under glass-top desks.

All Chaminade faculty has been provided with a wireless laptop computer or Tablet PC. Our goal has been to provide a quality laptop computer with all necessary software to all of our teachers so they have the necessary tools to develop curricular goals and objectives that better integrate technology in their classrooms.
In the area of Computer Science we have made significant advances and have kept up with the rapid developments of the last ten years. The courses currently taught at Chaminade start with keyboarding and Computer Literacy, and gradually develop to Computer Applications, Web Design, Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification, Digital Media, and AP Java Computer Programming.

Chaminade maintains a partnership with Microsoft that enables the school to acquire licensing and educational materials as well as faculty training to teach advanced technical courses that can lead to industry standard certifications.

At the high school campus we have established our own iQcenter (authorized testing center) to provide certification/testing facilities to our students. The student participation, enthusiasm and success rate in these MOS certification courses has been astonishing and Microsoft has featured a special article on Chaminade on their web site.

Every teacher has his/her own Chaminade hosted web site to post information related to his/her classroom activities, as well as online homework calendars that are updated timely.

All student progress grades, report cards and assignments are posted on a password protected site so parents and students can view them over the Internet on demand.

In September 2006 we installed Videoconferencing and Distance Learning systems at both campuses that enable us to communicate live with a variety of other educational institutions to see, show and share with the world!

Keeping with the Marianist educational philosophy “to educate for adaptation and change,” Chaminade’s information technologies enable students and faculty to express, explore and exchange ideas with the rest of the world. Technology, in the hands of our skilled and creative teachers, is transforming our school into “classrooms without walls” and enables us to transcend the usual grade, subject, and age/time segregation, into a forum of student-centered learning. It promotes higher-order thinking skills, and a life long love for learning, which proves that education can be less about finite knowledge, and more about infinite possibilities and imagination.

**What do Chaminade students and parents need at home?**

**How can students and parents gain maximum benefit from Chaminade’s technologies from home?**

At Chaminade we use the **Microsoft Windows operating system** as the platform of choice. We are currently using Windows XP Professional with plans to move to the Vista version.

We also use the **Microsoft Office XP** suite of productivity applications that includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint (all highly recommended), Access, FrontPage, and Outlook (all optional).

**Email** is the communication method of choice for the majority of our employees. All Chaminade employees have email adhering to the following naming convention: First character of first name, followed by the complete last name @chaminade.org. For example mhart@chaminade.org is Michael Hart’s Chaminade email.

Many of our teachers assign homework that requires a home computer with a **printer** as well as **Internet access**. In addition, a variety of school related information is posted daily on our web site for student/parent reference. A home **Windows-based PC with Microsoft Office, Internet access, email, and a printer** will greatly facilitate your student’s successful seven year educational experience at Chaminade.
Student National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)
Source: International Society for Technology in Education at www.iste.org

To live, learn, and work successfully in an increasingly complex and information rich society, students must use technology effectively. Within a sound educational setting, technology can enable students to become:

- Capable information technology users
- Information seekers, analyzers, and evaluators
- Problem solvers and decision makers
- Creative and effective users of productivity tools
- Communicators, collaborators, publishers, and producers
- Informed, responsible, and contributing citizens

A combination of essential conditions are required to create learning environments conducive to powerful uses of technology, including:

- Vision with support and proactive leadership from the education system
- Educators skilled in the use of technology for learning
- Content standards and curriculum resources
- Student-centered approaches to learning
- Assessment of the effectiveness of technology for learning
- Access to contemporary technologies, software, and telecommunications networks
- Technical assistance for maintaining and using technology resources
- Community partners who provide expertise, support, and real-live interactions
- Ongoing financial support for sustained technology use
- Policies and standards supporting new learning environments

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The most effective learning environments meld traditional approaches and new approaches to facilitate learning of relevant content while addressing individual needs. The resulting learning environments should prepare students to:

- Communicate using a variety of media and formats
- Access and exchange information in a variety of ways
- Compile, organize, analyze, and synthesize information
- Draw conclusions and make generalizations based on information gathered
- Use information and select appropriate tools to solve problems
- Know content and be able to locate additional information as needed
- Become self-directed learners
- Collaborate and operate in team efforts
- Interact with others in ethical and appropriate ways