Computer Instruction in the West Shore School District

Computer and Information Technology instruction in the West Shore School District is aligned to the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards and identifies best practices. We utilize a variety of strategies and differentiate our instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Technology and 21st Century Skills are thoughtfully woven into our lessons and units of instruction. This document is meant to offer an overview of important concepts at each grade level and within each discipline.

Best Practices in 8th Grade Computer Instruction:
- Understand the security and network requirements for the district computers
- Identify safe practices on the Internet and for using social media
- Learn about the history and evolution of computers
- Learn how to use Google Docs for word processing
- Learn how to effectively research for information on the internet
- Learn how to use Google Slides, Canva and Adobe Express to create presentations that are integrated with the curriculum
- Learn the correct keyboard and technique for the keyboard.
- Technique and ergonomics are addressed from the beginning and reinforced throughout the curriculum. Students are placed in skill-appropriate lessons and given individualized goals and remediation based upon initial pretests and formative testing as they progress through the program

Skills and Concepts:
- Network Access/Computer Use
- Careers
- Grand Challenge
- Cyber Security Awareness
- Coding
- App Design
- Graphic Design
- Multi-Media Design
- Productivity

Standards:
International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards
http://www.iste.org/standards/iste-standards/standards-for-students

Assessments:
West Shore School District utilizes a variety of assessments to monitor student growth and achievement. Our teachers engage in daily informal formative assessments to make timely decisions about whether a student understands the material and concepts being presented. We also utilize several summative assessments to determine if a student has mastered grade level skills and standards.

Materials and Resources:
Our teachers utilize flexible learning spaces to facilitate and promote creativity and collaboration. We provide students with various technologies to encourage critical thinking skills to choose the best tool for the task.

West Shore School District utilizes a variety of resources to meet all learners' needs including:
Schoology http://wssd.schoology.com
Google Drive https://www.google.com/drive/
Applications - Edpuzzle, Adobe Creative Cloud Express, Quizizz, Canva, Kami, Code.org, Hour of Code, Scratch, and updated technology as needed

Parent Resources:
Course Schoology Pages: https://app.schoology.com/login
PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal https://psweb.wssd.k12.pa.us