ITEC 7410: SIP Plan/Technology Plan Analysis

Name: Amy Calley   **Semester: Spring 2019**

Type your answers below (ie. minimum of 2-5 sentences per question as appropriate).

School Improvement Plan Analysis:

- *What is your school's mission/vision?*
  Brumby Elementary School's mission statement is "One Team. One Goal. Student Success." Our vision statement is "Inspiring personal success through collaboration and respect".

- *What are the targeted areas for improvement (ex. fourth-grade math, improved LA scores for ESOL population, etc.) and the specific goals related to this improvement area that are set forth in the SIP (ex. % gain in CRCT scores)?*
  As a school, our targeted areas for improvement are math, reading, and English/language arts, with a goal of increasing non-proficient to proficient by 3% on End-of-Grade Assessments (EOG), as well as on the Math Inventory (MI) and Reading Inventory (RI).

- *How does your SIP address the needs of diverse populations regarding digital technology equity for **low SES and gender groups (ie. females)** and assistive technology for disabled learners? If it does not, what are your recommendations?*
  Our SIP includes opportunities for students to participate in Mathletics, which is a software program that aids in instruction and assessment. Although this technology addresses needs of all students, as a Title 1 school, Brumby has a diverse student population comprised of 11% ELL, 11% SWD, and 72% economically disadvantaged. However, assistive technology is not addressed, nor gender groups. I would recommend that teachers of disabled students receive specific training related to use of technology to improve their students' abilities, and that any clubs that are gender-specific be addressed as part of the SIP. In

addition, reading and language arts software programs could also be implemented to address our goals in those areas as well.

- *How is technology included in the SIP? In what ways is student technology literacy included as a goal in your SIP? If it is not, what are your recommendations?*
Technology is mainly included through use of Mathletics, which is available at school and home. There is no mention of student technology literacy in our SIP, but as our staff is currently undergoing Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) certification, I would recommend connecting this training with math, reading, and English/language arts goals, since aspects of Office 365 can be used among teachers and students alike. There are also programs that are used to support our SIP goals that are not mentioned in the plan, and that are possibly not implemented consistently throughout the school, but could be.

- *Why is technology addressed (or not addressed!) as it is? For example, does school culture or history contribute to the way the SIP addresses technology?* **[Additional Field Experience option if interviewing others in the school to find this history.]**
Technology is not addressed to the extent that it could be. Not only is there technology being implemented that is not mentioned in the SIP, there are other issues at hand (such as moving to a brand new building, and previously existing in an outdated building) that have limited technology integration. The SIP definitely needs to be updated and current technology implementation mentioned.

- *Are you pleased with the current treatment of technology-related issues in the SIP? Why or why not?*
I do not believe our SIP accurately depicts the technology already in place, or how it is being used to support the SIP goals. Many of our teachers go above and beyond using technology to enhance student experiences, especially with the digital opportunities available in our new building. I believe technology is supporting student achievement in many ways that are not described in the SIP.

- *Would you like to see technology issues represented differently in future SIPs? Why?*

In future SIPs, I believe all of the technology currently used to improve student achievement should be mentioned. Although it is an improvement plan, we can improve upon how and why we use the technology we already have and implement. It is not necessarily a lack of actual technology or software programs, but a lack of training, or how to implement or diversify technology use to benefit all learners, specific to our academic goals. In addition, new technologies specifically related to math, reading, and English/language arts could be addressed, as well as our current MIE initiative involving Office 365.

- *What are your first thoughts of how technology could contribute toward achieving the mission/vision/goals set forth in your school improvement plan?*
  I believe that our school currently has the technology necessary to inspire personal success and increase the percentage of students meeting our SIP goals. What is lacking is ongoing training concerning not how these tools can help us become better teachers, but how these tools can help students become better learners. There are ways to use what we already have to engage students individually, and allow them to interact with each other that will help us all achieve the goals for the SIP.

- *How might technology be integrated more effectively into your SIP in the future?*
  Our current available technology should be evident in the SIP, as it is already being used to address our goals. It should also be specific to each goal, and have a measurable objective. The measurable objective should address subgroups, such as ELL, SWD, gender, and economically disadvantaged. Also, our MIE certification and implementation should be directly related to our SIP goals for students.

District Technology Plan Analysis:

(Note: Most districts do have a plan. Contact district-level personnel for a copy if needed.)

- *What are the three main curriculum goals in your district's technology plan?*

The three main goals of Cobb County's instructional plan involve

1) Leveraging technology to transform traditional classrooms into digital age classrooms
2) Creating and supporting effective and ethical digital age learning environments
3) Empowering digital age learners, teachers, and administrators to use technology tools to enhance engaging learning experiences with technology tools

- *What strategies are outlined for achieving these goals?*

Cobb County currently has technology coaches who are responsible for training and coaching classroom teachers and all staff in implementing technology to support student achievement. Technology coaches within the school support county and schoolwide initiatives, and other coaches float among schools to support specific trainings such as MIE. Our county also implements PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) that allow grade level/subject area teachers to collaborate and communicate through technology, and about how to use technology to benefit our students.

- *Does the plan seem achievable over the designated timeline? Why?*

I believe that it does seem achievable, although I'm unsure about the 2020 timeline. My main reason for concern is that we just moved into a brand new building in summer of 2018, and although I expect progression by 2020, I think that with the current technology suggestions, it will only get us so far.

- *In what ways would you like to see the plan improved?*

Our plan needs to include more of the available technologies. Being a STEM certified school, and in a brand new building, technology should be our first line of defense in how we are engaging our students. Also, it could specifically address how to meet the needs of ELL, SWD, gender groups, and economically disadvantaged students.

- *What could you, in your current or a future position, do to help support implementation of the plan?*

I am participating in MIE certification, and am a member of the Advanced STEAM Academy. This means that I attend trainings and complete homework involving how to use aspects of Office 365 to improve instruction, assessment, and student engagement

through technology and how it relates to visual arts. I am also committed to learning about how to use technology tools and programs/software to benefit student learning in connection with reading, math, and English/language arts. I am also a member of a HYPE (Helping Young People Excel) team that it specific to STEM/STEAM. An additional outreach could be to meet with classroom teachers (or those who are part of my HYPE team) to find out how I could support more grade level initiatives through the arts.

- *How does the plan address the needs of diverse populations regarding digital technology equity **for low SES and gender groups (ie. females)** and assistive technology for disabled learners? If it does not, what are your recommendations?*

  The plan does not directly address these needs, although our diverse population lends itself to being addressed. I think ELL and SWD should be addressed specifically, since these are high populations and their success would contribute to closing the achievement gap. This could happen through technology that not only involves students, but their families as well.

- *In what ways does the plan tie-in to your local SIP?*

  Cobb County is focused on achievement for all students, especially ELL and SWD. So many digital opportunities are offered for teachers and students alike, and we are encouraged to connect and communicate digitally with all stakeholders. Brumby's current SIP does not completely align with Cobb County's goals, and since we are doing more than is expected to meet those goals, our SIP should be adjusted accordingly.

School Tech Plan Status:

(Note: Most schools will not have a tech plan. In this case students can only answer question one and maybe elaborate on why there is no plan and if there ever was a history of tech planning at that school at all.)

- *Is there a technology plan that is separate from the SIP at your school? If so, when and how was it created?*

  Our school technology plan was created by our technology coach in August of 2018.

- *Do members of the school community know about the tech plan?*

Yes, our plan is located on the school website, and has been shared with administration, staff, and community members (such as school business partners).

- *Is it being implemented effectively? Why or why not?*

  Many aspects of the plan have been implemented effectively, especially Mathletics. This program is supported by teachers throughout the school, and headed by an individual who is committed to math education. Through MIE, all staff is becoming more aware of the role technology plays in not just collaboration between colleagues, but among students, staff, and parents as well. However, being aware is only the beginning, and effective implementation is a goal yet achieved.

- *What strategies could be implemented to help accelerate adoption of the plan?*

  We need a more current technology adoption plan. All of the technology we currently use is not part of the SIP, and it should be. Neither is MIE certification, and part of our MIE homework involves how we can use it for student engagement/achievement. An updated plan should be shared with the staff, and measurable steps should be devised. HYPE teams could also be involved in how to incorporate technology into teaching and learning in specific areas, and coach other educators as to how to attain the goals of the SIP.