10 Ideas to Consider Before Purchasing New Technology

1. Start by identifying a teaching and learning need to be filled, rather than focusing on the technology itself.

2. Don’t tie technology to a room—let it move where and when needed.

3. Create from the outset a means to measure whether the new technology is raising student achievement.

4. Start with volunteers. Not all staff may want the new technology.

5. Ask which policies, practices, or schedules must change to take full advantage of the new technology.

6. Value administrative technology as much as classroom technology.

7. If significant professional development is required, then perhaps some staff members aren’t ready for the new technology.

8. Calculate the total cost to educate a student before and after the adoption of new technology.

9. Consider utilizing student-owned technology before purchasing for the district.

10. Remember, good teaching still matters most.