It is the vision of Perry Local Schools to prepare our students for a high-tech world by providing excellent learning opportunities in a sampling of all areas of technology. We will strive to make our students comfortable with technology and equipped with the technology skills they need to enter post-secondary education or the workforce. Equipping teachers and classrooms with a document camera will allow them to introduce students to technology, and to create more interactive lessons. One of the NETS-Students includes, “Demonstrating a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations including transferring current knowledge to learning of new technologies.” Due to the fact that this is emphasized at the national level, there is a need for more technology tools that can encourage hands-on interaction and accommodates different learning styles.

The SMART Document Camera is an emerging technology that teachers can use to engage students in whole class project-based learning. This tool is far superior to the standard overhead projector. It allows teachers to place any object, book, paper or demonstration under the lens without having to make an overhead transparency. Each Science classroom is already equipped with a SMART board and the SMART Document Camera can instantly display real-time images of any static or moving object onto the interactive SMART whiteboard for the entire class to see. The proposed goal would be as follows; receiving the necessary funds to purchase two SMART Document Cameras for two seventh grade Science classrooms. The SMART Document Camera allows the teacher to demonstrate, explore and help students to understand—even when concepts are abstract or complex. In the Science classroom the teacher will be able to create more engaging lesson content by easily capturing images, video and audio with the SMART Document Camera. The teacher can even take a video of a science experiment with the document camera, save it on USB and use it in their next class or for students who were absent.
or need remediation. It allows students to record their demonstrations during presentations for later review and assessment.

The project would begin at the start of the 2013-2014 school year and data would be collected throughout the year and compared to data from the previous years. The technology director will be carrying out this project and has knowledge and training in using this technology. He possesses the knowledge and skills to assist science classroom teachers with integrating the SMART Document Camera into their classroom.

Teaching effectiveness will be increased in the area of “improving learning in science and technology” throughout the project. The SMART Document Camera would be ideal in making science lessons visual and interactive. Student understanding of scientific concepts will increase because the tool can provide lessons which are visually stimulating, and support content knowledge. The document camera will allow teachers to demonstrate experiments so that all students can see and know what is expected of them before they begin. This will benefit and enhance student learning because the teacher can incorporate all different learning styles into their demonstrations. This pilot project in the science classrooms will enhance the development of teachers because the project can be implemented by other classroom teachers in other subject areas if the goals of the project are met.

Assessment data will be collected throughout the school year to ensure the strategies that are being employed with the document camera are in fact, effective and have a positive effect on student performance. Ohio Achievement Test scores in Science from the 2012-2013 school year will be compared to the 2013-2014 school year to ensure that measurable improvement does exist. The technology director and teachers will plan and implement lessons using the SMART Document Camera to be shared at grade level meetings. Science lesson plans will be evaluated
weekly to ensure that the document camera is being utilized by the classroom teacher. The technology director will also be responsible for inquiring and observing teacher use of the document camera integration.

Since the purchase of two SMART Document Cameras will be a permanent purchase, they will be available for classroom use the following year if the classroom teacher is utilizing them. If the data collected during the project shows student improvement and evidence that student learning has been positively affected the purchase of other SMART Document Cameras would be supported for other subject areas at other grade levels through the general technology fund, or other technology grants. Results of the project will be available through the school website. If the results are positive, discussions will take place at grade level and team meetings to discuss the benefits of using a document camera in the science classroom. If more SMART Document Cameras are purchased through other monies, professional development will be available for teachers in the district on the use of the SMART Document Camera in the classroom.

Perry Local School District has implemented a Technology Plan which includes aspects such as funding new technologies and providing teachers with hardware and software that is efficient and functional, and represents what is used in today's society. The purchase of the document cameras aligns not only with the technology plan but local, state, and national standards. According to SMART Technologies, each document camera is priced at $768. The total cost of the document cameras would be $1536. An additional _____ is requested for training for teachers from SMART Technologies and substitute teacher pay to release teachers involved in the project to receive training.