

# Technology Committee Meeting

April 12, 2017 • 3:30 PM

Manteno High School Lab N23

## Minutes

In attendance: Kristi VanZeyl, Matthew Glenn, Gale Dodge, Rebecca Ganger, Cathy Creek, Cara Baldwin, Jake Emerson, Bethani Hincherrick, Nate Short, Brent Zhorne, Dave Conrad, Stephanie Kaack, Dan Christ, Tom Steele.

Meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm

### 1) Tech Dept updates

- a. PARCC testing – We had a few glitches with network errors but overall it went relatively well in that testing stayed on schedule. Most of the problems were with a faulty TestNav app. Once the new app was loaded 4/10 we had relatively few problems.
- b. Title I Chromebooks – Cathy is considering purchasing up to 70 additional Chromebooks through Title 1 for use at the ES. This would be enough for 2 carts, plus some library spares.
- c. Grant – We applied for a grant from ISBE that will cover 40% of the cost of the ES fiber if it is funded. If the grant comes through, USAC will match another 10%. We anticipate 50% funding from E-rate meaning that we could potentially have our ES Fiber project 100% funded.
- d. E-rate – In light of the problems with PARCC testing, we have posted an additional Form 470 application for 18 additional WiFi access points at the Middle School. This will give us an access point in every room used for general instruction.
- e. Chromebook Carts – We have the opportunity to purchase used mLT-30 Mini Laptop Carts from Orland District 230 for \$300. List price new is about \$1400. Consider purchasing 3-4 for HS Chromebooks.
  - i. Cathy would like to get a couple for the new Title 1 chromebooks at the ES
  - ii. Brent Zhorne made a motion to purchase 7 carts from District 230. Rebecca Ganger seconded. Motion carried.

### 2) Chromebook RFP responses

- a. We received responses from 4 vendors
- b. TRA had the lowest of all the responses
- c. TRA price included device, management and 4 year accidental damage warranty
- d. Recommend change from Lenovo N23 to HP Chromebook 11 G5 EE
- e. HP Chromebook 11 G5 EE has AUE of Jan 2022, Lenovo N23 has AUE of Feb 2021, though this may be erroneous – Mar 2022 is probably the correct date
- f. Recommend the Board of Education accept the response from TRA for the HP Chromebook 11 G5 EE in the amount of \$270 per device.
  - i. Brent made a motion to accept the recommendation. Jake Emerson seconded. Motion carried.

### 3) 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Promethean Boards

- a. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Team asked to consider replacing aging Promethean Boards
- b. The boards themselves are not the problem, rather the projector
- c. The Tech Dept will consider replacing the projector when the existing ones go out

- 4) CBT Nuggets on-line training
  - a. Used by Tech Interns to supplement learning
  - b. Not really valued or used by Tech Interns
  - c. Recommend not renewing when current subscription expires
  - d. Rebecca and Gale suggested we allow the new interns to use through the summer and not renew in August
- 5) Aging Equipment/Services Discussion
  - a. Windows workstations
    - i. Still have over 150 2010 workstations in use
    - ii. Most are at HS in the Library and Labs E11 and C34, also MS Lab 107 and ES Lab.
    - iii. Very slow, almost non-functional
    - iv. Replacement cost is about \$500/workstation
    - v. With 1:1, lab usage is minimal
    - vi. Discussion
      1. Ask English department whether they would still need the labs/library if they had more Chromebooks
      2. Nothing would be replaced this year, but we need to budget for 2017-18
      3. It was also suggested to check with Roger to see how he sees the labs being used.
  - b. Resource laptops
    - i. Very old – purchased used about 7 years ago
    - ii. Only about half are working, none are working from batteries
    - iii. Running Windows 7
    - iv. Consider replacing with Chromebooks
    - v. Cathy asked if we could check with Andy to see if the Special Ed department had money in their budget for these
  - c. LearnPads
    - i. No longer supported in US (still actively used in UK)
    - ii. Many no longer working
    - iii. No use in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, limited use in 1<sup>st</sup> grade (2 classrooms), used in Kindergarten because there are not other options; most not working
    - iv. With additional Title I Chromebooks, consider retiring
    - v. It was the consensus of the committee to retire the LearnPads at the end of the school year
- 6) Building updates
  - a. Elementary School
    - i. The Chromebook carts have been nice to have during PARCC testing as spares instead of running back and forth between library and classroom
    - ii. Some Chromebooks won't hold charge. Dan needs to know which ones and will replace the batteries
  - b. Middle School
    - i. Because of the technical issues experienced during PARCC, it was asked if we could turn off all Chrome updates for the Chromebooks prior to the testing window opening so things aren't updating during testing. Since we test at the end of the window, it would mean no updates for about 2 months which could lead to other issues.
  - c. High School
    - i. Lab L11 would like a larger projection screen (possibly 8 ft). The new

layout has been great!

7) Adjournment

- a. Gale Dodge made a motion to adjourn. Cathy Creek seconded. Motion Carried.
- b. Meeting was adjourned at 4:09 pm