

TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Board of Education of Wicomico County

MEETING
6
January 15, 2009

Attendance

Joe Benamati, Charlie Bounds, Steve Brewer, Carl Dragwa, Tom Field, Brian Foret, Scott Keasey, Donna Matteson, Mark Miller, Ian Robertson, Donna Savko, Sam Walker

Parent Portal

- Charlie commented that Dr. Fredericksen is very interested in Parent Portal. A committee will be formed to include Scott, Kim Miles, Margo Handy, Carl, Carla, Donna, Bill Cain, Tom and Charlie. Group may be expanded. Board is very interested in having this in place. Charlie would like group to meet in next week.
- Scott may be able to have Rick Dwyer from X2 here for the meeting. Scott will contact Rick to schedule date.

Student Graduation Profile Screen

- Charlie spoke about having a student graduation profile screen. Scott commented that what we have now is in X2, and is not fully developed. We will discuss this with Rick Dwyer also.

Closed Circuit TV Concerns

- Brian commented that he would like guidelines on who should have access to information from closed circuit televisions in the schools. Discussion on who is currently able to view these surveillance cameras and which schools have this technology.
- Brian also asked for guidelines on use of camera technologies being used on others, i.e. videotaping by teachers.
- Charlie asked Sam and Steve to come up with suggestions and to bring this information to our next meeting.

Technology Inventory ~ Scott Keasey

- Scott distributed an email from MSDE on the timeline for the Maryland Technology Inventory. The start date has changed to begin between February 3-February 17. The timeframe for teacher and administrator measurements is March 2-May 15, 2009. We can do our inventory whenever we chose; it will have to be reported within this window.
- Brian asked if we could use the inventory from the summer. Scott said we should be able to. Carl and Donna have a fairly good idea. Scott stated that he is working on this in IFAS. We should be able to have a calculated estimated inventory based on actual.

Promethean Board Update ~ Brian Foret, Mark Miller, Carl Dragwa

- Brian – we are working on Northwestern. They are waiting on parts for six units.
- There are still many issues with the boards. Not sure what the actual problem is. Dell, Clinton Learning, Promethean, Baltimore Sound are all involved with trying to resolve the issues.
- Charlie asked about the differences with the model used at North Salisbury and what is being used at Prince Street. Can we do a cost comparison for the different models?
- Carl stated that the Promethean board is a good product. The problem seems to be with installation. The expectations are too high with what we are using the boards for. We do not have enough data on what the teachers are using the boards for. We need data logs to determine what is happening. Installation could be cheaper depending on type of install. TV should be installed separately. We need to try a modified install.
- Monitor for a couple weeks, log data, and then modify boards. Ian suggested starting at Northwestern. Carl will create a log.
- Tom - Can we talk with other school systems? Donna has spoken with Loudoun County, and they are not having similar problems.
- Brian - we need to decide what we are doing with James M. Bennett now.
- Charlie – can we meet with all groups involved? Carl has spoken with the president of Promethean. Brian hasn't been able to reach them. Clinton Learning has worked with us.
- Prince Street is having problems with the projectors. Four projectors will be replaced under warranty.
- Glen, Delmar, and Willards are the next schools on the schedule. We have enough to purchase 40-45 units. The money for installation is in capital outlay.
- We need to look at differences between Promethean and e-Beam.
- Tom noted that Dr. Fredericksen has asked if this is the right product.
- Charlie – let's try with the log for one week and then we will decide where we go. Carl will handle. Carl and Donna will get together to decide on schools.
- Brian spoke regarding the issue with the Promethean boards being written on with markers. The boards have been cleaned. White boards are being relocated in some classrooms due to their location.

FY2010 Lease ~ Mark Miller

- Charlie is meeting with the board next Tuesday morning to review the budget.
- Discussion on budget for computers and Promethean. More funds are being allocated to Promethean. Need \$1.265 million to maintain computer inventory. Concerned about \$1.9 million to replace computer inventory once every four years.
- Glen Avenue will need \$50,000 for Promethean boards.
- Tom – needs estimate of what the projections are to move forward with committee plans
- Mark - \$7000 each for boards, Brian - \$4800 each for installation
- Discussion on transferring money from capital outlay for installation
- Discussion on how we use the money in capital outlay - this may be cut again
- Tom and Charlie will handle when they know more about the budget
- Charlie wants to know a general number not by school
- We will assume we can replace computers that we are expected to without adding additional funds

- Average computer cost = \$450 mini laptops, \$625 thin pc's, \$1,400 laptop, \$1,200 computer

FY 2009 Equipment Status ~ Donna Matteson

- Donna stated that 72 thin PC's have been placed at Wicomico High. Some were installed in Rick Roman's room. He is using them for the Bridge Project. Carl will discuss with Carla training for teachers to integrate this technology into their classrooms.
- 948 mini laptops are in the process of being ordered - \$407 ea.
- Cabinets will need to be installed for mini laptops. They will need to be secured to a wall. 202 small cabinets, 6 larger cabinets and 3 carts for storage for the mini laptops.
- Donna to talk with M&A about customizing the splash screen on the mini laptops.

JMB Instructional Technology Equipment ~ Brian Foret

- Brian distributed and reviewed classroom floor plan drawing. Decisions need to be made ASAP on which board we are going to use, and if we will need a TV in each classroom. Carl is looking at a new board from 3M. Need to know for wiring. Brian will give it two weeks before making a decision. This item to be included in the February agenda.

Podcast: iTunes Update ~ Brian Foret

- Request was made for this. Donna said that this has been opened up.

E-rate Requirement of Teaching Internet Safety ~ Carl Dragwa

- Carl discussed a new law relating to E-rate which implies that if we are not teaching internet safety, we will not be available for E-rate. This could be a media specialist department responsibility. Carl will give information to Tom and he will address. We need to find something appropriate for elementary level students.

Mardela/Northwestern Tower Update ~ Brian Foret

- Brian distributed an estimated completion schedule. It is scheduled to be completed April 20 by the Maryland State Highways. (pending weather) The link is already completed.

White Board Conversion Project Update ~ Brian Foret

- Brian distributed an update on the installs for FY '09. Phase 1 is completed, Phase 2 list is from the schools and bundle projects, Phase 3 is based on available funds – Capital Outlay funds. An overlay is placed on the boards.
- Carl mentioned that the Chipman installs are in bad condition. Brian stated that the boards have been looked at.
- Many requests have been submitted.
- Discussion on high cost of install. Requires two or three staff to install.

Miscellaneous

- Mark spoke regarding the changes in the telephone system. Service will move from Verizon to Cavalier and Toadnet to Verizon. Changes will be to voice only. Changes will take place June 15 – July 1.
- Mark - Next years fiber optic contract steps down per month, we will be paying less to Sunesys. This will affect proceeds from E-rate.

Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 11:15 a.m.
- Next meeting - Weds., February 17, 2009 – 1:00–3:00 p.m., BOE Media Center (changed from February 25)