

# District Technology Meeting Agenda

Attending: Valerie Pitts, Kim Murray, Bob Montes, Stuart Reiter, Daniel Norbutas, Marilyn Clark

- 1) **EdTech Profile Due April 6, 2007** - All teachers and staff must complete the technology profile no later than 4/6/07.
  - a) K.M. will send an email to all teachers and staff announcing the deadline for the completion of the profile as well as directions to do so.
  - b) K.M. will provide B.M. and S.R. with current teacher user name and passwords to aid in training as well as a list of new staff that must complete the profile.
  - c) B.M. and S.R. will assist K.M. in coordinating the completion of the profiles.
  
- 2) **Comcast Cable / Internet Services** - Comcast currently provides the district with free cable in all classrooms at Hall and Neil Cummins. Comcast also offers Internet service on up to 5 computers for free as well. K.M. will research the following:
  - a) Free Cable (which we currently receive) - research Possible feed to the D.O.
  - b) Free Internet (up to 5 computers) Possible use - PowerSchool server Internet backup.
  
- 3) **Guidelines for use of Countywide Data** - MCOE is coordinating the purchase of a student information database that would house STAR data and other pertinent student testing information. This information will then be made available to teachers for student assessments. Currently we do not a database capable of manipulating this data. Since many districts will be buying into the database the cost will be less per district. The expected roll out date will be the 07/08 school year. The 2 databases currently being researched are:
  - a) Red School House
  - b) Data Director
  
- 4) **CSIS Cohort Project** - Currently the state of California is offering a one-time reimbursement for setup and continued compliance with the California State Student Identifier Project. Up to 15K in re-imburement will be given to each district (one-time funds) to hire a project coordinator and the staff necessary to enter and update student information in a student information system and within the CSIS database. Larkspur School District is considering taking part in this project.
  - a) K.M. outlined the steps necessary to complete the project each year and emphasized the amount of work necessary to be compliant with the state of California.
  - b) V.P. expressed that we should hire a project manager to be responsible for the interfacing of PowerSchool with CSIS and that K.M. should not be responsible for this duty as well.
  - c) K.M. stated that the project would only be successful if it is supported by the secretarial staff, and that they must have the time necessary to do all data entry in a timely fashion. K.M. stated that the project would fail if it were not supported at this level.
  - d) V.P. suggested a possible project manager and K.M. will follow up to see if the party is interested. If so, K.M. will work with Becky White to sign the contract with the State of California to start the project.

- e) K.M. will then work with the project manager to initiate the training process necessary to take over the project and will provide continued support to extract the information from PowerSchool.
- f) K.M. will also take part in the state training so that there is support for the project manager as well.

**5) Student Scheduling - PowerScheduler vs. "Live Side"** - Discussed the pros and cons of using PowerScheduler vs. Live scheduling for Hall Middle School 07/08 school year.

- a) D.N. stated the issues we had in the past with using PowerScheduler verses live side scheduling and why we do live side scheduling.
- b) V.P. explained that the reasons why we should try PowerScheduler again.
  - i) K.M. needs to attend PowerSchool University the week the turn over would take place. If she does not attend PSU in June there would be an extra expense to the district so that she could attend in Washington D.C. in August
  - ii) Using PS would help streamline the scheduling process.
- c) D.N. stated he would take a look at PowerScheduler to see if it would meet the sites needs however if it doesn't he will do live side scheduling.
- d) K.M. will take the PS training to see if using Powerscheduler would meet our needs. If in the end D.N. decides not to use PowerScheduler The Powerschool server will be taken down in the month of July to allow K.M. to make schedule changes and turn over the year. All student scheduling will take place in August at Both Hall and Neil Cummins.

**6) Neil Cummins Lab-** Replacement of the Neil Cummins Computer lab was discussed

- a) K.M. and S.R. presented cost estimates to replace the computer lab hardware and software at Neil Cummins.
- b) Best Estimate 56K.
- c) M.C, V.P., D.N., and K.M. discussed possible funding options.
- d) S.R. stated that software options still needed to be researched to firm up estimated costs.
- e) S.R. stated that changing the lab to OS X would in fact change the way he teaches computers, and would lead to a more project based curriculum.
- f) Item will be revisited at future meetings

**7) Hosted email / Calendar options** - The option of switching district email to a hosted vendor was discussed. Discussion is in response to numerous teacher and staff complaints about the current email system and the lack of a district calendar.

- a) K.M. proposed Call Tower as a possible vendor. Vendor provides the following:
  - i) Email for 150 employees
  - ii) 1 address book for all employees
  - iii) The ability to share calendars and schedule appointments throughout the district
  - iv) Wireless PDA syncing
  - v) 24/7 technical support
  - vi) Spam filtering
  - vii) Redundant backup server

viii) Teleconnect funding can be used for this service, which virtually cuts the cost in half. Full price must be paid on a monthly basis and it will be reimbursed by the state teleconnect fund.

b) K.M. will be inviting the vendor to the next tech meeting so he can demo the product.

8) **Library Server Upgrade** - The library server upgrade was mentioned at this meeting and will be brought up at a future meeting. Since Follett will no longer be supporting OS 9 and as the district moves to OS X it is necessary to upgrade the library server as well. Although we have software estimates, we are still waiting on server estimates as well.