

Minutes- RSU13 – Technology Committee Meeting March 28, 2013

	Committee members		Committee members		Integrators
p	Loren Andrews, Chair	e	Nancy Jeffers	p	Hank Read
a	Sally Carleton	p	Scott Vaitones	e	Laurie Walsh
p	Carol Bachofner	e	Bruce Johnson	p	Kristin Gould
a	Darryl Sanborn				
P	Present	A	Absent	E	Excused

Minutes

1. Discussion: Date Certain for the School Board to go paperless.
Suggested that it be “Paperless with exception”; this would mean a Board member could request “paper” and not be mandated to an electronic format.
Devices would either be Board owned and be given to a Board member to use during their term or a Board member could provide their own device.
One of the Technology Committee members may propose Board devices be added to the FY14 budget.

Scott Vaitones was strongly urged to provide the budget in a locked electronic format such as a .pdf file. Scott explained that it is a cumbersome process to create a new .pdf in addition to his excel file every time a change is made. He said he also maintains confidential information in parts of his excel file that would have to be erased from a .pdf file before making it public.

2. MLTI Update and discussion
Discussed what is currently unspent in this year’s budget that is set aside for a new lease once the new MLTI devices are identified. There is roughly \$175,000 which equates to \$700,000 in purchases on a 4 year lease.

Scott said he believed the intent with this year’s money would be to replace the Grade 9 through 12 student laptops and upgrade the K-6 labs. Loren and Carol feel the intent this year is to buy one to one devices for all K-6 students and create an additional lease next year to replace the grade 9 through 12 laptops.
Scott noted this is not how next year’s budget is structured and would require upwards of another \$200,000 being added for an additional lease.

It was noted some of the current testing and supplemental instructional software such as NWEA, Lexia, Alex, and other specialized programs will not run on iPads.

3. Loren reviewed the direction Many Flags is going in with its “Promise Neighborhood” grant. This grant is being used to develop a proposal to excess a large Federal grant. The grant application will be focused on providing internet connectivity for all student households in the District regardless of financial means.

The Technology Committee needs to draft answers and strategies around the following questions for review at the April 25th Technology Committee meeting.

The questions that need to be answered include:

- ✓ What would it take to get internet at home for those who can't afford it?
- ✓ How do we offer professional development to parents?
- ✓ The District Integrators moving to become as interventionist with students and parents
- ✓ Would our schools be open to parents and students in the evenings?
How would the program be managed?
- ✓ What type of connectivity would be offered – Cable vs. Wi-Fi?

4. Technology Plan - Current District plan ends this June 30th.

Hank Read has agreed, in Bruce's absence, to chair the plan development committee and bring a draft to the Technology Committee prior to the June 6th School Board meeting where the plan will have to be adopted by the Board.

5. Should we consider "buying out" the MLTI devices in June?

Need to wait until the MLTI devices are named so that we will have a better understanding of the potential value to the old MLTI devices. The buyout would be over \$40,000.

6. FY14 Budget

There is some feeling that if we go to an iPad platform which has no moving parts, there would be less need for repair time and more tech time available for integration help.

7. Other business

Kristin Gould asked:

- ✓ What is the direction for the pilot program and will there be additional iPads next year? No determination at this time.
- ✓ Will there be more tech integrators next year? Not as the budget is proposed.
- ✓ Does it make sense for the librarian to be an integrator? Yes, except that they are spread so thin by covering multiple buildings. The model would work well if every building had a full time librarian.

Kristin feels her age range of students (3rd graders) definitely are benefiting from the use of the iPads.

Adjourned 7:50 pm