

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Technology Training Center, District Office
4210 Technology Drive
Fremont, California 94538
September 8, 2014 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson Rebecca Smith. The group proceeded with introductions and their technology strengths and reason they participate on the committee.

Present:

Rebecca Smith, Chairperson; Anne Damron, Secretary; Joe Siam, CTO; Rob Reibenschuh, AP American High School; Sameer Desai, Parent, Forest Park Elementary; Michelle Hartman-Gruber, SEIU Rep.; Linda Licari, Parent, Niles Elementary; Aaron Cammarata, Parent, Mattos Elementary, Vikram Jung, Parent, Mission San Jose High School; Robert Hou, Parent, Mission San Jose High School; Maile Ferreira, FUDTA Representative, Teacher Librarian at Mission San Jose High School/ District Librarian; Antoinette Schlobohm, Vice Chair, Teacher, Ardenwood Elementary School.

Absent:

Peter Xie, Parent; Melissa Heckman, Parent; Danielle Girard, Instructional Technology Coach; Thom Birbeck, FUDTA Rep., Teacher, Hopkins Junior High.

Approval of Agenda: All in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Tabled until later in the meeting when quorum present.

Oral Communications—None

Standing Items

Director's Report will now encompass Tech Trends/Community Input, Parent Feedback, Parent-Teacher-Student Communication, and Departmental Updates. Joseph Siam, CTO, reported that 4 IT Support Specialist positions and 1 Systems Specialist position remain open. Interviews for these positions will be held this Wednesday. The Electronics Technician position is open – no candidates have been able to pass the test. Will test be offered again? Joe believes so. Requests for "Qualifications for Network" proceed with projects at Ardenwood, Vallejo Mill, Brookvale, and Kennedy is being posted. Site walks will be later this week. School server project—the servers are in warehouse—plans underway to get set up and out to 22 school sites. FUSD has server "situations all over the district so it will be nice start to standardizing. For Secondary sites, servers

will need to be more robust. Inventory is a mix of used, donated and other hardware that is not standard. Plans are to also standardize the server configurations. IT is currently piloting a 2-way radio system at six sites—full pilot is rolled out at three sites. It is looking at possibility to replace Sprint coverage (in Fremont coverage is spotty at best). Plans include repurposing and new radios would need to be purchased. Radios need to talk locally but also citywide. Some special dual band radios may need to be purchased. Joe wants to clarify that would like a disaster recovery site much further away from District Office (ours is very close by). Plans are continuing to create technology access for SEIU employees. Computers are being gathered for staff rooms so SEIU members can have access and some training regarding log ins, passwords, netiquette, etc.

Scheduled Items

Develop Presentation with Highlights of 2013-2014 TAC for FUSD Board Meeting:

Discussion centered on what we have been doing & the need for updating the Technology Plan. It was suggested that the past year's minutes be mined for the information needed for the TAC Presentation. Vikram suggested to make the presentation have segments such as how TAC helped orient a new CTO, presentations we have had during the year, what we have worked on for the community. The report tells what we have been doing and to ask for direction from the Board. Antoinette will create the PPT presentation as a Google Doc.

Technology Plan was discussed—it is a template. Discussion included tech-curriculum relationship, the need for updates, the lack of flexibility in the plan, the use of a consultant for the e-Rate program, etc. Committee wondered if we might talk about Technology Budget. TAC can remind Board that we need funds committed to Technology. Discussion continued regarding the pros and cons of different solutions that might be proposed.

Present & Discuss Technology Department Initiatives Information
Long-term projects include building out FUSD's disaster recovery site. Are we looking at a new phone system for the district? Joe would like to see VOIP. Current system is still digital with servers and switches at school site. System was replaced in 2002. Sameer suggests that VOIP, due to restricted bandwidth in the district, might not be the best option. Aaron recommended a study of infrastructure feasibility. Joe will list out a roadmap for future. Tech Plan was finished by the previous CTO. Not a lot of attention was paid to infrastructure and now we are suffering from that—cabling standards, etc. Joe is pretty strict on these types of things. Joe has a tiered idea of how to get these projects accomplished and will detail more of this next meeting. He is considering a replacement plan. Computers need to be good, reliable and run the current software that FUSD uses. Joe has established a hardware refresh cycle. Network road map, hardware road map, etc. need to be tied into Tech Plan. Is there a target for ratio of hardware to student

systems? Three to one is a sweet spot. They don't have to share too much and they get lots of time with devices. Anne pointed out that carts are not working well for kindergarten classes. Linda echoed this regarding second graders and the challenges of Windows systems.

Robert would like an update on parent/communication portal with SchoolLoop and Illuminate. He has noticed that progress toward graduation, previous grades, etc. cannot be seen. Roll out of Illuminate Parent Portal will be sometime this school year.

Attendance training for Elementary Office Assistants: A consultant worked at state level for attendance audits and worked with Illuminate. Illuminate is more compliant with what state wants and from audit perspective. She created attendance manuals and training for office staff and administrators.

Approval of minutes: A member noted that March and April were already approved. May, June, and September need to be approved.

Rob motions to approve all three sets of minutes: May, June and September. The motion was seconded by Sameer. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Anne asked for access to Schoolwires website for TAC to post approved minutes. Members prefer their professional names to be used. Anne will check past minutes for name spellings.

TAC Projects for 2014-15 Ideas

Discussion

Suggest that committee members give presentations on topics of interest.

Update Tech plan—Rob suggests number one priority and suggests creating a sub-committee. Robert pointed out it is not a committee project but an IT department project. How is this going to benefit kids? Line up with LCAP/LCFF to see if Measure E is tying to this plan.

Development of Next Meeting's Tentative Agenda

Information

--Review Presentation to Board.

--Report of what Measure E is spending the Technology dollars on--Joe

--Paperless delivery of parent information—Pros/Cons. Google logins—parent set up a Google drive for sharing info, parent opt-in contact list and papers from folders. Aaron found EnGrade. Legalities, privacy, confusion about what email was used, are all issues.

GAFE: First 3 of first name, 3 of last and some combination of digits from FUSD ID is standard login and password. Fusk12.net is domain name. Domain was shortened as much as possible their username. Schools should migrate to this domain if used the old domain. Ids are tied to an active directory. System will detect a duplicate. Joe's goal is to have system detect new student in Illuminate so

active directory will know to assign things. Discussion continued regarding the number of systems Illuminate has to coordinate with, access for long-term subs, legalities of long-term subs having access, etc.

Aaron asked about Schoolwires website updates. FUSD is hiring a web designer. Volunteers can help with website—they need to complete the form and be approved. Joe would like help in advocating for Web Designer for IT to be involved with look and feel, ease, and design structure. How site is setup affects troubleshooting, security, back door entrances, etc. Michelle recommends that the tie-in is included on job description. Outdated information was discussed.

Aaron discussed large volunteer effort to have Matos and MSN curriculum increase the sharing. Group needs a way to instantly communicate and alert people when changes happen. Sign-up Genius, Remind101, and Volunteer Spot were suggested.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 3, 2014
Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.