REGULAR MEETING OF THE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Technology Training Center District Office
4210 Technology Drive
Fremont, California 94536
April 7, 2014   7 p.m.

Call to Order 7:15 p.m.
Roll Call: <u>Present</u>: David Thornley, Anne Damron, Rob Reibenschuh, Samir Desai, Thom Birbeck, Antoinette Schlobohm, Becky Smith, Maile Ferreira, Robert Ho, Bin Wang, Suzanne Ayriss, <u>Absent</u>: R.S. Mukherjee, Robert Herron, Vikram Jung, Melissa Heckman, Joe Siam

Approval of Minutes—Motion was made by Thom with a second by Rob; vote was unanimous to approve December 2013, January, February and March 2014 minutes. David agreed to post them to the committee webpage as soon as possible.

Oral Communications—none

1. Director's Report – Joseph Siam— a personal emergency caused his absence. David Thornley read an email from Joe with a few updates. He has hired a new tech named Bryce; others have been offered jobs though some decline because of lack of healthcare benefits. Wireless improvements are continuing at Ardenwood, Kennedy, Vallejo Mill, Brookvale.   An update about Illuminate security will go to the TAC group, as well as correspondence (received by Joe but addresses to TAC) will go out to group.
2. Tech Trends/Community Input—Toni will be receiving a 3–d printer because of her Donor's Choose grant being funded by Google. Discussion centered around obtaining wands to check out laptops, security, teacher training for cart use, etc. and possibly using TipWeb or Sirsi to check out laptops. Additional comments about SBAC Carts.   Carts are moving from school to school in a trailer for secondary schools—concerns about jostling, rain (delivery guys through a tarp over carts).
3. Parent Feedback: Parents noted a discrepancy between grades SchoolLoop shows and what is on the computer generated progress report. Teachers can submit published grades or all grades— teachers need to be careful so the discrepancy between the two systems is minmal. Lack of working voicemail meant that all calls were going to David Thornley (laughter!)—now parents are complaining about the phones not working being a safety issue, attendance issues etc.
4. Parent-Teacher Student Communication: see above
5. Reporting—see above
6. Departmental Changes—see above

Present, Discuss & Update Technology Department Initiatives: Transfer of data from SchoolMax to Illuminate is a massive project. Tech. Dept. is getting the basics done, then all the extras will be attached. Illuminate training is being scheduled, possible during the second week of August. Suggestion to have an all district wide calendar so these scheduling things are easier. Counselors will have an Illuminate Training for their regular monthly meeting in May.

Naviance/SchoolLoop Presentation: Suzanne/Toni. Walter Garcia, FUSD A/V specialist, will help film and infomercial about Naviance. How would parents give feedback to an infomercial? Perhaps a small info night to get the questions answered—suggestion to use an EL audience. Suzanne envisions infomercial as more of a prompting to use it, than a how to use it? Committee suggestion was to limit production to 10 minutes. Members also commented that if you provide a product that the parents and students perceive they have a need for, they are going to use it. Perhaps an advertising and marketing campaign is more important. Suzanne plans to make the infomercial in May.

Tech has not set up the auto roll over of grades etc. to Naviance even though it is part of our contract. Ohlone College grant pays for Naviance. Counselors may move away from Naviance to the free. With this system, students can enter their classes themselves. Counselors have concerns about self-reporting on this system. California Colleges.edu also fills out CSU application and many community colleges.

Discussion of FUSD Personnel reorganization plan—if Educational Technology person moves out of Technology Department—to be acted upon by the FUSD board on April 9th. Members talked about what they need, and the need for a teacher voice in the Technology Department. A suggestion was made for input from advisory groups should have been solicited on the reorg plan before it went to the board. If FUSD is going to web-based technology, a voice that represents educators is needed to make sure the Tech Department understands the impact of decisions on the end users.

Technology Standards Alignment—What is a good next step, asks Becky? She sees this as being a good setup for the Lesson Plan Repository. TAC thought the presentation was dense—so the subcommittee needs to meet. Becky will coordinate. One thing is that standards could serve as an appendix to Tech Plan so plan updates are minimal.

Lesson Plan repository committee has not met. SchoolLoop has introduced a feature that may work as a repository or a Learning Management System (LMS) with no additional cost to the district. SchoolLoop does not have an elementary model because it does not support a standards based report card. SchoolLoop has a longterm goal to to learn how to address those standards so they could introduce an elementary model.

Continuing & New Membership: Bin does not think that he will continue. Sameer would like to continue. Suzanne will not continue next year. Robert will write up an "ad" for newsletters. Anne agreed to send the ad to Principal's and Secretaries for newsletters, and will ask David to post on district website. Anne will send updates to David for membership list updates.

Smarter Balanced Testing has begun. Hopkins tested today and did not have any "drops" with 8 schools testing today. David and Thom shared some tips that will help other schools, for example pairing headphones.

Development of Next Meeting's Tentative Agenda: Maile would like to talk about start of school year and technology running smoothly. This year at MSJHS, wireless not working, technology not working, etc. so teachers could not present the planned lessons. Irvington could not stream You Tube videos because things are so slow. Teachers now have their own computers so many "plugging in" and password issues should not exist. Discussion continued about sound issues and typing issues with students. Maile noted that READ 44 at Kennedy was purchased for the EL department (refer to March minutes).

Becky wanted to mention the Discovery Streaming suggestion. It has lots of banner ads but doesn't support ELA common core in her view. Toni has used extensively with kids. Thom wonders if quality of video has improved. PBS has a new video site coming out. Khan Academy was also suggested.

Board presentation should be created soon and presented in summer—contact Toni to suggest topics for report.

June Meeting is the first meeting of the Technology Committee year.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 6, 2014
Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.