

2016-2017 Regular Meeting of the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)

Fremont Unified School District, Technology Training Center, District Office, 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont, CA 94536

September 19, 2016, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Call to Order: 7:08 p.m.

Roll Call:

Fremont Community Member	Present (Y/N)	FUSD Staff Member	Present (Y/N)
Biju Abraham, Parent, American Attendance Area	Y	Thom Birbeck, Coach C & I Dept. & FUDTA Rep.	Y
Goutam Das, Parent, Mission Attendance Area,	Y	Anne Damron, School Secretary, & CSEA Rep.; Secretary 16-17	Y
Sameer Desai, Parent, American Attendance Area,	Y	Jeff Downing, Computer Specialist, Millard Elementary, Vice Chair 16-17	Y
Linda Licari, Parent, Washington Attendance Area	Y	Maile Ferreira, Teacher Librarian, MSJ High, FUDTA Rep. & FUSD Librarian	Y
Robert Hou, Community Member	Y	Eric Bables, Instructional Technology Coordinator	N
Vikram Jung, Parent, Mission Attendance Area	N	Vacancy, SEIU Representative	N
Rebecca Smith, Community Member	Y	Prince Padania, Teacher, MSJ Elementary	Y
Peter Xie, Parent, Washington Attendance Area Chairperson 16-17	Y	Rob Reibenschuh, Asst. Principal, American HS	Y
Seated Voting Members: 16		Quorum Met: yes, 13/16	
		Joe Siam, FUSD CTO, ex-officio, non-voting	Y

Guests: Barth Paine, FUSD Web Designer.

Approval of Minutes: Jeff Downing made a motion to approve the May 2016. Linda Licari seconded the motion. Members who attended the May meeting voted unanimously to approve. Linda Licari made a motion to approve the June 2016 Minutes and Rebecca Smith seconded the motion. Members who attended the June meeting voted unanimously to approve.

Approval of Agenda: TAC agenda was approved by consensus.

Oral Communications - Comments from public or members on items not on agenda -- Linda Licari noted that the Parents Rights and Responsibilities Handbook contained Internet/GAFE usage agreements. She asked what the students do who are not given parent permission to use the internet. One suggestion was alternate non-computer assignment; at other schools the Computer Specialists phoned all the parents who indicated NO to make sure the adults fully understood the implications.

CTO update: Joe Siam noted that staffing the Technology Department continues to be a process. A Video Production Supervisor started today. Other open positions include Data Administrator, Systems Specialist and IT Support Specialist.

Joe described a successful and well-received pilot program at Weibel. Instead of an in-person Maze Day for paperwork completion and receipt of schedules, Weibel families were contacted via email with a code to login to the virtual Maze Day. The Weibel community and staff decided it was an “A-maze Day”. TAC members asked questions about the use electronic signatures, the use of vendor Infosnap (though it doesn’t “talk” to our SIS Illuminate well), the need for the parent email to be accurate, and the possibility of forgery. The tech department hopes to pilot 2 more elementaries, one Junior High and one High School.

The Comcast network was upgraded in mid-August from a 1 gig bottleneck to 10 gigs. Work continues make the Wide Area Network (WAN) be a 10 gig connection to each school. The project, being done by contractor Sunesys, is in the permitting process with the city, railroads and BART. Permits are expected to be issued and construction started in November or December, with the goal completion date in April. July 2017 is the

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contracted completion date, but any work complete before then will not cost FUSD as invoicing commences July 1, 2017. Sunesys was selected because of low cost, no up front construction costs and cost savings over the current vendor, among other considerations during the bidding process.

Old Business:

Hardware Refresh Cycle:

Background: The Instructional Services Department is allocating to the IT Department about \$600,000 to purchase document cameras and projectors for those classrooms that don't have one. Joe noted that the amount has been revised to closer to \$500,000. TAC members asked for data on how many classrooms do not have these items as part of a "basic classroom kit."

Robust discussion continued from members: 50" TVs, ceiling mounted projectors, the need for Chromecasts, earthquake concerns with large TVs in rooms, the possibility of LED projectors to possibly eliminate the "bulb burn-out" factor, short throw projectors, etc. Members were in consensus that room should be brought up to a "basic kit" standard and to consider replacing old units, bulbs, HDMI cables etc. and members want FUSD to think ahead about technology changes. One member asked about refreshing the 4-year-old staff computers. Another member noted that all teachers might not need the same technology items, so some may need a choice. One suggestion was to have fact sheets that list the benefits of each type of technology. One teacher noted that a staff member may not be in the same classroom forever. Members are conceptually in favor of a "classroom basic toolkit" that might include a document camera, a projector, screen, etc. All also see the need to upgrade old equipment and that some classes may have requests for advanced equipment.

TAC agreed that all members need data to make a decision even though item may go to School Board next week. Item will be revisited, to include data on how many classrooms/percentage of total classrooms in FUSD that need items, before making a decision.

In addition, the Tech Department has regularly budgeted \$500,000 for technology refresh (as stated in the 2014-2017 Technology Plan). In the past, the refresh money has been used for carts with Chromebooks. One suggestion is to use the funding to update one lab at each comprehensive high school. Currently, each high school has 3-5 labs with varying degrees of capability. \$500,000 would equip one lab at each high school with 36 high specification hardware systems and displays. Software would not be included. Another suggestion is to add Chromebook carts to each site. Members asked if access points would be included on carts. Access points would not, as they are being installed as part of the Measure E funded infrastructure project. Replacing the teacher laptops (approx. 3500) would cost approximately \$1,000,000 so that future need must be considered.

Members noted that different schools have different visions for their technological future, so it is important to ask the schools what they need. Equity is a consideration so using the unduplicated student numbers would be one way to distribute the funds but allow site choice. Another member suggested the need to set aside some percentage toward the need to upgrade technology for staff. Technology Department is also studying the concept of leasing hardware.

Website Hosting:

Background: Last year FUSD extended the Schoolwires website hosting contract but the board asked TAC to evaluate whether or not FUSD should continue with them or look for another solution. As presented last year at the March 7, 2016 TAC meeting, the Content Management Systems (CMS) comparison chart is still pretty accurate. Schoolloop needs to get the code written and beta tested to show that their web hosting platform has improved at the presentation level. TAC agreed that the FUSD website cost, presentation and usage need to be discussed at a future meeting. AHS, TJHS and Hopkins are all using Schoolloop as their websites. Horner is

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partially using Schooop. Members had consensus that for a school district to look like a cohesive school district, the websites should look the same. As the conversation about websites continued, members noted that manageability and ease of updating and pushing out common content are important to staff at sites. TAC decided to have a CMS presentation at the November meeting, and hope to have the Google Sites for Education (new) included. TAC members gave kudos to Barth for the work with the Curriculum and Instruction Department using Google Drive to populate website information.

Technology Plan:

Background: The district's current technology plan is expiring in June 30, 2017. TAC agreed to have a short presentation from Rebecca on a Tech Plan idea as well as subcommittee assignments at the October meeting. TAC does not own the Technology Plan, but is a partner in identifying, upgrading and changing goals in the document. Members agreed to review the existing 2014-2017 plan (all 111 pages on the FUSD TAC committee webpage) and come prepared to the next meeting.

New Business: see the three items above.

Possible Future Agenda Items:

TAC Review Proposal Subcommittee Progress

Privacy/Ransomware/Student info in so many web-based places (Back-ups, DRS)

Tech Survey Subcommittee Progress

Update on internal document - Technology Roadmap

Revisit Content Management Systems (CMS)—November

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:49 p.m. **NEXT MEETING:** Monday, October 3, 2016

Acronyms...Defined

CMS Content Management System

SIS Student Information System