

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

Feb 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

Fremont Community Member	Present (Y/N)	FUSD Staff Member	Present (Y/N)
Biju Abraham , Parent, American Attendance Area	N	Thom Birbeck , Coach C & I Dept. & FUDTA Rep.	Y
Goutam Das , Parent, Mission Attendance Area,	N	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	Y
Vikram Jung , Parent, Mission Attendance Area	N	Vacancy, SEIU Representative	
Rebecca Smith , Community Member	N	Prince Padania , Teacher, MSJ Elementary	N
Peter Xie , Parent, Washington Attendance Area Chairperson 2016-2017	Y	Rob Reibenschuh , Asst. Principal, American HS	Y
Seated Voting Members: 15		Quorum Met: 10/15	
		Joe Siam , FUSD CTO, ex-officio, non-voting	Y

Guests: Barth Paine, FUSD Web Designer.

Approval of Minutes: Jeff Downing motioned and Rob Reibenschuh seconded to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017 meeting. The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote. Members were not present at the January meeting abstained from the vote.

Approval of Agenda: By consensus, TAC agreed to hear focus this meeting on the detailed follow-up presentation of Clock, Bell, Speaker/Public Address, VOIP phone systems.

Oral Communications: Comments from public or members on items not on agenda.

First, Maile Ferreria noted that only one desktop is listed in the FUSD Technology Store and that the parent group at MSJHS wants to purchase desktops with large monitors for student use in the school library. What would the process be for asking to purchase larger monitors to go with the one tower listed? Joe noted that emailing the CTO or Mary Lasica regarding the item and whether or not the IT department would be able to support the item. Attaching the approval to the requisition will enable the Purchasing Department to process the items quickly. Maile suggested that a note be included on the website regarding this possibility.

Secondly, Peter XI mentioned that he would like TAC to talk about online security again, including phishing, ransomware etc. and how to protect employees and students. He would like TAC to talk about how the knowledge from TAC members might help FUSD. It was suggested that a meeting with the Systems Administrator be the next step, and then have information from that meeting reported out to TAC. It was noted that the human element is often the most difficult part of the online security. Others noted that password security is a challenge for those who have substitutes, as substitutes may need passwords to be able to efficiently and accurately perform the job duties.

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CTO update: Joe Siam reported that the Systems Administrator opening is filled. The position was filled by an in-house employee so a Systems Specialist position is open.

Next, Joe gave an extensive presentation about Clock, Bell, Speaker/Public Address, and the Phone Systems in FUSD. Many of the slides in the presentation will be part of the presentation on the FUSD School Board Agenda for Weds. February 8, 2017. All of the systems have old hardware, cabling and infrastructure are aging, as well as poor cabling standards abound in the installations. Joe compliments the two phone technicians in his department for their efforts to keep wiring and cables organized and as clean as possible. He also noted that they spend most of their time dealing with phone emergencies. Photographs of water damage to the coated copper wire cables and their connections to boards were shown. The water damage affects connectivity, voice quality and sound quality. The way many of the systems were designed contributes to the severity of the outages. Data on outages was included in the presentation.

For Clock/Bell/Speaker Systems, it was noted that currently FUSD has three different systems. The components are hardwired, and are showing many of the same challenges as the current phone system. The systems are independent and require separate management. Some sites have no speaker (PA) system or need a major upgrade and installation of outdoor speakers. At the last meeting, the cost for upgrades at that site, the estimate has been revised to \$47,000. Lack of a speaker system affects the ability to communicate at a site, and may be a safety hazard.

The Technology Department is suggesting that the Phone/Clock/Bell/Speaker Systems be upgraded at all sites. A Clock/Bell/Speaker unit can be placed where the exiting clock is located. The unit can be sized for the square footage to be served by the unit (i.e. gyms, MURS, etc.). Currently, the WAN/LAN upgrades mean that since construction is happening, there is a cost benefit to removing all the cabling at once. Currently, FUSD is paying for the labor to work around the areas where only some of the cables are to be removed. Redesigning the systems using best practices may be of great benefit to FUSD. The district could leverage the benefits of the new data cabling, which is still copper and is to be installed indoors so weather should not be a factor for quality of service.

A solution is to install a VOIP phone system that is easier to maintain and administrate. New staff would not be needed, but the current phone technicians would need training. No hub sites would be installed, as built-in back-ups and a secondary installation would be planned. The hardware for the systems would be a one-time estimated \$4.8 million purchase and is currently in the Measure E budget. Joe share slides of the cost of the current systems' compared with the estimated cost of a three-year contract. The difference in costs is minimal, and all schools would have robust features. Questions about the costs of licensing, repairs, parts, support, etc. were asked.

TAC asked many questions including whether or not phone extensions follow employees from site to site, the connection with emergency response systems, the need to dial outside area codes from all school phones (not just offices), storage of phones/cables during summer cleaning, etc.

Jeff Downing made a motion that was seconded by Linda Licari that TAC support the CTO recommendation that FUSD replace the current and aging Phone/Clock/Bell/Speaker systems with new Clock/Bell/Speaker/VOIP Phone systems piggy-backing on cabling upgrades currently in progress. In a unanimous vote, TAC voted to support the motion.

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TAC then reviewed upcoming agenda possibilities for the remaining three meetings this committee year.

New Business: none

Possible Future Agenda Items:

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

Update on internal document - Technology Roadmap

Refresh Cycle Funding for 17-18—Site Based needs

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:28 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 6, 2017

VOIP

Voice Over Internet Protocol

DID

Direct Inward Dial

POTS

Plain Old Telephone Lines

10/20/30 Rule

10 Slides, 20 Minutes, 30 point type for a presentation