2015-2016 Regular Meeting of the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)

Fremont Unified School District, Technology Training Center, District Office, 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont, CA 94536
January 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**NOTE**: Those who wish to speak under Oral Communications must be present prior to 7:00 PM to request to do so.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Call to Order   7:01 p.m. by Vice Chair Sameer Desai

Roll Call & Introductions:

Fremont Community Member	Present (Y/N)	FUSD Staff Member	Present (Y/N)
Biju Abraham, American Attendance Area, Ardenwood Elementary	Y	Thom Birbeck, Coach C & I Dept. & FUDTA Rep.	Y
Goutam Das, Mission Attendance Area, Hopkins Jr. High	Y	Anne Damron, School Secretary, & CSEA Rep.	Y
Sameer Desai, Parent, Forest Park Elementary, Vice Chair,TAC	Y	Jeff Downing, Computer Specialist, Millard Elementary	N
Linda Licari, Washington Attendance Area, Niles Elementary	Y	Maile Ferreira, Teacher Librarian, MSJ High, FUDTA Rep. & FUSD Librarian	Y
Robert Hou, Mission Attendance Area, MSJ High	N	Danielle Girard, Instructional Tech Coordinator	Y
Vikram Jung, Mission Attendance Area, MSJ High	Y	Michelle Hartman-Gruber, Campus Supervisor, & SEIU Rep.	N
Rebecca Smith, Mission Attendance Area, Chadbourne/Hopkins/MSJ High	Y	Prince Padania, Teacher, Oliveira Elementary	Y
Peter Xie, Parent, Parkmont Elementary	Y	Rob Reibenschuh, Asst. Principal, American HS	Y
Seated Voting Members: 16		Quorum Met : yes, 13/16	
		Joe Siam, FUSD Chief Technology Joe Siam (CTO) ex officio-non voting	Y

Guests: Barth Paine, FUSD Web Designer; Terry Brown, Interim Director of Transportation; Debbie Crawford, Supervisor/Transportation.

Approval of Minutes: Following a motion by Sameer Desai and a second by Thom Birbeck, the minutes of the December 7, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously. Members who were absent at the December meeting did not vote.

Approval of Agenda: Thom Birbeck motioned to approve the items on the agenda. Rob Reibenschuh seconded the motion that was approved unanimously.

Oral Communications - Comments from public or members on items on agenda –none.

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School Bus GPS Transportation Project: Joe Siam revisited the unanswered questions: One question was about how the system works in Dead Zones (i.e. Niles). The proposed vender reports the GPS system will cache activity; then the system dumps cache once the bus re-enters the signal area.

The second question was about the whether the Transportation Department has the budget for the GPS project. The answer is yes. Another question was about equity for students who ride bus services that are contracted through Durham. Interim Director Brown notes that Durham has the proposed Synovia system installed in their vehicles already. FUSD should be able to monitor both FUSD and Durham vehicles if the School Board votes to purchase the system. TAC members asked if parents will be able to monitor the Durham Busses? Mr. Brown does not have the answer. The capability is there because that is what the vendor provides. Parents can track arrival time to house or school, but not the actual route, and only for their own student. Mr. Brown noted that two-way radios have good coverage when in dead zones. Parents can revert to calling Transportation if they have concerns/questions. A new question arose--Does FUSD have crisis management system for a situation where bus is in dead zone or an emergency situation—ye, using the existing two way radio system. Committee members feel that cell coverage is very good in Fremont and problem could be parent's phone carrier.

Thom Birbeck made a motion that TAC recommend to the Board to support Transportation's purchase of the Synpovia GPS system as proposed. Rebecca Smith seconded the motion.

Discussion continued. Another questions arose about whether or not there would be a cost to sync systems If family has one student on Durham and one on FUSD; both Joe and Terry believe the app will cover both. Elk Grove Unified and Sacramento City Districts are extremely happy with their contracts with Synovia. The driver can push a panic button on the bus. TAC agrees this is very important. Student check button is installed on back of bus, so driver must walk through bus to confirm all students are off. Students could scan on and off (time consuming) but chip system would automatically read as they board and exit. Contract allows us to exit agreement with no penalty if FUSD has no funds for service. This way price is locked in. Transmission goes through cell service. Questions that have been asked and answered at previous meetings continued to be asked; Anne Damron called the question: TAC voted to approve the motion.

CTO update: Joe explained more thoroughly the LCAP definition of unduplicated students: Free/Reduced lunch eligibility, Foster/Homeless youth and EL students are actually who is counted as unduplicated. The funding comes from LCFF/LCAP supplemental funds so these students must be served by any technology purchased with these funds. The FUSD LCAP plan says that this amount should be used for technology to support achievement of these students. TAC reviewed the allocations based on the revised unduplicated students counts. TAC was reminded that School Site Councils' will vote on what is purchased at each site.

As reported last month, Joe reminded TAC that one of the best techs went to another company. An offer has been made to an applicant and Human Resources is awaiting the prospect's decision.

Joe reported that the automated account project for email, website, Aesop account access, etc. is progressing. Project development is complete so the system will look at two databases of authority (SIS/HR-Financial System) and will create an account for staff or student and will be implemented by end of month. The server project is also progressing. Servers to secondary sites will be deployed by summer. Elementary sites will be completed during the school year. Currently deployed site servers are mostly donated and outdated. Upgraded servers will help the automated account project run smoothly.

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2014-15 TAC Annual Presentation to Board**:** Due to her school schedule Rebecca can commit the preparing the presentation for the Board Meeting on March 9th. Joe will move the "placeholder" and TAC will review the presentation at the March 7th meeting.

TAC Proposal Forms - Draft Version 3 from subcommittee. Subcommittee did not have draft. Item tabled for the next meeting.

Teacher Technology Survey: In his new role as an Instructional Coach, Thom is discovering how little we know what each classroom looks like with respect to technology in the classroom. In his experience, as a classroom teacher, he had whatever he needed. At other sites, he has noted that some teachers do not have LCD projectors in their rooms. His wonder is whether TAC should pursue figuring out what teachers have in their rooms? A survey would really help the Technology Department as well. Peter suggests making the objective clear, and make it easy to respond to the survey. Maile wants the connectivity surveyed as well. Members noted that it is important to add technology access and technology to new classrooms to standard of each school. Members were concerned that with the addition of classrooms, funds that should be used for instruction are being used to purchase technology to meet the school standard, and the standard is not equitable throughout the district.   Biju noted that in addition to an objective for the survey, how the data will be used should be noted and explained to the teachers. Does the survey just capture data? Or does it capture needs? If the district takes this on, then it could be pushed out through administration and be more significant.   Would anyone like to be on a subcommittee? Discussion continued regarding the survey. Thom Birbeck made a motion to form a sub committee to develop a draft of a Teacher Technology Survey: Sameer Desai seconded the motion and TAC passed it unanimously. Sameer will work with Jeff to ask for sub committee members via email.

Possible Future Agenda Items:
TAC Review Proposal Form (subcommittee will present draft 3).
Discussion of using Gmail
Schoolwires (Website) update and renewal recommendation—March/April
TAC annual report: March 7th meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED   8:18 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:
Monday, February 1, 2016
Monday, March 7, 2016
Monday, April 4, 2016
Monday, May 2, 2016

Acronyms…Defined
LCFF/LCAP	Local Control Funding Formula/Local Control Accountability Plan
LCD	Liquid Crystal Display
SIS	Student Information System