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
December 7, 2015, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call & Introductions

Fremont Community Member	Present (Y/N)	FUSD Staff Member	Present (Y/N)
Biju Abraham, American Attendance Area, Ardenwood Elementary	N	Thom Birbeck, Coach C & I Dept. & FUDTA Rep.	N
Goutam Das, Mission Attendance Area, Hopkins Jr. High	N	Anne Damron, School Secretary, & CSEA Rep.	Y
Sameer Desai, Parent, Forest Park Elementary	Y	Jeff Downing, Computer Specialist, Millard Elementary	Y
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	Y	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	N	Prince Padania, Teacher, Oliveira Elementary	Y
Peter Xie, Parent, Parkmont Elementary	Y	Rob Reibenschuh, Asst. Principal, American HS	N
Seated Voting Members: 16		Quorum Met : Yes 10/16	
		Joe Siam, FUSD Chief Technology Officer (CTO) ex officio-non voting	Y

Guests: Barth Paine, FUSD Web Designer;

TAC started the meeting in Maple Room due to lack of access to Technology Training Center due to Kindergarten Registration information night.

Thom & Becky emailed the Chair to say they could not attend the meeting. When quorum arrived we moved to Technology Training Center, thus the meeting did not follow agenda in exact order.

TAC Presentation at the January Board Meeting: To see draft of 2013-14 Presentation, look at the TAC Yahoo group, click on attachments and look for 1/12/15 email.   TAC consensus was that members would like to see the 2014-15 presentation prior to its presentation to the School Board on January13, 2016. Consensus to use same format as last year with the following sections
- Recommendations/Accomplishments
  - Ongoing activities
  - Current areas for discussion
  - Recommendations
  - Next steps
  - Acknowledgement of the Technology Advisory Committee members.
Facts need to be updated such as dates, names, etc.

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Consensus was for current Chair to contact Becky regarding the presentation to be seen at January TAC Meeting.

CTO Joe Siam update:

One IT support specialist left for a new position—due to better health and welfare benefits offered by that district. Interviews are being held. 33 applications were received and 13 of those were invited to interview.

Bid documentation is being processed with Measure E staff for next round of network upgrades. To improve efficiency and decrease repetition of information, changes were made so FUSD meets with a single construction manager.

Referring to the internal document project timeline sheet from Technology Department, Joe made comments regarding upgrading/replacing the donated servers. New servers are on order and should arrive soon and are paid for by district not site funds using WSCA pricing. Standard servers will provide local file storage, DHCP, etc. American was used as an example as a site that needs a new server. Another part of project is to get active directories standardized. These server changes provide the opportunity for standardization of active directories. Projects will take the Technology Department well into second quarter but should be finished before end of school year. Staff can watch Thursday updates for additional scheduling information.

TAC then moved to Approving Minutes:

September 2015 Minutes: Motion by Rob Reibenschuh, second by Linda Licari; passed unanimously.

October 2015 Minutes: Motion by Rob Reibenschuh, second by minutes Sameer Desai: passed unanimously.

November 2015 Minutes: Motion by Rob Reibenschuh, second by Peter Xie; unanimous with updates to abbreviations and abstentions by members absent in October

Following a Motion by Rob Reibenschuh and a second by Danielle Girard, the agenda for tonight's meeting was approved.

Oral Communications: none

Transportation Project—GPS tracking solutions: The Transportation Director spoke at last meeting regarding this project. The director is no longer with FUSD. The CTO is now handling project. The purpose of GPS tracking on FUSD busses is for transparency and customer service to enable parents of students who ride the bus to get real-time information on bus whereabouts.

TAC asked a wide variety of questions regarding usage, availability of the system, privacy concerns etc. During Field Trips—will parents be able to use the system? System uses cellular coverage so areas with bad cellular coverage (such as Niles) may continue to be an issue. Discussion continued regarding transparency, helicopter parents, etc. A cost conversation continued. Budget exists for this installation and application. Concerns continued about equity for students who ride on Durham Bus services. Members expressed hesitancy due to staffing changes. Privacy concerns were discussed. Members felt the service would be useful in disaster situations and wondered what the company's disaster preparation

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would be for cellular outages, etc. Consensus was to obtain answers to questions before TAC would consider making a recommendation.

TAC moved on to discussing Hardware Refresh Cycle: Joe reminded the committee that there are two buckets of funds:

1) First bucket of funds is for schools—equitably divided up based on unduplicated student enrollment as discussed last month.
2) Second bucket of funds is the Technology Department budget annual allocation for an equipment refresh cycle. The CTO proposed to buy another Chromebook cart for each school. Discussion is needed to continue the plan to purchase and provide 32 devices and cart for elementaries and 35 devices and cart for secondary schools—setup would be same as recent Common Core laptop carts. Schools do not have to "give up" older devices, but it is good practive to take the devices off of the network—if possible out of daily rotation of use.

Teachers have trouble with cart mobility issues. Millard has a cart for each grade level. Joe's concern is overloading network with devices. Maile's concern is some schools have labs full of desktops. Teachers have concerns about time it takes to dispense and collect laptops. In some cases, schools might want to determine the type of devices purchased for them. If schools choose something else, will the school fill in the balance of the cost compared to what a cart of Chromebooks would cost? Discussion continued regarding cost, standardization, licenses, accessories, etc. Lack of standardization makes things difficult for Technology Department, images, support time may increase, etc. Discussion continued with comments focused on cost and need. Several staff members asked if they would be required to get a cart. Joe noted that many sites are still at the point of building capacity. The conversation then moved to the extent of the FUSD network capacity. FUSD is building capacity to get to the 1 to 1 computing standard. Staff noted that Chromebooks make it easier for students to log on. Peter suggested buying Chromebooks and rent the more expensive hardware. Members noted the consideration of refreshing staff computers for all staff.

One suggestion was to divide the funds and or the recipients over several years: one set this year, another set the next year etc. Members asked whether or not the schools had been surveyed for their needs and top priorities. One suggestion was for articulation with the upper grades regarding the skills of the students so that could be considered as planning for equipment purchases proceeds.

Secondary schools may need high performance labs for their programs (Engineering at American for example). TAC members expressed the concern of asking the Board to spend funds in a timely fashion in order to have the devices in place for SBAC testing windows.

The lengthy discussion continued with TAC receiving the following motion by Linda Licari: <u>TAC to recommend to the Board to approve the purchase of Chromebook devices and carts for each site, and in early spring assess the high schools to determine computer needs.</u> Rob Reibenschuh seconded the motion. Discussion followed. <u>9 members supported the motion, 2 members did not offer support of the motion</u>.

TAC then moved on to discuss possible changes to file storage, file sharing and email services. FUSD may make a move to using Gmail for email services. Students and staff have been using Google/GAFE for the last 2.5 years. Without email for students, they receive no notification that comments have been made on their documents. Students need 21st Century skills, digital literacy, awareness of cyber-bullying and prevention, especially via their personal accounts (where FUSD has no visibility but often deals with

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repercussions). One member reported that Fairfield Unified has a detailed Technology Plan that talks about 1 to 1 computing, firewalls, preparation for necessary 21st Century Skills, etc.

Discussion continued regarding server maintenance, whether or not students and staff would be on the same domain and related issues (privacy); storage capacity. Members noted the recent accusations that Google is data mining student account. Members wonder if a unified school district requires email, then can the school district monitor the email and restrict it from going outside the domain. Discussion continued regarding ability to restrict access within the wall garden; ability to monitor kid to kid with in the wall garden but the need for additional monitoring. Additional concerns were privacy, data storage, monitoring and what happens to graduating seniors accounts. Storage of files, training of staff and students and account migration were other questions.

Next Meeting: January 11, 2016

Agenda Items:

- 2014-15 TAC Annual Presentation to Board
- TAC Proposal Forms—Draft Version 3 from subcommittee
- School Bus GPS Transportation Project

Future Agenda Items:

- Teacher Technology Survey—Mr. Birbeck
- Discussion of using Gmail
- Update on internal document—Technology Roadmap

Adjourned: 9:16 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, February 1, 2016
Monday, March 7, 2016
Monday, April 4, 2016
Monday, May 2, 2016

Definitions:

WSCA: Western States Contracking Alliance
DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
GPS: Global Positioning System