

Community Technology Advisory Team

Summary December 5, 2006

Discussion 1: 30 minutes

We have competing directions, requests and opportunities while faced with the accountability to: maintain equality for students/staff at all grade levels, ensure network operation/security of data, provide support/training, cost efficiency.

What are your thoughts on:

Centralized vs. Decentralized technology management

- Centralized allows standardization
- Standardization is one method to control support costs
- Centralized is cost effective and efficient
- Decentralized would require more personnel
- Decentralized provides user with perception of getting what they want
- Group agreed centralized approach should continue

Wireless vs. Wired

- Wired has better reliability
- Wired presents fewer security issues
- Wired has lower TCO
- Wired requires less support
- Wired is less costly
- Expenditures should be centered on updated computers and access speed

Discussion 2: 30 minutes

Building Instructional Technology Plan

The building instructional plan format deals with the instructional use of computers not the equipment and infrastructure as you might expect. This is typical of such educational tech plans. We have developed the attached format based on the state technology instructional standards and the current school portfolio process. We plan to place the emphasis on the actions of implementing the plans and the resulting student outcomes. A slightly different version will be used for the secondary grades.

- The technology plan should support the objective that any student in the district, regardless of what school they attend, is guaranteed to have a core of experiences and access to the technology curriculum
- Consider requiring that all staff demonstrate a minimum level of competency before funds are expended on equipment and software.

- Equipment should be placed based on the oldest inventory and to meet the requirements of the technology standards and provide the most access to students
- Various methods to provide training for new equipment and software/use were discussed, on-line, frequently asked questions, train the trainer, in-building support, on-line video segments
- Have one plan at each of three levels, elementary, middle, high school to implement the state technology standards

Discussion 3: 20 minutes

Cost of Ownership

I believe it will be a huge step to help staff understand some of the costs involved in purchasing/maintaining equipment. The attached spreadsheet is a draft of some of the items we identified that represent the cost of setting up CPUs. The general belief is that issues of software, warranty, repair, support, training, etc. are those for Computer Services. We have included support in terms of time.

- Provide as much information as possible to increase understanding of Total Cost of Ownership of technology (TCO)
- Need to consider all costs including training, support, etc.
- Savings may be seen through use of green computers and monitors for cost offsets
- Understanding the actual cost of ownership is a common issue

Next meeting February 27, 2007