

Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Notes
Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 4:30-5:30pm, District Office – Board Room

SharePoint

Update: TAC now has a SharePoint for us to be able to share documents. To get to it log into web email, click sites, you can search for it by typing in TAC. You will then want to follow the site, this way if there are changes or things added you will be able to get notification. This is where you will find agendas, notes from meetings, are able to have discussions with fellow members along with so much more.

Tablets

Update: Most of the features that the committee had problems with when testing the tablets were things that are easily resolved through training or manufacturer defects that are being rectified already. The committee recommended the Dell Venue 5130, IT recommended to Dr. Hewins the 7130. The reasons being the 7130 has a higher ram at 4 gig and should be able to keep up with the growing needs of the district. Another deciding factor for the Dell vs the Surface Pro was the warranty, 3 years, and onsite service that Dell provides.

While we had hoped to have the tablets by now, Dell is working very hard to get the tablets to us as quickly as possible, we are looking at the latest we would have them would be March 6, 2014.

Tablet Set-Up

Update: IT has learned from the TAC group and have created a detailed checklist for the setup of tablets. This will include removing non-essential items such as the email tile and replacing it with the Outlook one. We will do our best to have the tablets set up as best as possible for the teachers.

WiDi for current Learning Wall Schools

Update: Over mid-winter break IT will be installing WiDi's in each of the existing 4 learning wall schools.

Phase 2 of the learning walls

Update: This round IT is working very closely with facilities to make sure that key decisions about the setup and the technology used are made jointly. While the next round is going to be much different than the first round, there is still the need to standardize what is happening.

This round the only permanent items will be the ceiling mounted projector and screen. There will not be a peninsula. With this round going wireless, in the case of a guest speaker who does not have the ability to show something wireless, IT will be providing a loaner laptop to the schools. For DVD cases, IT will provide a portable DVD.

During mid-winter break Robin Heinrichs, Operations Manager and the architects will be walking through each class to figure out where everything should go and will be working with the Principals at each school.

Tablet Trainings

Update: As a group discussed what the best way to roll out training for the tablets would be. As a group it was thought that for the elementary schools, offering a 45-minute to an hour long training both before and after school would work. For secondary schools we may have to adjust this as they start earlier. The morning trainings would be offered at different schools, the evening trainings would be at a centralized location. We would love for TAC members to come and help out at trainings if possible. The first thing should be to watch the 7 minute Atomic Learning video, followed by 30 minutes of basic how to. During the 30 minutes we would break the group into a couple of groups based on skill and knowledge level. The rest of the time would be for the staff to get their tablets set up and ask any questions.

Suggested items to cover:

Customization and set up of tablet

Email set up

How to access SkyDrive

Trainings for a later date:

How to use the tablet stage

Projection

It was suggested that we video the trainings and place them on Atomic Learning so they can be reviewed at a later date.

We will try to best set up the device so it is ready to go right off of the bat. We will remove duplicate type apps, such as mail and add outlook.

District Technology Plan

Update: Going forward another project that IT will be looking to the TAC group to assist with is the next four year District Technology Plan. The technology plan will assist in determining how IT spends the Tech Levy money.

New Technology Finds

Tefang Lee spoke about the Amplified Tablet program.

<http://www.amplify.com/tablet>. It is a program that can assist in assigning homework, checking on student progress, the content is already built in. It is similar to E-Instruction.

Rosita Castellano spoke about Sound and Voice Record as well as Padlet

Sound and Voice Record is a free app that both records what is being written on the screen at the same time records what is being spoken.

Padlet – <http://padlet.com/>

This site lets you build a Digital/Virtual Whiteboard a place for students to go and view projects. It is like webquest, you are able to include sound and voice record

At the next meeting Dietrich Baker will do a short presentation on Blend space