

Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Notes
Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 4:30-5:30pm, District Office – Rainier Room

Welcome

May 14th will be our last TAC meeting of the school year. We will review what we have accomplished this year and talk about upcoming projects.

Clock hours – Linda has entered in the clock hours for those who have been signing in at each meeting. Once Human Resources completes their steps then you will see your clock hours.

Tablet deployment update

Update: We have ordered the interactive stylus as well as a case for all of the tablets. Once those items are in we will deploy them out to everyone who has a tablet. We also presented a tablet stand that will be rolled out as the existing Elmo's die to those schools who have the learning wall set up. We will not be purchasing the tablet stands immediately, it will be a slow roll out.

As this is our first purchase of the Dell Venue Tablets it is very important that IT and T&L are getting as much feedback as possible. This information will help in the decision making process for the next round of tablets for the next four elementary schools receiving the learning wall. The goal is to purchase the tablets for the second phase of learning wall schools and have them in the teacher's hands before school is released. This way they have the summer to get used to them.

Tablet success

Emily Hunter was able to have the SBAC testing site open on her tablet, walk around the classroom assisting students while approving students to take tests and monitor their progress all while not being tied to her laptop.

Edmoto

Update: Dietrich Baker showed us how he uses Edmoto.com in the classroom. The program is free to sign up for. Teachers are able to go in, create groups for each of their classes, and students can join them. Students are able to join groups from multiple teachers from the same account.

Teachers are able to see who has joined the group, create folders for their use as well as to share with the students, create quizzes and tests, see the progress of the students while taking the tests, grade the tests online and give feedback to students on the quiz. Teachers are also able to see the results of each question to see if there are any trends with specific questions. You are also able to randomize the quiz, so each student gets the same questions just in different orders, helping to eliminate cheating.

There are also features to pose a question and have the students be able to respond back to it as well as assign assignments to the students.

Parents are also able to sign in and see their students' progress as well as sign up to get alerts when grades are entered as well as other aspects.

Please email Dietrich if you have questions

NCCE Conference Recap

Update: Thank you to all who attended the conference. Last week Mike, Dietrich, Mel, Linda, Liza, Brad and Brian sat down and did a recap of the conference. During this meeting they came up with three things that they would like to pilot for the next school year. Liza has talked to Dr. Hewins and he has agreed that these are great things to pilot.

1. Bing for Schools, www.bing.com/schools

Microsoft is continuing their focus on promoting digital literacy in education. We have been accepted as part of the pilot program. With this browser program comes some great features such as ad free searching, additional filtering and Common Core aligned lesson plans. An added bonus is each time a staff or student uses bing for schools to do a search within the district, the school gets points that add up towards Surface RT Tablets for the district.

How does it work? The default web browser would be put to bing for schools, staff and students use it just like they would use google.

Action: If you are interested in participating in the pilot for the bing for schools please let Lindsey know. The TAC members present all stated that they would be interested in trying out the new program. IT will send out an email once we are ready to start testing this program.

2. OneNote

Linda will be spearheading the use of OneNote. This program is one place for all of your notes. You are also able to share this information with others. A great resource to learn more about OneNote is Atomic Learning.

Action: If you are interested in piloting OneNote or learning more about it please contact Linda

3. E-Lesson planner

This is a website where teachers within our school district are able to collaborate their lesson plans as well as plan their own daily lesson plans and embed resources right into the lesson planning

Action: For the May TAC meeting IT will try to have the company come and do a short presentation.

District Website

Update: Our current district website is old and struggling. We are moving forward with creating the new website. The vendor, SharpSchools, has been selected. We are now in the process of setting everything into motion. All TAC members will be receiving a questionnaire from Willie Painter in the next few days. He will be asking for your opinion on some of the format. The goal is to have the new website up and running on or before July 1, 2014.