Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Notes
Monday, November 24, 2014, 4:30-5:30pm | Washington High School – Ridgeway Room

Present: Dr. Frank Hewins, Lance Goodpaster, Dr. Shaun Carey, Marci Bannan, Allen Culp, Brad Pierce, Brian Runnalls, Diane Blankenship, Dietrich Baker, Emily Hunter, Linda DiGiorgi, Lindsey Smith, Liza Klumpar, Mel Foster, Mike Marsh, Rosita Castellano, Sally Wheeler, Susan Templin, Thomas Hoghaug
Absent: Jennifer Klassen, Lanna Duncan, Susi Esson

Welcome

Lenovo Yoga Feedback
Update: Reviewed the feedback from the second group of staff who tested the Lenovo Yoga's. This time the group included, Susan Templin (Central Ave), Diane Blankenship (Christensen), Lanna Duncan/staff (Elmhurst), Tammy Boorn (Harvard), Thomas Hoghaug (WHS), Mikala Hafer (Brookdale). The feedback this time was very similar to the first round.
Some of the overall comments:
- Staff very much enjoyed the portability of the Yoga.
- Nice to be able to carry around and update grades on the spot.
- Works well for presentations, able to have a power point and the notes up on the screen and move around the classroom all at the same time. You also have the ability to draw on the slide using the laser pointer, a highlighter or a pen.
- Having a larger screen and a fixed keyboard.
- Very easy to use and connects to the projector really fast.
- Absolutely loved the laptop, much more user friendly than the tablet.
- While connected to the HoverCam, the battery life seemed less.
- The camera is easy to use but would like a camera that faces the other direction for when you use the Yoga in tablet mode.
- While using online grades it was a little hard to use, but felt most of the problems have to do with online grades.

Action: The recommendation from Information Technology is that we move forward with the Lenovo Yoga for the second phase Learning Wall schools. This would be for Midland, Elmhurst, Christensen and Collins. The Yoga's solve the problems that we are seeing with the Dell Venues, of a small screen, lack of keyboard and connectivity issues.

Leasing vs. Purchasing the Lenovo Yoga's
Update: In researching our options for the Yoga's the option to lease the laptops became available. If we were to purchase the Yoga's we would be paying approximately $140,000 for 130 devices at the time of purchase. If we choose to lease the Yoga's for a 36-month term we would be paying $3,877 a month. With the leasing we are also able to include a 2 year battery replacement. At the 2 year mark, we will receive new batteries for all devices. Typically at the 2 year mark is where you start to see the

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battery life starting to decline. At the end of the lease we have 3 options, we can return some or all of the equipment that is in good shape, purchase some of the equipment for the then Fair Market Value, renew some or all of the equipment for a fixed term at the Fair Market Value. One of the benefits of leasing is spreading payments for the laptops over 36 month's verses all at once instead of a large upfront payment, allowing for more flexible budgeting.

The Yoga's will come with a 3 year warranty. Damage and theft are covered under our current Technology Acceptance and Liability form that all staff sign. Lenovo will also offer us a three device forgiveness (we are not charged for 3 damaged/lost/stolen devices).

	Leasing		Purchasing
Life-cycle	On-time schedule for refresh at the lower cost		District may delay schedule for refresh due to budget constraints
Reduce costs	Ability to acquire IT assets we need today without impacting cash flows		One-time costs that will impact cash flows and flexibility to acquire other it assets
Bundle costs	Ability to lease entire IT solution into a single transaction at the lower cost		Different transactions with different vendors that results to a higher costs
Projected budget	Ensure district annual cash flows are more predictable		Up-front total costs and can impact future acquisition due to cash flows
Extended use	Scheduled 3 year refresh preventing 4th & 5th year maintenance expenses at the district costs.		4th & 5th year maintenance expenses and extended use of obsolete technology that harms productivity and competitiveness

Document Camera Feedback
Update: During this round of testing we had staff test out the HoverCam, Lady Bug, and AverVision W30. We have also deployed previously the Elmo Mo-1 which is a smaller version of our current Elmo's. Of the four document cameras that we have tested the HoverCam and the Lady Bug have had the best reviews. Both have very little lag time, the picture quality is good and they are easy to use -the LadyBug had bad reviews regarding picture quality not being that great. The AverVision W30 is nice because it is wireless but it is the most expensive of all four options and the picture quality is not the greatest. One user noted that during a rain storm she was unable to connect to the document camera.
Action: After reviewing all of the cameras and the feedback from the staff the option that the Information Technology team is recommending is the HoverCam. The HoverCam is easy to use, has a clear image, very little lag time and is priced reasonably at $349 plus tax and shipping which brings the total cost to $381.81 each.

Rear Facing Cameras
Update: One of the concerns that was brought forward by the first group of staff to test the Lenovo Yoga was the lack of a rear facing camera. One of the nice features of the Dell Venue is the ability to have both a front and rear facing camera. Teachers are able to take pictures of students work. We have found a USB camera that flips open and uses the Lenovo Yoga's existing camera software. The USB camera plugs directly into a USB port and also comes with a short retractable USB cable for optional use. The camera sells for $9.99 plus tax and shipping.

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Tech Levy Budget
==Update:== With Tech Levy the district receives two major deposits a year in October and April when everyone pays their taxes. The rest of the year we get smaller monthly deposits as community members pay their taxes late. We also receive E-Rate revenue thru USAC (Universal Service Administrative Company). Discounts for support are based on the level of poverty and urban/rural status along with the spending in five areas. The areas include: Telecommunications, Telecommunications Services, Internet Access, Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections. Each year Tech Levy receives approximately $1.4 million dollars. These funds have to cover the cost of items such as, projectors and bulbs, printers, laptop carts, Seasonal help, switches, security cameras, new desktops and laptops for students and staff, technology for Administrators, MAPS license for Ford and FPHS, Wireless Access Points, district cell phones, VoIP, fiber, utilities such as internet service and other software such as Atomic Learning and much more. As a team, Liza Klumpar, Dr. Shaun Carey, Marci Bannan have worked on a cash flow projection for the next three years.
In October the cash flow balance was $93,396, the leasing option for the Yoga's will make it possible for the district to go forward with the deployment to phase 2.
==Action:== It is important for the TAC members to help communicate with the schools that the TAC is not in charge of managing the funds of the Tech Levy but to assist in making wise decisions for the district. Another topic to help communicate is that the Tech Levy budget has to cover the fixed monthly costs as well as also have a funds in order to cover the cost of repairs and other items that are needed.

Who will get the Lenovo Yoga's and when?
==Update:== The Lenovo Yogas will be given to all of the teachers in the Phase 2 Learning Wall Schools, this will be Midland, Elmhurst, Christensen and Collins. The new teachers who received the Dell Venues will trade in their tablets for the Yoga's. Once the lease is signed, IT will work with Lenovo on the delivery. We have been told the lead time will be 2-3 weeks. Once they Yoga's arrive, IT will need to inventory them as well as image the devices. This will take some time as well. The goal is that the Yoga's are in the hands of teachers by Christmas break.
In the mean-time IT will start working on the training portion. One part of training will be to log into Atomic Learning and watch some Window's 8.1 trainings. The trainings will be mandatory. Another portion of the set up will be communicating with the staff to start the cleanup process of their files and making sure that all documents are in their H Drive or OneDrive.

When will the secondary schools receive their Learning Walls?
==Update:== Per Dr. Hewins, Franklin Pierce, Washington and Gates will be the next schools to receive the learning walls. This will most likely be done over 2 summers. Due to Keithley Commons and the upcoming Ford construction the middle schools will be the last to receive the Learning Wall Setups.

OneDrive
==Update:== The migration to OneDrive has not been as smooth as we had hoped. While the migration is working for most users, IT has discovered that OneDrive does not like symbols or long file names. IT has a tool that will assist staff with the migration of their files. The tool will go in and clean up the file names. OneDrive is moving to unlimited storage and is continually making improvements to the system. We are focusing on Gates and working with individual staff at this point to make sure that we have the process down before moving onto larger schools.

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