

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 57
Office of the Superintendent
Waterboro, Maine 04087

PR-Technology Committee Meeting

February 27, 2017

6:00 PM

EAST BUILDING – TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Committee Members:

David Allen
Dean LePage

Bryan Carpenter
Jennifer Mayo

Jodi Laine
Judith Vasalle

Others Present:

Brian Desilets
Kevin Perkins

Barbara Gauvin
Larry Malone

Angela Madigan

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order – 6:00 pm
- B. Declaration of Quorum – A quorum is in place.
- C. Adjustments to the Agenda – Added a review of the committee schedule, a discussion of our Facebook page, and newspapers we use to put information out to the community.
- E. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2016 – Minutes were approved with the following changes: Under Future planning discussion: Change ‘affect’ to ‘effect’, ‘an’ to ‘a’, and ‘the how’ to ‘how the’. Under Approval of Minutes: change ‘are’ to ‘were’
- F. Old Business -
- G. New Business
 - 1. Technology
 - MLTI status
 - **Device buyback**

Device Information		Buyback Information	
Device	# In Service	Cost/Device	Total Cost
iPad 4	1388	\$28	\$38,864
iPad Mini	222	\$15	\$3,330
MacBook Air	218	\$48	\$10,464

The total cost of the buyback is in the technology budget. We will put the iPad 4's in use at the elementary level to replace aging iPad 2's, which are no longer supported by Apple. We will also build iPad carts in MMS and MHS, allowing schools to access Apple apps currently used.

The iPad mini's and MacBook Airls will be purchased by the District and stay with the assigned teacher.

- **Plan for Current MMS/MHS Devices**

Grades 7 and 8 were part of the MLTI refresh last summer. This provided 11" MacBook Airls for all students and 13" MacBook Airls for staff in grades 7 and 8.

Grade 6 and 9-12 students will receive Chromebook laptops with a touch screen. The touch screen is a priority so that teachers and students can access apps used currently from the Apple App Store by going through the Chrome Store. Student Chromebooks will also include a service called GoGuardian that allows us to view and manage how the device is used, filter content, and find lost devices.

In addition to the MBAirl and iPad, grade 6 and 9-12 teachers will receive a Chromebook. Providing both allows time for transition from the Apple platform to the Google Chrome platform. We are in discussions on what to do with these devices at the end of the 17/18 school year.

- **Elementary Network Update**

Through ERate, we are working on a plan to upgrade the elementary network. The plan includes placing a wireless access point in each classroom and common area. The plan also includes a wall jack to provide access to directly connect a device into the network if necessary. This port will also serve to add VOIP phones if it is decided to add phones to classrooms.

- **Planned Software Updates**

- **Human Resources**

The business department is looking at software from the same suite as the Absence Management software that we currently use (Frontline). The software packages that are being considered track and manage employee paperwork, online safety training, and managing professional development. Software packages within this suite will

communicate with each other in real time without the need to transfer information and personal data.

- **Tech Inventory and work order**

The tech inventory program currently used was developed by a former employee and is limited. SchoolDude, the program that we currently use for maintenance work orders, offers a suite of programs for school technology departments that will inventory devices, create work orders, and manage devices. The three programs within the SchoolDude suite communicate and work with each other.

- **Employee Device Purchase Plan**

This is still being played out. Colin and Kevin are reviewing the District policies to create a plan for the employee devices. A device purchase plan is being considered for the employee MacBook Airs, iPad Minis, and older MacBooks. If the devices are offered to employees for purchase, they will be offered at fair market value.

The Committee would like the iPad 2's and the white MacBooks to be available for purchase if possible.

2. Public Relations

- Facebook Page – Is the Facebook page used regularly? Committee members have noticed that there are not daily updates to the page and feel that the page can be better managed. Sporting events and activities should be posted regularly and with plenty of notice for parents and community members to be able to place them in their schedule. A suggestion was made to use a product such as Hootsuite to manage posts. We need to make certain that district-wide events are posted on the Facebook page. Mr. Carpenter would like an update for the May meeting of how we can use our resources to better manage the page. In response to the question: "what would you like to see posted?"

Facebook content ideas

- High School Sporting events
- Closures
- Early releases
- District budget meetings
- District Events - drama, for example
- Awards and achievements
- News stories
- Student report to school board

- Donation "shout outs" to local businesses/donors
- Parents of 57 page monitoring? (Fighting false information)

Other notes:

- Hootsuite for automating the posting process
- Dreamlocal Digital - for help with social media
- Use of Newspapers – Mr. Carpenter suggested the use of the Journal Tribune to make announcements and give information on upcoming events.

H. Other

1. Schedule (remainder of the year)

Currently scheduled dates:

Monday, March 20 @ 6:00 pm

Monday, May 15 @ 6:00 pm

G. Adjournment – 7:24 pm