District 88 Technology Committee Meeting – June 6, 2011
District Board Conference Room
4:00 P.M.

Attendees: Donna Cain, Steve Humphrey, Lisa Lullo, Bruce Martin, Christine Tomasino

The District 88 BOE Technology Committee met on June 6, 2011 at the District Office. Christine Tomasino opened the meeting with an overview of the technology landscape for students and staff, highlighting the digital tools used for instruction and operations in District 88.

The discussion in the overview and questions that followed centered around the number of mobile and desktop computers in the instructional setting for teachers and students, the number of Smartboard interactive whiteboards in the classrooms, the number of network servers and appliances, the number of computer labs, mini labs and mobile labs, and the classroom projection systems for classrooms. The committee also discussed the aging inventory that currently exists in student computer labs and mini labs and for office staff.

Christine presented the goals of the technology department for the 2011-12 school year to increase professional practices with digital tools through instructional coaching, peer coaching, workshops and internal university coursework. Additional goals include the Desktop Migration Project completion, wireless network optimization, and network operating system analysis.

Christine shared that a newly formed Technology Directions Team met throughout the spring to discuss urgent topics that related to teaching and learning with technology. The meetings seek to get diverse perspectives on technology issues as they relate to staff and students. Some of the urgent topics related to mobile technology, desktop OS migration and aging inventory have helped shaped the 2011-12 budget proposal. Other discussion topics such as instructional coaching, innovative practices and professional development provide direction for supporting staff as they move to using digital tools for instruction. Some of the other key discussions of the team help to set procedures and guidelines for operations within the technology department and in the deployment of hardware to support the educational environment.

Team meetings will expand in the Fall to include more membership and topics that help shape teaching and learning in District 88.

In another agenda item, the Technology Committee members discussed the sustainability of our technology tools with current technology funding. Steve Humphrey provided a historical perspective for current technology funding sources. Bruce Martin discussed the need to be sure that our existing technology funds would allow us to operate through at least the 2014-15 school year. Christine presented a long-range perspective for technology hardware replacement and refresh cycles. The committee agreed that we need continued efforts each year to monitor funding while maintaining the integrity of a planned replacement cycle for hardware and software and yearly operations.

Christine Tomasino presented the proposed 2011-12 Technology Budget. Drivers for the 2011-12 school year are the replacement aging of hardware, updates to software applications and the additional purchases of instructional tools for the classroom.
Both Donna and Lisa approved the 2011-12 budget of $1,616,612 after discussion about the proposed needs.

Bruce Martin and Christine Tomasino presented the June 1 2011 technology bid results. Donna and Lisa asked questions related to the items. Christine needed to confirm some concerns related to logistics for warranty service for computers from a vendor located on the east coast. Donna and Lisa agreed that we should go forward with the bid approval by the BOE.

All BOE Technology Committee members agreed that quarterly meetings would be set up to further discuss the technology landscape and vision in District 88. Our next meeting is scheduled for early Fall 2011 with the date to be determined. Christine will organize a yearly showcase for the Board of Education at a Fall BOE meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

_____
President, Board of Education

_____
Secretary, Board of Education

Attest: _____
                    Date