



District-wide Technology Committee Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016; 4:00 p.m.

Central Administration Office Board room

Minutes

Members Present: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan (Administrator), Mrs. Tanya Rude (Board), Mrs. Jackie Glaser (Prairie Rose), Mrs. Barb Bonicelli (Hagen), Mr. Brian Ham (DHS), Mrs. Jill Nelson-Wetzstein (Lincoln), Mrs. Ruth McCabe (Lincoln), Mrs. Andrea Dvorak (Heart River), Ms. Emily Bren (Roosevelt), Mr. Christopher Kovash (Berg), Mr. Caden Brewer (Technology Specialist), Mr. Mitchell Murphy (District Technology Coordinator), Mrs. Laura Hondl (Technology Specialist), Mrs. Kristi Meidinger (Heart River), Mrs. Cill Skabo (Community), and Mrs. Laura Kelly (Jefferson).

Members Absent: Mr. Tracy Sipma (DHS), Ms. Jenifer Leslie (Hagen), Mr. Damian Sobolik (Berg), Mrs. Amber Remark (Jefferson), Mrs. Rebecca Bautz (Prairie Rose), Mrs. Lexi Steiner (Roosevelt), Mrs. Leslie Ross (School Board) and Mrs. Stacy Northrop (Technology Specialist).

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Sullivan at 4:00 p.m.

Review Meeting Norms – The meeting norms were available on the agenda.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda Items – There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Approval of January 26, 2016, Meeting Minutes – Mrs. Kelly moved to approve the January 26 meeting minutes, as presented. Mrs. Meidinger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Business Topics

KAYAKO Report – Mr. Murphy distributed copies of the report. The report was broken down into five groups: bandwidth upgrade, Hagen HP streams, Prairie Rose laptops, NDSA secure browser install, and cellphone coverage at Prairie Rose. He noted most of the items have been worked on since the last meeting. Mr. Murphy reviewed each area on the report and the improvements that have been made. Mrs. Skabo inquired if there was a test group that is used instead of a whole lab so that only a small group is affected. Mr. Murphy responded that they do not use a test environment. Mrs. Skabo noted that if the district was considering purchasing a large group of carts it might be beneficial to have a test group. Sometimes the technologists use several work stations when testing.

Language Arts Computers - Mrs. Hondl and Mr. Ham provided an update regarding the devices being purchased for the Dickinson High School language arts department. Mr. Holkup is in the process of emailing the language arts teachers for training. The carts are in the rooms. Training has gone well and the teachers are ecstatic. Mr. Ham added he has not heard anything but good feedback. Mr. Moberg from DSU has also been providing training regarding teaching methods using technology. He will also be offering classes during the summer months.

1-to-1 Initiative Definition – Dr. Sullivan referenced the minutes from the January 26 meeting. At that meeting he had asked for clarification regarding starting the 1-to-1 initiative at the high school and moving downward in grades. A majority were in favor of this, but not 100% of the committee.

He said the committee has not identified how far down they wished the technology to be implemented. He did not sense from this committee that they wished a device to be in the hands of the student the minute they walk in the door until the end of the day. Information was shared regarding the amount of iPads available for the students in the district and provided by the District. Mrs. Hondl explained where iPads can be very beneficial in the classroom. Mrs. Bonicelli explained the different areas within a building where a student electronic device may already be available, such as the Read 180 program, day treatment, and Title. There was a lot of money paid for those computers. She added the cost for the devices plus special needs, auxiliary services for three grades, and a cart for each team this will all add up. That will be a lot of money put into the computers. Additionally each team at Dickinson Middle School (4 classrooms) would need a laptop cart. She discussed the zones for each grade in the middle school. There could be 50-55 teachers at the middle school plus another 30 computers for administration and staff. That is a lot of computers to replace. How are the devices going to get to the students? While students are in the Read 180 program or the three title rooms they won't need to have a computer and there is one already there. Mrs. Skabo inquired what the 1-to-1 initiative means to the committee right now. Dr. Sullivan responded the initiative would start at the high school and roll backwards. There was further discussion regarding what grade to roll down to. Mr. Ham asked if the 1-to-1 initiative would be similar to the high school model. He thought what was available at the high school is what should be implemented at the middle school. It seemed when a laptop cart is available and the teacher uses it they don't want to share it because then the teacher could plan a lesson plan using the laptop cart and then it is not available. This throws off the lesson plan. He added there is not a lot of interest from the DHS mathematics department in the 1-to-1 initiative. They would rather have the money put into graphing calculators. Mr. Ham recommended the junior high teachers discuss and find out if two carts is going to be enough. Mrs. Rude inquired if there were some teachers that would like to have computers at the high school and don't have them. This could be asked of the faculty and department heads. If those teachers would like a computer then they should be asked how often they plan to use it.

Dr. Sullivan and the District-Wide technologists will work on developing guidelines and verbiage on information shared at today's meeting. They will talk about the strategic plan and how to move forward. If possible they will try to get it out in the next couple of weeks. Dr. Sullivan thanked the committee members for their participation in today's meeting.

Next Meeting – The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 31 at 4:00 p.m. Due to a conflict with training, the meeting was moved to Wednesday, March 30 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.