
District-wide Technology Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 16, 2017; 4:00 p.m.
Central Administration Office Board room

Minutes

Members Present: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan (Administrator), Ms. Danielle Paiz (Hagen Junior High), Mr. Christopher Kovash (Berg Elementary), Mr. Damian Sobolik (Berg Elementary), Mrs. Kristi Meidinger (Heart River Elementary), Mrs. Andrea Dvorak (Heart River Elementary), Mrs. Jackie Glaser (Prairie Rose Elementary), Ms. Jill Nelson-Wetzstein (Lincoln Elementary), Mrs. Ruth McCabe (Lincoln Elementary), Mrs. Lexi Steiner (Roosevelt Elementary), Mrs. Tanya Rude (School Board), Mr. Brent Seaks (School Board), Mr. Ryan Dukart (District Technology), and Mrs. Laura Hondl (District Technology).

Members Absent: Mr. Brian Ham (DHS), Mrs. Elisa Kensinger (DHS), Mrs. Kim Goodall (Hagen Junior High), Ms. Chantal Urlacher (Jefferson), Mrs. Laura Kelly (Jefferson), Mrs. Rebecca Bautz (Prairie Rose), Miss Emily Bren (Roosevelt), Mr. Mitchell Murphy (District Technology Coordinator), Mrs. Cill Skabo (Community Member), and Mrs. Stacy Northrop (District Technology).

Call to Order – Superintendent Douglas Sullivan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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

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

Approval of April 24, 2017, Meeting Minutes – Mrs. Dvorak moved to approve the April 24 meeting minutes, as presented. Ms. Nelson-Wetzstein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Business Topics

Kayako Report – Mrs. Hondl provided the report. She said progress is moving slow with the installation of the technology at Dickinson Middle School (DMS). Mrs. Hondl and Mr. Dukart began putting carts together for future installation at DMS. She has heard from several buildings regarding requests for the upcoming summer.

Technology Strategic Plan – Superintendent Sullivan acknowledged the work done by this committee over the past few meetings by identifying the K-5 embedded technology and the suggested implementations. He requested input from the committee regarding professional development so that he was sure he understood the intentions of the committee. Dr. Sullivan distributed copies of the Embedded Technology Plan Options for Elementary created by Mrs. Hondl based on information shared by this committee. He noted that through committee discussions they had indicated they preferred Plan B. There are significant cost differences between Plan A and Plan B. The Board would be unable to sustain a cost of \$570,000 unless it were to levy more taxes. The current technology levy generates \$180,000. There was lengthy

discussion regarding the preferred device which included discussions on keyboarding, durability, warranty, and storage.

Mr. Seaks inquired when the group was planning to implement the technology. Mrs. Hondl suggested considering fall 2018. She added her recommendation would be to implement by building by grade. Mrs. Dvorak inquired how the technology would be paid for. Dr. Sullivan responded that a request with supporting information would be presented to the Budget Committee for consideration. Mr. Seaks explained that money will be an object. If the District needs to be able to explain and justify the reasoning for a tax increase, they will want to gather as much information as possible to share with the community. It was the consensus of the committee to have the HP 450 devices in grades 3-5 and the iPad minis in grades K-2. Dr. Sullivan will present this information to the Budget Committee.

Dr. Sullivan asked the committee to consider the professional development (PD) part of the embedded technology. Mrs. Hondl suggested standardized PD across the District. Mrs. Dvorak added by grade level. There was a suggestion of having the PD during team time, Superblock, or early release. Dr. Sullivan said it will be key to explain to the faculty so there is a clear understanding why there is PD and why the technology is being provided. The devices are not a substitute for an assignment, it does not replace an assignment, but should improve the learning. There was discussion regarding the applications for the devices. Mrs. Steiner suggested not only district-wide PD but also PD in the building, a time for the teacher to work with their team in order to make it successful.

Dr. Sullivan suggested asking the Cabinet and then having a meeting with this committee in early September. Mr. Seaks inquired if the Budget Committee would hypothetically go with Plan A, how soon would the devices need to be ordered. Mrs. Hondl recommended October so that some of the set up could be done prior to the implementation in January. Mrs. Steiner suggested having one device for each of the teachers available for the teachers to use and work on a little prior to implementation and work with other teachers. Mrs. Hondl said that there could be a portion of the devices ordered in the summer for the teachers. Ms. Nelson-Wetzstein also asked to consider devices for the specialists, such as the special education teachers. The physical education teachers would like iPads with Bluetooth so they could be accessed in both gymnasiums.

Dr. Sullivan explained there will be a great deal of investment and a great deal of time on the part of the teachers. If the device is going to become a toy, it is not going to be a good investment for the taxpayer. Mr. Kovash gave some examples of the training done at the high school.

Other – Dr. Sullivan thanked the committee for their time this year and congratulated them on the work they had done. He wished them a great ending to the school year and great summer.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes proved by Twila Petersen.