

Glenbrook District 225
Technology Committee Minutes – February 26, 2014

Members Present: Bretag, Doughty (arrived 7:50 a.m.), Hanley, Pryma, Ptak, Riggle, Shein (left 8:37 a.m.), Thimm, Wegley, Williamson

Also Present: Geallis, Siena

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 a.m.

Technology Budget for FY 2015

Dr. Ptak reviewed the proposed non-payroll technology budget for fiscal year 2015. She reviewed the increased cost in the software and licensing account. She explained that we are currently paying for filtering, but we will need additional filtering software. Dr. Ptak noted that InfoSnap is a new line item.

A board member asked the difference between our budget and actual expenses.

Dr. Ptak stated that our expenses have been very close to the actual budget number or just under. Actual vs. budget will be added to future technology budgets.

Dr. Ptak stated the lease account has increased because of the new certified staff lease. She explained that the expected price point of the devices is approximately \$1,200, which is higher than the unit cost of the current device. The district plans to do a 3-year \$1 buy-out and keep the devices for a 4th year. Keeping the devices will result in a cost avoidance of \$210,000 in year four.

Dr. Riggle stated that the increase also includes an additional 25 teachers with devices because of GBS' growing enrollment. He explained the administration's reasoning that we will be able to keep the laptops for the 4th year.

In response to a board member's question Mr. Bretag stated that teachers primarily use Google Drive over Windows, with the exception of math teachers.

Dr. Ptak stated that the technology equipment account is going down significantly because it was primarily a carry-over from the prior year Sans lease project. The new item is budgeted in the security camera initiative. She explained the security camera initiative and the 5-year lease option.

In response to a board member's question Mr. Thimm provided additional clarification on the security camera plan.

Dr. Riggle stated that eventually there will be cameras in the District Office and administration will review the timeline.

A board member made a suggestion which may possibly save on wiring costs. The administration stated they will research the suggestion.

The technology budget will be presented at the March 10 Board meeting and then it will be included in the district budget in July.

Chromebook Pricing for Class of 2018

The Lenovo Thinkpad/Yoga 11e Chromebook is being recommended for the Class of 2018. The estimated cost is \$450.00. Dr. Ptak reviewed the suggested pricing model.

Mr. Bretag explained the administration's thought process on the Lenovo Chromebook after giving a history of past and current device options.

Dr. Riggle reviewed insurance options and warranties.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding damaged machines.

Dr. Riggle stated that the purpose of bringing this item to the committee is to obtain questions that need further research.

Mr. Bretag explained the management console capabilities.

Mr. Bretag explained HAPARA.

In response to board members' questions Mr. Bretag explained the transparency capabilities of the management console. This is a lot less intrusive and gives students the capability of opting-in. Mr. Bretag emphasized the importance of the language used; this is an instructional dashboard, not a student monitoring system.

Dr. Williamson stated that we will need additional professional development for our teachers.

Mr. Bretag, in response to board member's question, reviewed the communication to the staff.

Dr. Ptak stated that the administration has surveyed neighboring districts and considered the different pricing models.

Dr. Riggle explained that this is the worst case scenario pricing because we will not know the actual pricing until the end of March or April. He stated that we are also discussing graphing calculators but need to have them in the hands of students for the ACT. He noted that the concerns we are hearing from our teachers is that if we say no to graphing calculators, then the district would have to provide something for the ACT and AP exams. The administration is already in discussions about solutions to this issue.

Dr. Riggle stated that we are exploring the possibility of utilizing electronic textbooks and will have more information in the near future.

Dr. Riggle stated there are a lot of items to be covered at the March 10 Board meeting and there may be an increase in community members present at the meeting. He suggested moving the recognition of community visitors to the end of the agenda. Board members expressed their opinions. The consensus was to not change the placement of recognition of community visitors on the agenda. A suggestion was made to hold a special meeting for community comments. The Board members will look at their calendars and let Dr. Riggle know.

Mr. Shein left the meeting at 8:37 a.m

The committee discussed the lack of ownership a student has with a two-year Chromebook lease and that there would more buy-in from students with a four-year model.

Dr. Riggle stated that there may be struggles with the battery life and we may need to do a battery refresh after two years. The administration is already talking to Lenovo to see what can be done.

Dr. Ptak reviewed the issue of purchasing insurance or self-insuring. Based on experience so far it is in our best interest to use third party insurance. The good news is that claims are declining.

Security Camera Upgrade

Dr. Ptak asked the committee's recommendation on what the full board would like presented on the security camera upgrade.

The committee recommended that the fact that this is a passive surveillance system be highlighted.

In response to questions Dr. Ptak clarified the buyout cost.

Northfield Township Technology Consortium

Mr. Thimm explained the reasoning for the consortium and the cost savings it has provided the districts. Mr. Thimm shared the Intergovernmental Agreement prepared by our attorneys. He stated that District 225 will file the E-rate forms for the consortium and work with each consortium member to ensure compliance with E-rate filing processes and procedures.

A Board member asked if there are any liabilities to the district.

Mr. Thimm stated that there are not any additional liabilities.

Dr. Riggle stated that there is an emotional liability because we are responsible if the internet goes down, but we have built in enough redundancy that this should not be an issue.

A Board member reviewed the question of the legal ramifications.

Mr. Thimm stated that the intergovernmental agreement covers the legal ramifications.

A Board member asked Mr. Thimm to check with our attorneys for any legal ramifications.

Dr. Riggle explained that there are additional cost savings possible and Mr. Thimm is working on a model to see if it makes sense.

A Board member stated that the community feels that we are embracing cutting edge technology and appreciated all that we are doing.

Dr. Riggle thanked the Board members for their input, for their outreach to the community, and their communication with the administration.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.