Information Technology Advisory Committee
May 20, 2019 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Room 2750, John Stanford Center
2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134

Meeting Notes

Call to Order

Co-Chair John Krull called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. Roll call is as follows:
- Committee Members Present: Jacob Marzynski, Avery Wagar, Melissa Westbrook, Molly Meck, Nick Hernandez, Troy Hilton, Jessica Dorr, Elizabeth Ebersole, Nina Arens, Bobbie Manne, Pauline Amell Nash, Christine Billroth.
- Committee Members Absent: Roy Zimmermann, TuesD Chambers, Rebecca Spivak, Ahmed Yussuf, Casey Johnson, Margarita Guadalupe, Jason Morrison, Marika Wong.
- Other Staff Present: Chief Information Officer John Krull, Director of Enterprise Applications and Data Services Nancy Petersen, Information Security Manager April Mardock, DoTS Principle Program Manager Carrie McKenzie, Library Services and Instructional Materials Manager Marian Royal, Senior Administrative Assistant Joe Valenti, Executive Assistant Danielle Johnston.
- Guests of the Committee meeting introduced themselves.

Committee members unanimously accepted the proposed agenda.

Christine Billroth arrived at 4:35 p.m.

Committee members unanimously accepted the April 15, 2019 meeting minutes.

Regular Agenda Items

Mr. Krull reviewed the current budget with the committee, highlighting payroll expenses, small hardware purchases, software purchases, Schoology renewal, and network security purchases.

Ms. Westbrook asked for clarification on the payroll expense, which Mr. Krull said was normal spending.

Ms. Westbrook also asked if the remaining $17,000,000 in the instructional support budget was being reserved in case the science adoption needs more computers. Mr. Krull reminded the committee that $12,000,000 of the funds would be used for the upcoming board action report for student devices purchase. He then said that $29,000,000 was approved in BTA IV for devices and support and that the bulk of the funds has been spent on support but not devices.

Ms. Westbrook asked what the plan is for Amplify and if the district would be able to support two-to-one devices for middle school and one-to-one devices for high school students. Mr. Krull responded that the upcoming board action report for student devices would provide that ratio, but in an effort to support teaching and learning in general, not Amplify specifically.

Ms. Ebersole clarified that new schools are opened with two-to-one devices and that this purchase would bring the rest of the schools to that baseline and bring all high schools to one-to-one.

Mr. Krull continued with highlights on the budget, including contractor expenses and technology professional development for teachers.

Ms. Ebersole asked if there is a projection for how many teachers will finish the technology professional development. Mr. Krull said that he does not have a projection, but that the district budgeted for all teachers to complete their professional development.

Ms. Billroth asked if those hours would rollover and Mr. Krull clarified that this technology professional development is only for this year and next year would depending on the contract.

Ms. Arens asked if this professional development was included as background in the board action report. Mr. Krull said that is was not included because next year's collective bargaining agreement has not been finalized.

Ms. Amell Nash asked about the Schoology renewal. Mr. Krull shared that Schoology has been renewed through June 2020 and that the district is looking at next step with student systems.

Director Harris arrived at 4:45 p.m. She thanked the committee members for their services.

Special Attention Items

City of Seattle Broadband and Community Technology staff member Chance Hunt presented the findings of 2018 Technology Access and Adoption Study. This study marks the fifth city-wide survey of the residents since 2000. Responses from 4,315 residents provided a holistic view of digital engagement across the city.

Mr. Hunt pointed the committee to the public Tableau data dashboard. He noted that the survey was answered by an adult head of household, not individual users. He shared that the City is looking at where the gaps are and moving toward action.

Ms. Westbrook asked if digital skills would be covered by the library levy. Mr. Hunt shared that the levy would add hotspots for internet access and continue programing at the libraries.

Following questions from Mr. Wagar about open access to the fiber network, Mr. Hunt shared that municipal broadband initiatives have failed. Director Harris asked if Tacoma is still looking at municipal broadband. Mr. Hunt said that Tacoma is in the Request for Proposal stage.

Director Harris inquired about internet access as a utility and Mr. Hunt explained that internet is federally regulated and is not a utility at this time.

Ms. Westbrook departed at 5:27 p.m.

The committee then discussed the format and process for drafting the Annual Report to the School Board. Mr. Krull went over a list of the items covered this year and offered some different suggestions on format.

Mr. Krull suggested that at the next meeting, the committee could brainstorm next year's initiatives.

Following a question from Ms. Dorr about the purpose of the report, Director Harris shared that her understanding was that the report would overview work product and recommendations.

Ms. Arens noted that she was impressed with Curriculum and Instruction alignment and suggested that the report should highlight the importance of technology training.

Ms. Meck added that teachers and specialists are challenged to move technology forward in schools.

Ms. Meck asked about the committee influence in the new Education Technology positions at each school and Mr. Krull shared that the decision was driven by the committee's repeated demonstration of need for professional development.

Ms. Ebersole emphasized the importance of being able to fully realize tools that the district has already purchased because students do not have access to devices at school or home to be able to use tools.

Mr. Krull reviewed possible themes for categories in the report: existing inventory of resources and allocation of funds; collaboration and alignment of Curriculum and Instruction on student goals; feedback for communicating with dynamics and the importance of clarity on the Technology Plan and Board Action Reports; technology training, supporting instruction and education technology leaders; and the future direction of the committee.

Director Harris suggested adding how the committee's work would align with the strategic plan work in the future.

Ms. Dorr suggested using Mr. Krull's categories as statements with the themes of: resources being spent appropriately; coordination of departments, parents, and teachers; equity lens; and transparency, which includes the device map.

Mr. Krull offered that he would draft the report based on the committee's discussion and will send the draft to the committee for review.

Mr. Hilton requested more time for review of materials for future meetings.

Public Comment

Director Harris again thanked the committee members for their service.

Mr. Krull shared that the application for new members has been posted and new members will be starting in September.

Following a question from Director Harris about where there might be gaps in membership, Ms. Arens suggested adding higher education staff. Ms. Manne said that she would like to see someone who looks at the user interface or a psychologist who could speak about screen time

impacts. Ms. Ebersole suggested adding community representatives with less of a technology background. Ms. Arens inquired about the possibility of including younger students.

Ms. Meck offered to share her elementary school experience to share technology success and modeling digital citizenship. Ms. Ebersole shared that she sees a difference between middle school students who have had access to technology in elementary school.

Mr. Krull offered to visit an elementary and high school next year.

Director Harris added the importance of replicating best practices and sharing.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Next Meeting

Monday, June 17, 2019