



Information Technology Advisory Committee Meeting

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Meeting Notes

Call to Order: 4:32

Carlos Del Valle called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. Roll call is as follows:

	Nina Arens	x	Peter Lee
	Marcello Benati		Jacob Marzynbski
	Christine Billroth	x	Molly Meck
	Josh Caldwell		
	TuesD Chambers	x	Brian Vance
	Tu Dang	x	Avery Wagar
	Charnjit Dhoot	x	James Wagar
x	Elizabeth Ebersole	x	Roy Zimmerman
	Carlos Del Valle (chair) Executive Director of Technology	x x	Pauline Amell Nash (co-chair) Marika Wong

- Other Staff Present: Nancy Petersen, April Mardock, Lisa Rivera Smith

This meeting was held remotely per the Governor's proclamation prohibiting public agencies from conducting meetings subject to the Open Public Meetings Act in-person to curtail the spread of COVID-19.

Carlos introduced Director Lisa Rivera-Smith to the committee. Director Rivera-Smith sat in on this meeting.

Peter motioned to approve the October 26th Agenda; James seconded. Passed unanimously.

Elizabeth motioned to approve the September 28th meeting minutes. Peter seconded. Passed unanimously.

Budget

Carlos went over a review of the budget. The money set aside for training for teachers regarding technology days is being moved to the general fund. The BEX IV Academic Business Operations budget will be gone by the end of the year.

Marika asks why the professional development for teachers is moving to the general fund. JoLynn clarifies that the teacher's professional development is staying in the technology fund. There are computer purchases that are going to be paid for by the Federal Cares Act.

ITAC Membership Renewal Update

The membership renewal is due. The new member application is open for two weeks. Carlos is going to reach out to Schools of Promise and other people in the community about joining the committee.

There was a roll call to see what current members wanted to continue in their role on the ITAC Committee. Tim and Pauline will check results from the form that was sent out.

BTA V Financial Projections Planning

Pauline displayed the BTA V Levy: Timeline

Carlos says the remote learning has put a strain on our resources so part of the planning, is figuring out how to best support students and staff. There is a planning session with the Board where they will give guidance on how to execute this through the next few months.

Pauline asks if there is an action item for ITAC during the fall/winter planning. Carlos says his vision is that staff will start working to put this together.

Pauline displays the ITAC Past Year V1 slide

Carlos goes over the timeline on the slide and discusses the 2021 forecast and opens for discussion about the timeline.

Elizabeth asks is gathering data around the user experience is on the timeline. Carlos says we can add it to the timeline. Elizabeth follows up and asks if the LMS study is a research study and are there any opportunities for a research study. Carlos says LMS study is where it is at on the timeline to provide an opportunity to do research and give recommendations. James asks what do we anticipate would have happened by with the LMS study by March. Carlos says the director of BI will be engaging in February after the working session in January.

James follows up and asks if the IT Planning the committee worked on will be approved and if there will be a Superintendent procedure that will inform the work on the LMS by February. Carlos will get back to James on the dates.

Brian asks what role ITAC can have on the timeline. JoLynn says ITAC was not formed when BEX V was being worked on. If you're familiar with how BEX oversight works for Capital Projects, it's a similar role for ITAC. The oversight group is a group of stakeholders and experts in their field that provide input. It will be the same for the BTA V list – providing information on things we pay for every year that is charged to technology, life cycles for the technology we use, and cybersecurity. Staff will explain the cycle of major components and give some ideas about the systems they believe need work. ITAC would inform that decision by providing information on things that we are missing, what is the next technology, and how does it look five years from now.

James suggest we provide space interaction between ITAC and the Reopening Tasks Force. There might be an opportunity for collaboration and input.

Molly says the teacher voice is important. There is a disconnect about how to use technology. Pauline says the web team is working hard on the website redesign and at the center is the user experience and making sure the product meets the needs of the readers. Pauline says the team would be happy to come talk about the steps they took for user experience.

James says he serves on another committee and they are disappointed the diversity in the committee. In the service of getting more people on the ITAC committee, James suggests committing to being fully remote for meetings or providing a remote option. Carlos will look into it.

Open Comments

Elizabeth asks is there a plan to use the education version of MS Teams? Nancy says we plan to move to Teams Classrooms within the next month. April follows up by says they are using it on a few pilot schools. They are waiting to deploy it district wide until breakout rooms comes to the educational classrooms.

Brian asks what are we trying to accomplish by moving to Microsoft Teams for Education if we are not going to use some of the features that would make life easier. The three main platforms teachers use are Teams, Schoology, and Power Teacher. Trying to navigate the platforms for grading is burdensome.

April gives some insight on an effort to get PowerSchool and Schoology to sync up for grades. Aprils says people will like the features, especially the mute on demand and it gives them more management over the classroom.

JoLynn asks if Carlos went over the technology stats that were brought to the Board. JoLynn gives praise to DoTS for the hard work that has been done during remote learning from techline, technology resource centers, and giving out devices.

James asks if we are aware of how effective distance learning has been. Carlos says we have an update and he will put it on the agenda for the next ITAC meeting.

Nancy notes one of the data points was 92% of students came into at least one of the distance learning products. One of the concerns is the data was looking at who was able to connect and not engagement or participation. Anna Cruz's team has worked on getting better information on how frequently students log in and joining classes. With the tech check, the information teachers provided gave good data on why students are not participating. The staff has been working hard to define what students need hotspots, kids that are struggling with devices, or do they need different support in the classroom.

Carlos adds the tech center survey attempts to answer some of those questions. Nancy we're keeping up the Student Tech calls, there aren't a lot, but it is still too many. They are going to continue to work on it.

Molly added the way to keep the tech calls away is if teachers had devices to walk through and troubleshoot with their students. Nancy agrees and says another order of iPads has been shipped.

Public Comments

Adjourn

Elizabeth motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Peter seconded. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Next Meeting

Monday November 16, 2020