



Meeting Notes

Call to Order 4:34 PM

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

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

- Other Staff Present: April Mardock, Judie Jaeger.

This meeting will be 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.

Elizabeth motioned to approve the agenda. Peter Seconded. Passed unanimously.

Peter motioned to pass the October 26, 2020 minutes. Marcello seconded. Passed unanimously.

Budget

Carlos goes over the budget. There are funds budgeted for travel that most likely won't be utilized.

Peter asks if there are concerns about the amount sent aside for customer support. Carlos says they are looking at forecasting for future years. Carlos says when he briefed the Board, one of the items listed was to increase technical support. Currently, they are looking into collaborating with Amazon AWS for overflow support.

ITAC Membership

There was an application extension for another three weeks. All applications must be submitted by 5:00PM on December 7th.

James asks where the application or ITAC Membership was posted. Carlos says the application was sent to principals and educators. Pauline shares that the application went out once on School Beat. It will go out again this week.

There was a request from one of the directors requested adding the names, roles, and background of the ITAC Committee member to the annual report. Carlos request we take a vote.

Marika asks to not have ITAC Members' e-mail addresses on the report.

Elizabeth moves to approve adding ITAC Committee members' names and roles as part of the annual report to the Board. James seconded. Passed unanimously.

Technology Plan Draft/Scope/Timeline

There are a few areas of the Technology Plan that need to be drafted. There are revisions that need to be made due to remote learning as well as how to apply money for the tech challenges. Carlos reiterates that staff will do most of the work. There will be opportunities for ITAC to make recommendations and realign items on the Technology Plan.

Carlos says they will work together to edit this document as they go, and his plan is to start working on the Technology Plan around February/March.

Classroom Teams

April discusses Classroom Teams and some of the challenges. Microsoft has informed us about some of challenges of Classroom Teams. The first challenge is breakout rooms are currently unavailable and that would impact a lot of classrooms. The other problem is if a teacher is sick, nobody else can run that team – a substitute or principal must create a new team.

April shares a spreadsheet with five different options for the deployment of Classroom Teams.

- Option 1 – Stay the course, and do this thoughtfully
- Option 2 – Push Class Teams as soon as we can, safely
- Option 3 – Use Zoom to bridge to 2nd semester
- Option 4 – Use Zoom to bridge until we do a fully tested and complete deployment
- Option 5 – Push Classroom Teams SAP – likely high risk

Elizabeth says if teachers understood they would lose the breakout rooms for chat control; they would choose to keep the breakout rooms. Some teachers do not know how to use Zoom for teaching, and they could have issues trying to switch platforms in the middle of the school year.

Nina asks if we're going to pilot it with teachers. April says yes, they will, and she is very anxious to learn from teachers.

Marika seconds what Elizabeth says about breakout rooms and would advocate for any chance to keep breakout rooms. If there are teachers that want to get rid of chat.

Pauline asks if they know how many teachers are using breakout rooms regularly. April says she has several tech tickets which is an indicator of use. She suggests maybe 20% are using it. Marika follows up by asking if April knows what grade levels are using these rooms. April says it is being used in high school and elementary. They can pull data to see how the breakout rooms are being used.

Molly adds for first graders, they have old iPads. The only way she can use breakout rooms is to partner the students up. It's best practice for kids to work together and that's how they learn.

Draft BTA V Technology Principles for the Board

Carlos shares a document - Buildings Technology Academics/Athletics BTA V Board Priorities and Guidance.

James asks if classroom hardware and software include student devices and related software. Carlos says it should cover but we can separate it and make it its own separate criteria.

Elizabeth asks which one of the items includes teacher's professional learning. Carlos things the first item covers it, but we can be more specific about professional learning.

Nina asks if BTA V funds can be used for outreach. Carlos will follow up with Jolynn to answer the question. April says if outreach is within the context of the levy, the answer is usually yes. Some things belong in the general fund, but what matters is that the work is aligned with what was promised. Nina says outreach would be helpful to get faster feedback from parents.

Carlos updated the document to include "based on feedback and data-driven decisions."

Peter suggested adding "teachers and administrators" Carlos added "teachers and educators' professional learning for updates and additions to classroom hardware and software" to the document

Peter asks if there is something that looks at emerging technology? Is there anything that talks about incorporating new technology? Carlos updates the document with "IT investments shall seek emerging solutions and opportunities that improves educators' experience and access to digital resources."

Carlos updates the document to say "Technology Investments shall strive to address"

Elizabeth suggest putting the digital equity bullet point first.

Carlos adds "Prioritize improving the technology-influenced user experience"

Brian asks if technology around safety and security of our buildings falls under our guidance. Carlos says that falls under Buildings.

Open Comments

Carlos asks Brian how remote learning is going. Brian says it is going better but there are structural problems with having students take six courses on a digital platform. Brian says the breakout rooms are necessary and have been helpful.

Public Comments

Adjourn

5:54 James moved to adjourn. Peter seconded. Passed unanimously

Next Meeting

December 14, 2020.