Information Technology Advisory Committee

September 28, 2020 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting Notes



Call to Order 4:35

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		Molly Meck
	Josh Caldwell		
X	TuesD Chambers		Brian Vance
X	Tu Dang	X	Avery Wagar
	Charnjit Dhoot	X	James Wagar
X	Elizabeth Ebersole		Roy Zimmerman
	Carlos Del Valle (chair)	X	Pauline Amell Nash (co-chair)
	Executive Director of Technology	X	Marika Wong

• Other Staff Present: Nancy Petersen, April Mardock, Antoniette Harrison, Marcel Hauser

James motioned to approve the September 28th Agenda and Marcello seconded.

Marcello has motioned to approve the August 17th minutes. and James seconded.

Budget

Pauline states that we're at the collusion of our fiscal year. She says the biggest change to the budget was for device purchases. Pauline reiterates that everything left over from the general fund goes back into the larger fund at the end of the fiscal year.

Nobody had any questions about the budget.

Re-opening of Schools Task Force

Marcel and Antoinette talk about the Re-opening of School Task Force. Marcel gave a brief overview of the task force and an overview of what they do. The task force should represent the community. The task force group is meeting twice a month. The group will consist of 20 members that includes students, community members, and Seattle Public School staff.

Pauline asks how can ITAC collaborate with the tasks force. Antoinette says by communicating and hearing any feedback about what's happening. Marcel is hoping for a continued partnership to combine efforts to help the task force.

James asks would it be beneficial for any ITAC members to join the task force. Marcel and Antoinette both say yes, and the application deadline is October 7th.

Elizabeth ask what kind of things the task force is thinking about in regards to technology and the reopening of schools. Antoinette replies they have been thinking about it and the hope is ITAC suggestions can be presented to the task force to help with the re-opening. Marcel follows up saying he believes, moving forward, technology will be an important piece of students learning.

Elizabeth says ITAC has a strong representation of the SPS community and it's a good committee to send questions to.

Antoinette says the task force is going to work collaboratively with everyone. Pauline asks if the scope of the task force is an oversight task force to make sure we're staying on track with the plan that's in place? Marcel and Antoinette agree that's the role of the tasks force.

Marcel is going to send a link to the task force application.

Final Policy Draft

James leads the discussion on the changes to the policy. James says a section that talked about technology planning principals, but it only invoked principals from other board policies. James says all that work could be consistent with those policies and still fail to deliver IT resources. James says we need other principals to equip the IT program to have something to strive for and be measured against.

James shares his screen to walk through the changes and language that have been made and a new principal.

Pauline asks the DoTS team if it's possible that some of the language belongs in department procedure instead of a board policy. April says the core issue is the top-level board policy has to be generic. The superintendent procedures underneath would be where more detail would go. April thinks these fit better in the superintendent procedure.

Nancy likes the addition and says it's not so detailed that it couldn't be in the policy.

Elizabeth says we possibly could be creating work for someone and what does that mean. How does that impact funding? James is hoping that the user experience becomes part of the consideration if it's in a board policy or superintendent procedure. Elizabeth asks is there a team of people dedicated to technology user experience. Pauline says her job title is User Experience Content Strategist, but the focus has been on web domains. Elizabeth says user experience is a job and sometimes the job of a full team. Is that what we need? If so, how do we get there?

Avery says having the user experience lens is a good first step. Elizabeth reiterates she wants to hash out what it means in the policy.

Marika it's important to consider the best thing isn't the most expensive. It's important to think about what's going to work the best for everyone and is realistic for public education.

Nancy says the user experience is something we need to consider going forward and to think about how general or specific we need to be in the policy.

Avery mentions the user experience influence falls in accordance with the board policy.

James made revisions to the policy. Pauline asks why James included "overall effectiveness". James says it was out of respect for the prior language the group agreed upon. Pauline suggest narrowing the

language. Nina suggest adding "usability, accessibility, and overall effectiveness in support of student academic excellence and community engagement."

TuesD says we can talk all day about the language for user experience but we need to find a way that it works for students and teachers. It should be valued, and it hasn't been. Right now, we're seeing the repercussions of that.

James asks if we're comfortable with the changes and what is the approval process once we approve this language. He provided two versions of the changes on the screen.

Elizabeth reads the definition of user experience to find language we could use. James will keep the language if they aren't concerned with the entire section being tossed because of overreach.

James asks if people are ok with ending the section with a comment about user experience.

Pauline suggest language for usability and accessibility.

James says if we prioritize the improvement of user experience, it helps us get closer to where we want to be.

Peter asks if the last bullet point fits in the section. James made his final changes to the policy.

James motioned to vote on the policy as its currently drafted. Elizabeth seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

The policy will be given to Carlos to review.

Membership Renewal

We have open spaces. If members want to continue with ITAC, send an e-mail to Timothy.

Open Comments

No open comments

Public Comments

No public comments

Adjourn

Peter motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Avery seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Next Meeting

Monday October 19, 2020