## **Information Technology Advisory Committee**

May 24, 2021 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Microsoft Teams Meeting

# **Meeting Notes**



#### Call to Order 4:35 PM

Present	Seat	Name	Present	Seat	Name
X	St1	Avery Wagar	X	S1	Molly Meck
	St2	Ethan Kraus	X	S2	Pauline Amell Nash
	St3	Jashlin Olivera		S3	TuesD Chamber
X	C1	James Wagar	X	S4	Brian Vance
X	C2	Craig Behnke		S5	Marika Wong
X	C3	Peter Lee		S6	Kevin Black
X	C4	Nina Arens	X	S7	Patricia Jennings
	C5	Anisa Khusbakht	X	S8	Elizabeth Ebersole
X	C6	Jacqui Silvio-Barnes		SA1	Open
X	C7	Pedro Ciriano Perez		SA2	Open
X	C8	Trisha Frazier			
X	CA1	Justin Mann			
	CA2				
	Chair	Carlos Del Valle		Co-	Pauline Amell Nash
		Executive Director of		Chair	
		Technology			****Selection to be made
		Other Staff Present: Aisha			***Key: (C) Community, (St)
		Bomani, Nancy Peterson,			Student, (S) SPS Staff
		Joanne Cobb, Gary Cranston,			
		Colleen Halvorson, Judie			
		Jaeger, Rafael Gallardo			

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.

Peter motions to approve the May 24<sup>th</sup> agenda. Craig seconded. Passed unanimously.

Peter motioned to approve the April 26<sup>th</sup> minutes. Elizabeth seconded. Passed unanimously.

## **Budget**

Mr. Del Valle presented the budget. He mentioned the Wi-Fi BAR and the new BAR for Teacher Computer Refresh. Elizabeth asked what kind of questions the Board has about the technology budget. Carlos replied there was a yearly drill regarding the budget.

### **Teacher Computer Refresh BAR**

IT Manager Colleen Halvorson presented the BAR for Teacher Computer Refresh. It has been four years since the first roll out of laptops. We are going to spend \$7M for new laptops for certificated staff. This

includes 4,300 laptops, 4,300 docking stations, services to have them imaged and packaged, and bags. Gary Cranston showed his Dell 5320 device and went over the specs. There are more capabilities for teachers with these devices. Brian asked if Building Leaders was a part of the new laptop rollout. Colleen responded the principals are in a different unit and will get their laptops on a different schedule.

Peter asked about student laptops and if the different device specs were for different grades. Colleen answered we do have different devices for different grades. K-2 is an iPad, 3-8 is a Dell 3210 and high school gets is a Dell 3300.

Director of Technology Infrastructure Nancy Petersen asked the committee for suggestions for the BAR.

Craig asked is there a way to get teachers a second usb charging cable. Collen replied they purchased the docking station instead of the additional charging cable.

### **Digital Equity Manager**

Digital Equity Manger Aishah Bomani presented on the Digital Equity Manager. Aishah shared a PowerPoint for FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit. She discussed the \$50 internet service credit and what families are eligible. The benefit provides up to \$50 a month subsidy credit until the benefits run out. The program will also be applicable to past internet debts. Mr. Del Valle added this program has been planned with the City of Seattle and other partners for a while. Aishah also presented tips for consumers: check to see if your internet provider is participating, apply to get a discount via the provider, and get a second internet account. The next steps are update principals/school using School Leadership Communicator, further collaboration, continue to add local partners and companies, and provide TechLine with EBB referral info.

Elizabeth asked if there is a FAQ sheet that teachers can put in their weekly newsletters. Aishah replied there is a general FAQ. They are currently finalizing the information to be in line with SPS values. Once it' is done being finalized, it will go out.

Trisha asked would you recommend holding off telling communities about the internet credit. Aishah encouraged Trisha to let families know about the credit. There is enough information on the FCC website.

Pauline asked if she had a chance to contact Rachel in Communications and gave some suggestions for putting the information on social media and the web page.

Nina asked what the communication is around giving back student laptops. Nancy answered there is a plan for returning laptops and discussed upcoming communications for that. Nina asked what kind of volunteers were needed. Nancy replied they welcome volunteers and are happy to have more volunteers.

#### **Virtual School Project**

Digital Learning Manager Rafael Gallardo and Executive Director Dr. Caleb Perkins presented on Virtual School Project. Dr. Perkins talked about the future of virtual learning. The current thinking is to pilot a virtual option starting next school year. Working within existing schools are ALEs (Alternative Learning Experience). Those schools include Nova, InterAgency, Middle College High School, and Allen T Sugiyama. Currently they are thinking about where it would make sense to pilot this option. 1) Main plan is to engage students to comeback to in-person 2) they will pilot some virtual options working within existing schools 3) K-5 is most appropriate to go back to in person at their school. 4) We should take advantage with the pilot to build something permanent in Seattle Public Schools.

Dr. Perkins says they are learning from the Tacoma model. Some of the things good about Tacoma was they did something that was minimally disruptive to their other schools.

Trisha asked if virtual students would be separated from in-person students. Caleb says that's not part of any plan that he is aware of.

Mr. Del Valle asked how Tacoma leveraged the technology. Rafael says the contracted with a third-party curriculum vendor. Rafael says it is an additional standalone virtual school platform.

Elizabeth asked about the teachers and if the teachers are still Seattle Public Schools certified teachers. Caleb replied yes, the pilot plans on using SPS teachers. They want to recruit teachers that want to teach in the virtual option.

Nina – has anyone gathered current student input regarding virtual learning. Rafael replied that is already happening. They have done some outreach to get input from students and families.

Question in the chat – Will students be able to virtual classes to make up missing credits. Dr. Perkins says it already happens through existing high schools.

## **Open Comments**

Jacqui asked Mr. Del Valle to look at a contact she sent for online tooling for afterschool and in school activities.

Peter asked if there was anything more needed for LMS gap analysis. Carlos said he is working on a few things first, but we still have time to do some work.

Trisha asked if there was a delay on giving input to potential website changes. Pauline said there were early engagement links and opportunities that went out. They are working to onboard staff on the redesign. They are working to publish the new site at the beginning of August.

Trisha asked if we anticipate we will be doing in person meetings next year. Carlos said there are some discussions from the board. They are currently looking at a hybrid model to keep the participation.

Motion to adjourn Peter. Elizabeth seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM

Minutes Revised 6/17/21 - Del Valle