

MINUTES
TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE

DATE: August 8, 2011
TIME: 8:30 am
PLACE: Senate Auditorium, WW02

MEMBERS: Spencer Barzee, George Boland, Mike Caldwell, Christopher Campbell, Linda Clark, Stefani Cook, Debbie Critchfield, Marne Curtis, Penni Cyr, Reed DeMordaunt, Keven Denton, Brian Duncan, Alan Dunn, Mike Fornander, Cliff Green, Colby Gull, Wendy Horman, Jennifer Johnson, Desiree Laughlin, Eileen Lento, Brent Lloyd, Salvatore Lorenzen, Tom Luna, Aaron McKinnon, Alan Millar, Maria Nate, Brad Patzer, Heidi Rogers, Jayson Ronk, Gary Smith, Bicker Therien, Mary Vollmer, Chuck Winder

General Task Force Business Superintendent Luna called the group to order at 8:39 am and introduced the new Idaho Education Association representative, Penni Cyr. Lauren Morando Rhim, Facilitator, reviewed the task force's progress, agenda, and a number of overarching questions for the group to keep in mind during their discussions.

Mobile Devices in Canby SD: Meeting the Needs of Every Student, Joe Morelock Joe Morelock presented on the mobile devices being used in the Canby, Oregon School District. In 2010-2011, the Canby School District had approximately 100 classrooms with iPod devices, 1,875 iPod devices total, and 300 iPads. They plan to add at least another 1,000 iPod or iPad devices next year. Morelock encouraged the task force to think about technology devices in global terms, because we don't know what the devices will look like in another 5 or 10 years.

Morelock outlined some of the classroom uses of the devices. Some of the teachers are using audio book libraries and iPods to help change non-readers into readers. Students can listen to words they struggle pronouncing or look up words they don't understand. Another teacher uses accelerometer and pedometer apps on an iPod to track students while they run, then the students use the statistical data gathered to solve math problems and create presentations. Students also use the iPods to record their writing as a voice memo and then listen to the audio to hear where they need to correct errors. The devices have helped with accessibility for vision-impaired students. The district saw significant student academic growth in their special education, migrant, and English language learner (ELL) subpopulations when technology was introduced in the classroom. Teachers who were previously going to retire have decided to stay in the classroom because of the infusion of technology in the classroom.

The Canby School District spent \$50,000 to fund innovation in 25-30 classrooms, despite 12% reductions each year for the last two years. They decided they couldn't afford not to invest in technology. Canby sees technology as not only an opportunity, but an imperative, because students will go somewhere else where they're more engaged.

Students at the Center: The K-12 Computing Blueprint for eLearning Dr. Eileen Lento presented a blueprint for building effective and ambitious technology initiatives. Dr. Lento referenced the K-12 Computing Blueprint website (<http://k12blueprint.com/k12/blueprint/>) where task force members can find success stories from other districts, as well as lessons learned from

Initiatives, Eileen Lento

districts who have encountered obstacles.

Lento stressed the need to teach students safe behaviors on the internet and acceptable uses of technology.

In order to inspire, guide, and build systemic change, you need to:

1. Identify stakeholders
2. Build a task force
3. Develop teacher buy-in
4. Create a strategic and sustainable plan
5. Involve people, process, technology, and data
6. Maximize communications

There are a number of options for funding technology in schools:

1. District/state purchase
2. Lease program
3. Lease/purchase
4. Individual/family purchase
5. District implementation

The expected results of the technology should determine the platform of the device chosen. Things to consider when choosing a mobile computing device include:

1. Size
2. Battery and recharging
3. Security
4. Replacement
5. Hardware/software
6. Upgrades
7. Maintenance and support
8. Teacher-student interactivity
9. Quality
10. Carrying case

Lento also stressed bandwidth considerations, connectivity issues, and professional development as crucial to beginning large scale technology programs. You must have a communication plan for implementation written in a different voice for each stakeholder group, and a regular cadence of communication.

State and Local Initiatives:

- Freedom to Learn Initiative- Michigan
- Maine Learning Technology Initiative
- Texas TIP Program
- South Dakota Classroom Connections Program
- Kent, Washington
- Irving, Texas
- Lemon Grove, California
- Auburn, Alabama
- Henrico, Virginia

Ubiquitous technology, when properly implemented, increases student outcomes. Systemic re-engineering through technology saves money, increases

access and utilization. Leadership and vision are crucial to success. Daily use of technology best realizes the return on investment; frequency matters.

There being no further business to come before the full task force, the task force took a break at 10:50 am before moving on to subcommittee work.