

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY MEETING

Curriculum & Technology Meeting Minutes

The Curriculum & Technology Committee met on Wednesday, June 10th at 6:30 in the D.O.

Meeting attendees: Dawn Heine (chair), Mr. Cromley, Dr. Floyd, Mr. Reynolds, Mrs. Choi, Dr. Grande, Ms. Bernat, Mr. Cywinski, Mr. Zimmerman, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Swavely and Mrs. Long

Curriculum/Technology

Modernized Learning Update – A presentation was given to the committee regarding lessons learned, survey results and next steps. The presentation included a rollout plan beginning in the 15-16 school year and continuing for 5 years.

Technology portion of the meeting 3 items were reviewed:

- 1. Smart Classroom Installation for 2015-16 Budget
 - a. 40 classrooms have been identified for this phase. The breakdown is as follows:

i. 5-6 GC 6 Rooms

ii. 7th GC 2 Rooms

iii. 8th GC 7 Rooms

iv. 9th GC 2 Rooms

v. Brooke Elem. 6 Rooms

vi. Limerick Elem. 4 Rooms

vii. Royersford Elem. 3 Rooms

viii. UP Elementary 10 Rooms

- b. The bid for installation of these systems has been selected and will be on the June Board meeting for Approval with a cost of \$70,600. Several vendors asked for information, but only 1 bid was returned and it is the same company we have previously used and we are happy with their quality
- c. The installations will take place in July and August.
- 2. Next Generation Firewall

The Technology Team has selected a new Fortinet next generation firewall system to replace the current firewall and malware systems. The current firewall is now "end of life" and is no longer supported by the manufacturer. The existing malware software is insufficient to prevent the attacks by today's most common malware threats.

The firewall system will provide:

- Firewall services: The system resides on our network boundary to block unwanted traffic from entering our network.
- Intrusion prevention: The system scans Internet traffic for malicious content and malware. The system also inspects Internet traffic patterns to detect and prevent cyber-attack threats.
- Antivirus: The system address malware protection in two ways. First, it includes software to protect end-user computers from malware accessed on the Internet. Second, it scans Internet traffic at the point of entry to prevent malware from entering the network.

- Web filtering: The system will replace our existing Internet web filter. The 3year cost of the Fortinet firewall system is \$132,468.24. This amount will be financed over three years with annual payments of \$46,437.25; which is an item on the agenda for board approval. This amount will be covered by the proposed technology budget plan. It should be noted that this purchase replaces 2 existing systems, provides more and does so for less cost.
- 3. Technology Refresh-Lease Schedule Update Final purchases have been completed for the 2015-16 technology refresh. The total equipment cost is \$781,659.52 (below the budgeted amount of \$800,000) and will be divided into four annual lease payments of \$210,650.21 per year. The purchase includes student laptops, student iPads, laptop charging carts, desktop computers, and monitors. Installs will begin June 22.

Curriculum

Updates

- 2015-15 & 2015-16 Aims Web has been used for some of our Special Ed students but not regular ed students. This is causing a disparity between information being taught. This puts further emphasis on our ELA series. Goal is to purchase new series in 2015-16 with implementation in 2016-17
- 2. Math Materials & Resources our ED math program is 3 editions behind. Dr. Floyd was approached by folks at ED who offered an offer almost too good to be true.
 - a. Update for about 1/10 of total price
 - b. Includes Essentials kit, buy 1 get 1 student journals, 5 years on-line access free, Dot cards free, 2 days of PD free
 - c. Items would cover K-6 for around \$57K. While this wasn't budgeted for in the CIA budget, it is an offer that we should not turn down and CIA has already found a way to pay for this critical update.
 - d. This will NOT change our plans for full review of the ED math program in the 2016-17 school year.
- 3. June In-Service
 - i. 12 & 17 Building
 - ii. 13 & 15 CIA ED math National Rep has provided a 2 hour overview
- 4. STEM/PLTW The third course was selected which will be Digital Electronics. It was selected b/c nothing like it offered at SF
- 5. AP US History these books need to be updated b/c they no longer align with the college board course
- 6. Elementary Report Cards Curriculum department is working to align to core with verbiage and help parents understand student achievement.
 - a. Revise 1-4 scoring structure
 - b. Phase out utilization of % in 4th grade; and use core aligned
 - c. Administration, Principals and teachers are in favor of changes
 - d. R/o in 15-16 school year

Keystone Exams

- 1. Summer Remediation offered to students getting ready to go into project assessment phase of Biology exam and others in future years
- 2. Exam Exemption Should students taking and having to pass a Keystone also have to take a final? Other districts are already doing this for their students.

,	3.	Lastly, one interesting fact, the over 13 days totaling over 1,700	AP and Keystone ex exams!	xams were delivered t	o SF students