

K-12 TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	April 23, 2015
Meeting Location	DSIT – 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Kyle Herron
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	Nola Armstrong (SC Telecom. Assoc.), John Bane (DTO), Dean Byrd (ETV), Valarie Byrd (DT), Don Cantrell (SDE), Felix Childs (SDE), Teena Frazer (Spirit), James Gordon (DTO), Samantha Hastings (USC), Bobbi Kennedy (ETV), Denise Lyons (SC State Library), Linda O’Byron (ETV), Karen Rumfelt (DTO), Charlie Seastrunk (DTO), Mike Shelton (DT), Kristen Setzler (Calhoun Co. Library), Beth Shull (AT&T), Bradley Mitchell (SDE)

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 1	Approval of March Minutes	Presenter:	Kyle Herron
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1. Kyle asked for a motion to approve the K-12 minutes from the March meeting. Minutes were approved without corrections or changes.

Agenda Item 2	SC Dept. of Education – Double Robotics Pilot	Presenter:	Bradley Mitchell
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1. Bradley Mitchell, Director – Office of Virtual Education, Department of Education, was on hand to give the committee an overview on their Virtual Learning Lab & Robot Pilot program.
2. The Virtual Learning Lab provides the following:
 - a. Use of VirtualSC course, Highly Qualified, licensed teacher and online learning resources.
 - b. Free staff training.
 - c. Gives the school the ability to introduce new courses, fix scheduling conflicts, or proved students with courses that may not otherwise be offered due to staffing or budget issues.
 - d. Use of a Double Robot.
 - e. A virtual lab (computer lab) is located at the school and course is available to the students 24/7. A teacher is available during a set course period during the school day.
3. Before the Robot Virtual Learning labs students worked in a computer lab with a course facilitator to monitor their progress. The traditional means of communication were messaging, email, Skype and phone. The course facilitator and/or student emailed or called teacher for troubleshooting or advice.
4. Some of the weaknesses to the Pre-Robot Learning Lab is as follows:
 - a. Student commitment.
 - b. Course facilitators experienced difficulty in troubleshooting
 - c. Synchronous instruction:
 - Although the teacher was available, means of communication where not always ideal.
 - Some schools could not grant student access to Skype or email.
 - Conditions were not ideal for class-wide lessons.
 - d. Student Achievement – LEAD students showed a 9% point gain from last year to this year with the robot.
5. Robot Pilot Project: School Profile:
 - a. Dacusville Middle School.
 - School District of Pickens County
 - Traditional computer lab setting
 - Lab Monitor & Technology Supervisor
 - b. LEAD Academy
 - South Carolina Public Charter School District – located in Greenville County.
 - Non-traditional setting; classroom.
 - Course monitor/full time, licensed teacher.
6. Goals of the 2014-15 Robot Pilot are:
 - a. Improve communication between student, teacher and course facilitator.
 - Technology issues.
 - Live sessions.

- b. Promote Student engagement.
 - Student commitment is essential.
 - c. Promote student achievement.
 - Increase in participation, individual student grades.
7. Impact of the Robot in Virtual Learning Lab:
- a. Communication.
 - Provides instant communication for student or facilitator needs.
 - Students feel more comfortable asking questions.
 - b. Interaction, participation and engagement.
 - Students interact more often with their peers, the facilitator and the teacher.
 - Students are increasingly interested in and excited about the course.
 - c. Student achievement.
 - Students are maintaining appropriate pace.
 - Assignments are submitted on time, more often, resulting in better grades.
 - Dacusville – 93% class average, LEAD 90% class average.
8. Future of Robots with VirtualSC:
- a. Partner with other programs and SCDE offices.
 - b. Expand use to other Virtual Learning Lab subject areas.
 - Spanish (Live Sessions).
 - Math and/or Science.
 - Physical Education.
 - Any VirtualSC course.
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Agenda Item 3	SCETV – General Updates	Presenter:	Linda O’Byron
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1. Linda O’Byron with SCETV was on hand to update us on some of the things that are going on with ETV.
2. She provided the committee members with copies of a recent documentary produced by ETV entitled “180 Days in Hartsville” which debuted nationally in March of this year. In the documentary, a film crew spends 180 days in a Hartsville schools following around principals and teachers in an attempt to gain insight into a normal day and the goings-on and challenges faced by students, teachers and faculty in a poverty stricken area. It shows how the school personnel and community come together to make their schools a successful learning environment for the students.
3. PBS Learning Media works to provide recognition to people across the country that are digital leaders/innovators. The program rewards 100 tech-savvy K-12 educators from across the country that are serving as leaders in the education technology space and incorporating digital media in classrooms to promote student engagement and achievement. The group of 100 educators will receive year-long professional development opportunities that include virtual training, access to premium and exclusive resources and invitations to special events. In addition, the Lead PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators representing the top 30 applicants will receive all all-expense paid trips to Philadelphia to participate in a two-day digital education summit where participants will engage in hands-on learning, collaborate with peers and hear from digital technology thought-leaders.
4. Amanda Kruysman, an eighth grade English teacher at Gold Hill Middle School in Fort Mill, SC was selected to serve as a 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator. She is a firm believer that students should be provided with hands-on real world based education that prepares them not only for higher education, but also the opportunity to be responsible, contributing global citizens. She believes the best part of her job is helping students realize their potential is truly unlimited and providing them with resources to grow.
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Agenda Item 4	E-Rate Status/K-12 Network Status	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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FCC News

1. **May 20, 2015-1:00pm:** A live (webcasted) public workshop will be held to provide schools, libraries, providers and state and local policy makers with information and tools for planning fiber build projects under the new E-rate rules. The goal is to help rural areas with more flexibility in acquiring options to purchase affordable high-speed connectivity. Closing the “Rural Connectivity Gap” is the main focus. Project is contingent on no cost effective solution in place.

Key Topics:

- Rules governing installment payments
- State matching for fiber builds

- Leasing and management of dark fiber
- Self-construction

E-Rate News

1. **April 16, 2015 11:59pm:** FCC Form 471 (E-Rate Application) Filing Window closed. Application reviews began early this year prior to the window closing date.

K-12 Bandwidth Allocation Policy Revisions:

1. Internet Access: School Districts minimum for districts having 1,500 students or less – 150 Mbps provided.
2. Wan Connectivity: Individual schools having 1,000 – 2,500 students (1GIG)
Individual library branch funded baseline for 20 MBP up to 50 Mbps
3. Motion was made and carried to approve these policy changes effective July 1, 2015.

K-12 Partners Responsibilities Update [Version 4 (2015)]

1. Draft copies were provided to Principal point of contacts for SC Department of Education and State Library.

State E-Rate Program Status

1. 2014-15 Current: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2014 – 06/30/2015)
 - a. 285 vendor orders remaining. The majority of these orders are due to AT&T ASE projects.
 - b. Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) forms filings are in process.
 - c. Child Internet Protection (CIPA) Form 479 Certification documents will be distributed this month.
2. 2015-16 Upcoming: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2015 – 06/30/2016)
 - a. Two Spring FCC Form 471 Application workshops offered to late E-Rate applicants.
 - b. All five State Consortia Applications were filed and are currently under USAC review for approval.
 - c. Final MOU forms and K-12 Network Compliance Forms are being generated for distribution. Library documents and Special Schools Document. Division of Technology is awaiting returned signed forms.

K-12 Network Status (External Broadband Availability Improvements)

Conversion for under-served/expensive bandwidth updates for Wireless and MPLS locations is as follows:

1. Districts: Solutions Update

- a. Hampton SD 1 – (Convert district WAN from wireless connectivity to fiber): An official kickoff meeting was held onsite April 13, 2015. All materials and approved permits anticipated to be on hand the end of April. Project completion, ETA late June 2015.

2. Library Systems Solutions Update:

- b. Metro Ethernet solutions identified for the following Libraries:
 - (4) ABBE Library System **ALL**: Fiber confirmed – Vendor orders in progress
 - (4) AHJ Library System **ALL**: Orders in process, DTO will assist with equipment
 - (2) McClellanville, Edisto (Charleston Library System) **ALL**: Vendor orders in progress
 - (2) Edisto Beach (Colleton Library System) **ALL**: Vendor orders in progress
 - (2) York Library System: System provided decision for layout. Vendor orders placed
 - (3) Spartanburg Library System **ALL**: Vendor orders in progress

3. No Solutions Identified-Status

- (2) Darlington (Lamar Branch): **No fiber**, Muti-T1 solution a (upgrade) – Awaiting completion of Library renovations.
- (4) Orangeburg Library System: **No Fiber**, Investigating other options with Orangeburg County and new AT&T (MPLS) service offerings.

Bandwidth Allocation Deployment Phase IV-Fiber Placement Opportunities

1. The following districts have completed projects: **None**
2. The following districts have completed evaluations.
 - **Georgetown**
 - **Abbeville 60**
 - **Lexington 4**
3. The following districts have active projects:
 - **Barnwell 19**
 - **Lexington 5**
4. The following districts are being evaluated:
 - **Charleston**

Agenda Item 5	Network Changes	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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1. New VoIP RFP: The response period has ended. Bid Evaluations are in progress. The target completion date is Mid-May. The current state contract has been extended until 2018 to allow time for customers to migrate from the old to new contract.
2. ASE and AVPN Migrations and MIS Upgrades Program Updates:
 - a. Progress (2015 Statewide)
 - 8 of 50 MIS Upgrades (16%) No change
 - 439 of 700 ASE Migrations (63%)
 - 29 of 870 AVPN Migrations-Including 3 Aggregate Circuits (3%)
 - b. Issues (K-12 Entities)
 - Spartanburg 7 School District – Rescheduled Target completion 5/31/15.
 - Department of Corrections Palmetto Unified-VLANs turned up 4/13/15 with a target completion of 5/31/15.
 - Anderson 5 School District – MIS upgrade delay due to up-front ordering process and required construction. No change

Agenda Item 6	K-12 Security Project	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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1. Four sensor upgrades completed and two new sensors were installed.

Agenda Item 7	EOC – General Updates	Presenter:	Melanie Barton
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1. \$29.3 million for K-12 Technology Initiative funded in the House.
2. \$2.1 million increase for EIA Technology (Connectivity) funded in House
3. Proviso dealing with online music instruction amended per EOC recommendation to delete reference to digital instructional material (i.e. Quaver)

Agenda Item 8	Open Discussion	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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1. The committee was allowed the opportunity to have hand-on interaction with the Double Robot.

Next Meeting	April 23, 2015
Location	Division of State IT, 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210