

K-12 TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	July 24, 2014
Meeting Location	DSIT – 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Valarie Byrd
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	John Bane (DTO), Melanie Barton (EOC), Valarie Byrd (DTO), Don Cantrell (SCDE), Bill Croteau (SCSL), Teena Frazer (Spirit), James Gordon (DTO), Mark Hinsch (DIS), Bobbi Kennedy (SCETV), Sharron Myers (DTO), Charlie Seastrunk, Beth Shull (AT&T), Jane Sosebee (AT&T), Petra Turner (DTO), Marcos Vieyra (DIS), Lynn Fralick (Spirit), Sally Cauthen (Senate Education Staff)

AGENDA ITEMS

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

Agenda Item 2	eRate Status/K-12 Network Status	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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eRate News

E-Rate Modernization:

1. Encouragement and support letters for eRate Modernization were submitted by the SC Department of Education, SC Educational Television and SC State Library days prior to the open commission meeting.
2. On July 11, 2014, the FCC approved the first eRate modernization order. Additional orders will more than likely follow this ground breaking event for the nearly 18 year old program. A vote of 3 (Democratic commissioners Wheeler, Clyburn and Rosenworcel) for approval to 2 (Republican Commissioners Pai and O'Reilly) against. Following the vote, the FCC released a two page fact sheet regarding the changes the order would implement in lieu of the complete document. Also other new topics addressed via a new "Future" Notice of Proposed Rule Making (FNPRM).
3. The FNPRM seeks comment on:
 - Long term program funding needs necessary to meet goals and funding targets established in the Order.
 - Further steps to facilitate the use of cost effective consortium-based purchasing.
 - Alternative methodologies for allocating support for the library Wi-Fi connectivity.
4. Additional information via <http://www.fcc.gov>:
 FCC Modernizes eRate to Expand Robust Wi-Fi in Schools and Libraries
 - News Release: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A1.docx
 - Fact Sheet: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A2.docx
 - Wheeler Statement: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A3.docx
 - Clyburn Statement: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A4.docx
 - Rosenworcel Statement: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A5.docx
 - Pai Statement: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A6.docx
 - O'Reilly Statement: https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328172A7.docx

Congress/FCC:

FCC and GSA Team Up to Help Schools and Libraries Save Money on Wi-Fi

<http://www.fcc.gov/blog/fcc-and-gsa-team-help-schools-libraries-save-money-wi-fi>

1. New FCC/U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) contract was signed 07/11/2014 for allowing schools and libraries the opportunity to consolidate their purchasing power and save significant money on **wireless access points, routers, and the other equipment they need to deploy modern, robust Wi-Fi networks.**
2. Blanket purchase agreements (BPAs) administered by GSA's National Information Technology Commodity Program (NITCP) would allow schools and libraries to utilize the GSA's reverse auction platform to seek bids from equipment vendors at prices even better than those already available under the relevant GSA schedule.
3. Expect this opportunity to be available for eRate applicants in Funding Year 2015.
4. Equipment can make up to as much as 80 percent of the total cost of internal network deployment, this can provide an opportunity for schools and libraries to save money on upgrading their internal connections.
5. FCC Chairman Wheeler announced the creation of a "Universal Service Fund Strike Force" https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-328183A1.docx . This will be housed in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau which is dedicated to combating:
 - Waste, fraud and abuse in Commission funding programs
 - Focus on safeguarding the Universal Service Fund and other programs the FCC oversees.

State eRate Program Status

2013-14 (Current Year) 07/01/2013 – 06/30/2014 Application

1. Working on Final BEAR submissions this summer.

2014-15 (New) 07/01/2014 – 06/30/2015 Application

1. There are 379 vendor orders remaining; 45 of which are due to AT&T's ASE project.

2015-16 (Upcoming) 07/01/2015 – 06/30/2016 Application

1. Planning for anticipated new program changes: Procedures, Training, New and Eligible Services listings etc.
2. Continue to assist SC Department of Education with preparing for the implementation of the federal Community Eligibility Option: CEP (CEO) program transition as it relates to free and reduced lunch data collections impacting the eRate state data file (October 2014) which will be used for eRate Funding Year 2015.

K-12 Network Status (External Broadband Availability Improvements)

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

The Status of MPLS locations Research:

Districts: Solutions Update

- ✓ Charleston SD-Ethernet Solution – Construction near completion.
- ✓ Orangeburg SD 4-Final Location Ethernet Solution – Construction near completion.
- ✓ Hampton SD 1 – (All wireless connectivity) potential fiber solution identified and anticipate conversion kick-off summer of 2015.

Library Systems Solutions Update: (25 Library Locations)

- ✓ New vendor service inquiries in progress.
- ✓ Metro Ethernet solutions identified for the following Libraries: AHJ Library System, McClellanville (Charleston Library System), Ridgeway (Fairfield Library System), Edisto Beach (Colleton Library System)

Bandwidth Allocation Deployment Phase IV-Fiber Placement Opportunities

1. The following districts have completed projects: None
2. The following districts have active projects:
 - Pickens (ETA August)
 - Berkeley Phase IIIb (ETA August)
 - DJJ (ETA August)
 - Dillon 4 Phase II (Awaiting Building Construction)
 - Fairfield (Awaiting Building Construction)
3. The following districts are being evaluated: Marlboro

Agenda Item 3	Draft Technology Survey of Districts	Presenter:	Melanie Barton
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1. In addition to the base 10.2 million that the state is appropriating for technology, the General Assembly appropriated \$29.3 million in lottery funds for districts for technology upgrades to be allocated based on the poverty index and number of students in the districts. An additional \$4 million was appropriated for professional development of teachers.
2. Funding is dependent on decisions made by the K-12 Technology Committee and should be considered non-recurring dollars. This funding is not flexible and must be spent for technology infrastructure as outlined in guidelines; however, the funds may be carried over into FY 2015-16 should the need arise.
3. According to SCDE expenditures made with these funds should support the local implementation of the SC Educational Technology Plans and are to be used for technology infrastructure in the support of educational initiatives such as computing, digital learning, high speed connectivity, Wi-Fi enhancement and online testing.
4. Melanie Barton sent to the committee a draft Technology Survey. The survey is intended to collect data to document the technology needs of public schools. The survey will be sent to the superintendents for them to decide who should complete the survey. Melanie would like to include an item where the district can indicate that they would like/need any managed assistance from the Committee.
5. In addition to the survey, Melanie would also like to draft a formal letter to be sent to school districts offering managed assistance from the K-12 Technology Initiative Committee. The type of assistance the committee will be able to offer is yet to be determined.
6. Melanie hopes to be able to send out the survey sometime in September with the District to complete and return the survey within four weeks.

Agenda Item 4	Network Changes	Presenter:	Sharron Myers
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AT&T Platform Change-outs

1. The AT&T and Bellsouth Merger effective now.
2. AT&T is transitioning Legacy Bellsouth Service platforms to AT&T platforms.

Cellular Contract Recast

1. Ruth Kirkland has worked with the cellular vendors to renew all contracts with the exception of Sprint who did not renew because of State Terms.

VoIP Solicitation

1. The VoIP solicitation will be executed around August/September 2014
2. Award anticipated by the end of this calendar year.
3. Existing contract expires March 26, 2015 and replacement will coincide with Fiscal Year dates

Agenda Item 5	K-12 Security Project	Presenter:	Mark Hinsch
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1. Installations have slowed down considerably due to the fact that security is out of servers.
2. The number of servers needed has increased dramatically. A lot of servers are at the end of life and need to be replaced. Other servers are no longer adequate to handle the increased bandwidth.
3. The lifespan of a server is generally 3-4 years and many of the servers are 6 years old and older.

Added Item	Double Robotics	Presenter:	Don Cantrell
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1. SC Dept. of Education currently has carryover funds. With these funds they would like to consider purchasing Double Robotics. The system cost about \$2500.00 per unit and SCDE would like to purchase several units. Information on the product follows:

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Double Robotics “Double Telepresence Robot”

The Double Telepresence Robot is a telepresence robot that enables you to drive around a remote location while on a video call from anywhere over the internet. This app is for both the robot iPad and the driver iPad. The minimalist design and intuitive touchscreen controls allow you to freely move around without inconveniencing others. You can stay at eye level, whether sitting or standing, by adjusting your height remotely, which makes conversations fluid and real. Retractable kickstands will automatically deploy to conserve power when you are not moving around. Efficient motors and lightweight design gives this robot the ability to last all day without recharging the battery.

Overview

Double Robotics' Double Telepresence Robot transforms telecommuting by allowing a significantly deeper level of interaction with other remote team members. That's because it takes all the great aspects of video calls via an iPad and places them on a mobile base that puts the remote worker in control.

Simple Video Conferencing

Traditional videoconferencing is an essential tool for telecommuters. But scheduling a call or asking someone to set up a laptop for a video chat is often a big hassle. Having your own robot in the office means you can freely roam around anywhere without having to schedule a meeting. A personal iPad is placed on a mobile base that can be controlled remotely. Your robot is always on, ready to take you anywhere you need to go. So you'll never again miss out on an important conversation at work.

Highlights

- Drive around while on a two-way video call
- Self-balancing base on wheels
- Motorized height adjustment from 47 to 59 inches
- Dual kickstands for power saving while at rest
- Lightweight design ensures a safe environment

Agenda Item 6	Budget	Presenter:	James Gordon
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1. The amount of all direct appropriations and budget request were received. This information was presented to the committee. Initial results show a significant deficient.
2. Agencies will re-evaluate their individual budget request in preparation for the final FY 2015 committee budget.

Agenda Item 7	Open Discussion	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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1. The committee discussed budget request, appropriations and provisos and solutions for balancing the budget.

Next Meeting	August 28, 2014
Location	Division of State IT, 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210