

K-12 TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	June 26, 2014
Meeting Location	DSIT – 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Kyle Herron
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	John Bane (DTO), Melanie Barton (EOC), Dean Byrd (SCETV), Valarie Byrd (DTO), Don Cantrell (SCDE), Bill Croteau (SCSL), Teena Frazer (Spirit), James Gordon (DTO), Bobbi Kennedy (SCETV), Kyle Herron (Div. of Tech.), Mark Hinsch (DIS), Bobbi Kennedy (SCETV), Sharron Myers (DTO), Charlie Seastrunk (DTO), Sharron Myers (DTO), Charlie Seastrunk (DTO), Mike Shelton (DTO), Beth Shull (AT&T), Petra Turner (DTO), Marcos Vieyra (DIS)

AGENDA ITEMS

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

Agenda Item 2	Virtual Education	Presenter:	Bradley Mitchell
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1. Bradley Mitchell, Director of the Office of Virtual Education was on hand at the meeting to give an overview of the South Carolina Virtual School Program.
2. Legislation was passed in 2007 to form the SC Virtual School Program. This is a free supplemental program, not a school, and does not issue high school diplomas.
3. The program serves public, private and homeschooled students under the age of 21 as well as Adult Education Students.
4. On June 13, 2013 the Expanded Virtual Learning Act was signed which gives added flexibility and more options for students statewide. Highlights of the Act include:
 - Lift 12 credit/high school career cap
 - Lift 3 credit/school year cap
 - Allow for program name change
5. The Program will start rebranding in the fall. Results of the rebanding are:
 - New Program Name (Virtual SC)
 - New Virtual SC Logo
 - New Student Friendly Website with Student Portal
 - New Student Information System (Open SIS)
 - New Policies that Promote Student Success
 - Stronger partners with School Districts/Schools
6. 2013-14 Improvements:
 - Implemented a Student Services Team
 - ✓ Support student through registration
 - ✓ Team of 3 Coordinators and 1 Manager
 - Revised Student Drop Policy
 - Teachers focus on student success
 - Expanded course offerings (Middle School courses)
 - ✓ 6-8 grade ELA and Math Assistance Courses
 - Elementary Keyboarding Pilot (Grades 3-6)
 - Partnerships with Schools for Blended Learning courses (14 schools)
 - Completely Mobile Learning Environment

7. 2014-15 Improvements
 - New Student Portal with online support (My Virtual SC)
 - Continued course expansion
 - ✓ More Middle School level courses (8th grade courses)
 - ✓ Expanded World Language – French, German, AP Spanish
 - ✓ AP Computer Science A, AP Calculus AB, AP Biology, AP European History
 - ✓ Honor level courses (9-12)
 - New Full time positions:
 - ✓ School Counselor, Curriculum Coordinator, Instructional Designer, Instructional Coach, 7 certified teaching positions
 - Franchise Program
8. The Franchise Program will offer a “turn-key” virtual school solution to schools (includes access to LMS, SIS, and all standards aligned curriculum/content). Schools will be able to use their own teachers to offer our online course content utilizing SCVSP’s technology and experience in virtual education.
9. SCVSP had an estimated 21,000+ enrollments served in 2013-14 a growth of over 8,500 from previous year.
10. SCVSP has one of the highest success rates of any large virtual school program.

Agenda Item 3	eRate Status/K-12 Network Status	Presenter:	Valarie Byrd
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eRate News

USAC:

1. Fall training dates announced for FY 2015-16: <http://www.usac.org/sl/about/outreach/default.aspx>

Congress/FCC:

1. Congressional Support for Broadband-Oriented eRate Modernization: Forty-six House Members co-signed a letter to the FCC Commissioners stressing the need to improve the nation’s digital literacy skills. The letter supported the major FCC eRate modernization goals of :
 - Focusing eRate on broadband services.
 - Ensuring that schools and libraries are paying for the best service at the lowest rate.
 - Increasing transparency and accountability.
2. Other noted petitions of support from various Education Groups, US Congress, State and Local Government Leaders, Technology Providers to take immediate action in the modernization of the eRate Program and close the W-Fi Gap.
3. FCC Chairman Wheeler released his proposals in the form of a “Fact Sheet” and supporting documents laying out his proposed framework for eRate modernization. The key points in the Chairman’s Fact Sheet are:
 - Commit at least 1 billion in support of Wi-Fi for both FY 2015 and 2016.
 - Provide multi-year funding predictability for Wi-Fi.
 - Begin a multi-year process for phasing-out support of non-broadband services.
 - Reduce the maximum discount, at least for Wi-Fi, to 80%.
 - Speed the processing of consortium applications (a process already begun for FY 2014).
 - Move to electronic filing of all documents.
 - Simplify discount calculations.
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State eRate Program Status

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

1. Worked with SC Dept. of Education (SDE) in an effort to collect the two outstanding Technology Plan Approval Letters due by June 30th. All other documents have been received and will be posted via the SDE website this summer.
2. Work on Final BEAR submissions this summer.

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

1. Worked with SC Dept. of Education to prepare certifications of “Non Traditional Education Students and Facilities” request form USAC-SLD. This completed submission by SDE occurred on May 30, 2014.
2. Consortium applications status:
 - Final application funded on June 18th.
 - FCC Form 486 was submitted to accept this approved funding request.
 - Overall, this has been the earliest turnaround time for approved state consortium applications.
3. Working on collecting two outstanding signed MOU documents.
4. Over 500 vendor orders have been placed this summer thus far.
5. Notice of the approved Bandwidth Allocation Policies for Internet Access and WAN/LAN Network was communicated to the state K-12 Schools and Libraries Network participants via the K-12 ListServ. Included in this notice posting was information regarding example security policies and procedures resources offered by the state Division of Information Security (DIS)
<http://dis.sc.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
6. We are currently monitoring new and expiring state master contracts.

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

1. Assisting State Department of Education (SDE) with 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.
2. Thus far over 45% of public school districts have reportedly shown interest in participating in this program starting the upcoming school year.

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 delayed. ETA Mid July.
- ✓ Orangeburg SD 4-Final Location Ethernet Solution – Construction delayed. ETA July.
- ✓ 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.

Agenda Item 4	Network Changes	Presenter:	Sharron Myers
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Bandwidth Allocation Deployment Phase IV-Fiber Placement Opportunities

1. The following districts have completed projects: None
2. The following districts have active projects: Pickens, Berkeley (Phase IIIb), DJJ, Dillon 4 (Phase (II) and Fairfield
3. The following districts are being evaluated: Marlboro

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.

As of May 21, 2014

- a. MIS (Managed Internet Service) Upgrade with 36 of 77 sites (47%)

- b. Metro-E to AT&T Services Ethernet Tower with 143 of 700 sites (20%)
 - Berkeley – 18 sites complete
 - Greenville – 61 of 86 sites complete (70%)
 - Charleston – 65 of 85 sites complete (77%)
 - Lexington 5 and Richland 1 are slated for June
 - Kershaw, Florence and the School for Deaf & Blind will be starting soon
- c. Net VPN to AT&T VPN with 870 sites
 - Slate #1 10 GB Aggregate, DNR (0/7), DOT (1/60)

Cellular Contract Recast

1. Ruth Kirkland is in the process of renewing the existing cellular contract before it expires 06/30/14

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:	Marcos Vieyra
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1. ISAC Report Card generation will resume when new methods and criteria are confirmed.
2. Security has completed 91 of the 141 required equipment exchanges or upgrades across the state.
3. Quote/purchase approval in progress for the last batch of sensors as part of rollout.

Agenda Item 6	Budget	Presenter:	James Gordon
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1. It is expected that we should know the appropriated amount to be given to the committee by July 1st. In the past couple of years the appropriation has been 10 million. James needs all budgets submitted to him by July 14th.

Agenda Item 7	Open Discussion	Presenter:	Kyle Herron
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1. Internet Load Balancing Inquiry:
 - Kyle provided a recap of the DTO meeting discussion
 - The mutual K-12 Committee consensus was that this practice would be permissible under clearly communicated guidelines and restrictions.
2. K-12 Schools and Library Security: K-12 Schools Technology Initiative Committee roles: Training, Policies, Procedures, Support, etc.
 - Kyle informed the K-12 Committee that the project is being further evaluated.
3. Provisos 2014-15 General Appropriation Act: K-12 Schools Technology Initiative Committee:
 - Melanie provided an update on the budget approval status and objectives in preparing for the implementation of the two new pilot projects (\$29 Million K-12 Education Infrastructure Reform and the \$545 K for the interactive on-line music tool “Quaver Music”).

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