

K-12 SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	February 28, 2019
Meeting Location	Division of Technology 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Keith Osman
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	Keith Osman (DTO), Andrew Epting (Admin), Steven Lake (Admin), Karen Rumpfelt (Admin), Robert Nichols (Admin), Melanie Barton (EOC), Patricia Sinclair (SCSL), Brian Pratt (SCDOE), Bobbi Kennedy (SCETV), Beth Shull (AT&T), Lynn Fralick (Spirit), Tina Leitzsey (Newberry SD), Mark Leslie (Richland SD 1), Guy Austin (Newberry SD)

AGENDA ITEMS

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

Agenda Item 2	E-Rate Status/K-12 Network Status	Presenter:	Andrew Epting
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FCC/USAC News

1. FY 2019-2020 E-Rate Application Window closes March 27, 2019.

SC E-Rate Consortia Update

1. 2017-18 Past: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2017 – 06/30/2018)
 - a. Waves 52-55: Two FCDLs (Division of Technology)
 - There is a total of 984 Funding Request Numbers (FRNs):
 - 877 FRNs have been funded, 3 FRNs are pending and 104 FRNs cancelled/denied.
 - Approximately \$38.7 million awarded to SC applicants, and approximately \$28.3 million has been invoiced as of 01/22/19.
 - b. Category 2 Match Program
 - Fully allocated (\$1.75 M); Portion disbursed (\$1.59M)
2. 2018-19 Current: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2018 – 06/30/2019)
 - a. 850 FRNs (45 Cancelled/Denied: 131 Pending with 675 Funded-79.4%)
 - \$10.4M disbursed (01/22/19)
 - b. SC E-Rate Consortium Training.
 - June 26th: Targeted E-Rate Training – New Charter Schools, Columbia, SC
 - July 31st: Quarterly E-Rate Virtual Meeting, State Library
3. 2019-20 Upcoming: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2019 – 06/30/20120)
 - a. Evaluating revisions to Bandwidth Allocation Policy
 - b. SC E-Rate Valid Data File and Pre-K Student Eligibility Determination
 - c. SC E-Rate Consortium Training – two classes were held
 - February 1st: E-Rate Orientation-Districts, Columbia SC
 - February 6th: E-Rate Application Training – Florence SC
4. Lot 3 Network Service has been awarded to AT&T who will partner With Spirit/Segra. Lot 3 includes Managed Router Service which is now E-Rate eligible.

Category 2 Budget Report

1. School Districts
 - Total Number of Schools: 1265
 - State-wide Total C2 Budget Remaining (Pre-discount): \$50,512,180.35
 - State-wide Average Remaining C2 Budget Amount/School: \$39,930.58
 - Min. Remain C2 Balance: Calhoun County School District (\$5,165.65)
 - Max. Remaining C2 Balance: Greenville County School District (\$11,718,424.63)
 - C2 Winner: Chesterfield County School District (99% of C2 funds utilized)
 - The following Districts have not filed for C2 funds as of FY 2018-19:
 - Anderson 3 (0%)
 - Bamberg 2 (0%)
 - McCormick County School District (0%)
2. Library Systems
 - State-wide Total C2 Budget Remaining (Pre-discount): \$50,512,180.35
 - State-wide Average Remaining C2 Budget Amount/School: \$39,930.58
 - Min. Remain C2 Balance: Calhoun County School District (\$5,165.65)
 - Max. Remaining C2 Balance: Greenville County School District (\$11,718,424.63)
 - C2 Winner: Chester County Library (40% of C2 funds utilized)
 - The following Library Systems have not filed for C2 funds as of FY 2018-19:
 - Beaufort County Library
 - Marion County Library
 - McCormick County Library
 - Newberry County Library
 - Orangeburg County Library
 - Pickens County Library
 - Saluda County Library
 - Spartanburg County Library
 - Sumter County Library

Agenda Item 3	eLearning Pilot Program – School Make-up Days	Presenter:	Melanie Barton
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1. Pursuant to Proviso 1A.86 of the 2018-19 General Appropriation Act, the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) constructed and implemented a pilot program for alternative methods of instruction for make-up days...which may include, but are not limited to, online or virtual instruction for scheduled make up time.
2. The EOC contracted with Dr. Lee M. D’Andrea to structure the pilot project, assist districts in implementation, establish a working network among the districts and SCETV and the SC State Library (pursuant to the Proviso).
3. Five schools were selected to participate in the pilot:
 - Anderson 5 – Mr. Tom Wilson, Superintendent
 - Kershaw – Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent
 - Pickens – Dr. Danny Merck, Superintendent
 - Spartanburg 1 – Dr. Ron Gardner, Superintendent
 - Spartanburg 7 – Dr. Russell Booker, Superintendent
4. Each district superintendent designated district staff to attend meetings and work through implementation details, including both instructional and IT departments. South Carolina ETV and the State Library also had representatives at the meetings.
5. Implementation process: Upon notification of award to serve as a pilot district, monthly meetings were scheduled. The topics included:
 - District sharing of current instructional technology implementation status and device distribution implementation plans
 - Learning about additional resources at SCETV and SC State Library
 - Delivery of eLearning in compliance with IEPs and 504s
 - Communication strategies (with board members, parents, students, teachers and staff)
 - Findings from the Mock or Practice days each district scheduled, and
 - Collection of recommendations for future pilot districts.

6. Examples of Implementation Questions Resolved during Pilot Project
 - How many days to make-up work?
 - Communicating the difference in counting absences and/or recording grades for work.
 - How to handle teachers/staff with pre-requested personal days?
 - How to handle non-instructional staff make-up days/times to hold wages harmless?
 - How to increase connectivity options?
7. Initial Findings:
 - eLearning is a viable option for instruction on days when inclement weather or other natural disasters prevent school attendance; even make-up days can be eLearning days.
 - eLearning had positive responses from teachers, parents, administrators and, in general, communities. Students also provided positive feedback.
 - eLearning requires a foundation on which to build – a device distribution, well integrated Learning Management System, a lot of communication and willingness to continue to fine-tune the initiative.
 - eLearning, implemented with fidelity, actually improves the whole instructional process. Teaching and learning is more interactive and engaging.
8. Recommendations:
 - Provide proviso to allow current pilot districts another year of implementation. Continue to collect data on stakeholder satisfaction, impact on instruction via student work completed, etc.
 - Expand pilot project to increase the number of districts implementing. Cohort 2 (5-10 more districts) could be chosen through redacted applications by the current cohort and readiness rubric. Cohort 1 has agreed to provide technical assistance to Cohort 2.
 - Consider identifying a third group of districts (4-6 districts) through application determined to be “a step or two away” from full implementation. Provide a year of technical assistance to finalize their readiness.
 - From such a pilot in 2019-2020, a Readiness Guide to eLearning and an Implementation Guide to eLearning is developed.

Agenda Item 4	EOC – General Updates	Presenter:	Melanie Barton
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1. The 12 million “Haley Money” was eliminated in the Ways and Means Committee and was given in support of school resource officers.
2. Survey regarding how schools spent their technology funds should go out March 1st.

Agenda Item 5	Committee Open Discussion	Presenter:	Keith Osman
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1. There has been no further news on Senate Bill 64 filed by Sen. Malloy. This bill called for Districts to install, maintain and provide wireless local area networks in every school bus in this state. The bill further stated that each school district should adopt a plan to make school buses available to students throughout the district on non-school days, including, but not limited to, weekends and summer.

Next Meeting	March 28, 2019
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