

K-12 SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	October 24, 2019
Meeting Location	Division of Technology 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Keith Osman
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	Andrew Epting (Admin), Karen Rumpfelt (Admin), Robert Nichols (Admin), Steven Lake (Admin), Sally Foster (Admin), Dana Yow (EOC), (SCSL), Leesa Aiken (SCSL), Patricia Sinclair (SCSL), Betsy Carpentier (SDE), Bobbi Kennedy (SCETV), Stephanie Frazier (SCETV), Jason Eckenstein (AT&T), Lynn Fralick (SEGRA), Nola Armstrong (SC Teleco. Assoc.), Guy Austin & Tina Leitzsey (Newberry Schls), Mark Leslie (Richland SD#1), Brad Bowers (Lex. SD#1), Susan Shirley (Anderson SD#2)

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 1	Approval of Minutes	Presenter:	Andrew Epting
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1. Andrew asked for a motion to approve the K-12 minutes from the June 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 Update

1. The FCC has four notices which could impact the E-Rate program.
 - a. Texas Carriers' Petition to prohibit use of E-Rate funds for fiber where fiber already exist (DA 19-493)
 - b. Establishment of a USF Budgetary Cap (06-122)
 - c. Category 2 NPRM (13-184)
 - d. FY 2020-2021 E-Rate Eligible Services List

Category 2 NPRM

1. The FCC provided the E-Rate community with an opportunity to comment on a very wide set of Category 2 program rules.
 - a. State of SC comments sought to:
 - Establish district-wide C2 budget
 - Increase budget multipliers and budget floor
 - Modernize the ESL
 - Reset C2 budgets for all applicants
 - b. There is broad support for proposed changes, but very little time to implement.
2. Here is what we are likely to see (Speculation):
 - a. An Order released in early December that does the following:
 - Establishes a "Bridge" year
 - Resets all Category 2 budgets for FY 2021-2022
 - Establishes district-wide/library system-wide Category budgets
 - Raises the Category 2 budget floor from \$9,580 to around \$10,000
 - Keeps the Category 2 multiplier to the \$150/Student, but factors in inflation
 - Makes no changes to the ESL

FY 2020-2021 ESL

1. Annual requirement of the FCC to seek comment on ESL and time the opening of the Form 471 filing window.
2. Comments are generally geared towards clarification of the ESL, not for the addition/subtraction of products/services.
3. Timing of the C2 NPRM presented a unique opportunity whereas many commenters expressed a desire to add products/services to the ESL.
4. Resulting FCC Order is likely to follow the FCC's Order on C2 NPRM.

State E-Rate Consortium Update

1. Strategic investment in SC Library Systems.
 - a. Increased maximum bandwidth capacity for library branches to 100Mbps.
 - b. Internet circuit bandwidth increased 98% since 2016 from 2.8Gbps to 5.5Gbps.
 - c. Engaged SC State Library
2. Providing Consortium services to eligible programs and non-instructional facilities.
3. Update on C2 E-Rate State Matching Fund

C2 E-Rate State Matching Fund

1. FY 2017-2018: 50 participants / Disbursed \$1.749 Million of \$1.75 Million
2. FY 2018-2019: 61 participants / Disbursed \$1.962 Million of \$2.50 Million
3. FY 2019-2020: 94 participants / Disbursed \$11K of \$2.779 Million

Agenda Item 3	Introduction of Dana Yow	Presenter:	Robert Nichols
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1. Melanie Barton accepted a new position within State Government. Dana Yow will be the Interim Director until a new Director is hired and will replace Melanie on the K-12 Committee. She has a Library and Media and enjoys helping the community understand the role of today’s schools and libraries.

Agenda Item 4	EOC – eLearning Pilot Program Year 2	Presenter:	Dana Yow
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1. On July 10, 2019 the EOC announced that ten additional school districts have been approved to use the eLearning days for school make-up days. A total of 15 districts in the state will participate in the program in the upcoming school year, including the original five districts who participated in school year 2018-19.
2. Year One Districts: Anderson 5, Kershaw, Pickens, Spartanburg 1, Spartanburg 7.
3. Year Two Districts: Anderson 5, Kershaw, Pickens, Spartanburg 1, Spartanburg 7, Anderson 1, Anderson 2, Anderson 3, Berkeley, Florence 1, Georgetown, Lexington 2, Lexington 3, York 2, York 3
4. In June a total of 23 districts submitted applications to participate in the pilot program. District officials from year one scored the applications. The names of the applicants were omitted.
5. For the 2019-20 school year, year one participants will provide direct support and act as mentors for the new participants. The EOC will also work with SCETV, the State Library and the Dept. of Education to provide resources and support to these districts.
6. The Goal of the project is to expand eLearning to move districts throughout the state. There is clearly a strong interest in our state for this initiative. Ensuring that districts have the technology, infrastructure and personnel is important; however, the critical factor is making online learning a central part of students’ daily learning.
7. What makes this program so special is that the idea for using online learning for school make-up days came from district leaders and is being sustained and expanded due to their work and initiative.
8. The proviso in the state budget that created the pilot program requires the EOC to report recommendations for how the program can be implemented statewide by June 1, 2020 to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Department of Education and to the State Board of Education.
9. Currently, the districts are having mock practice days. Also, SCETV is chronicling the story of the eLearning pilot, visiting school districts when they are conducting professional learning or have mock eLearning days.

Agenda Item 5	Committee Open Discussion	Presenter:	Keith Osman
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1. The November December combined meeting has Been tentatively set for December 04, 2019

Next Meeting	November /December Combined – 12/04/19 Tentative
Location	Division of Technology, 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210