

K-12 SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	April 28, 2016
Meeting Location	Division of Technology 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Facilitator	Keith Osman
Note Taker	Gay Hoyer
Attendees	Keith Osman (DTO), James Gordon (DT), Karen Rumpfelt (DT), Doris Johnson (DT), Mike Shelton (DT), Claudette Flynn (SDE), Charlie Seastrunk (DTO), Martin Crabtree (DIS), Bobbi Kennedy (ETV), Beth Shull (AT&T), Nola Armstrong (SC Telecommunications Assoc.), Samantha Hastings (USC)

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 March meeting. Minutes were approved without corrections or changes.

Agenda Item 2	E-Rate Status/K-12 Network Status	Presenter:	James Gordon
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FCC/E-Rate News

1. Due to the challenges that many applicants have encountered in completing their E-Rate application USAC Form 471, USAC is providing a two-part extension for the E-Rate applicants. The original window closing date of April 29, 2016 has been extended to May 26, 2016 for all applicants. When the May 26th window closes, USAC will open a second window for the consortia and libraries which will close July 21, 2016. The consortia and libraries are given the additional time since their applicants are dependent upon the member related school districts getting their rates into the system. Note: Libraries, Schools and Charter Schools must input their own date into EPC.
2. A note from the Funds for Learning Group states “When USAC reset the FY 2016 play clock it did so for one reason: EPC. The new filing system is much harder to use than the old system. It is far more complicated, far less intuitive and much less forgiving. EPC is buggy, inconsistent and slow.”
3. Because the deadline has been extended for Form 471’s, the deadline for Form 470’s has also been extended. The deadline for schools to file their 470’s is now April 28th (28 days before the May 26th deadline). For consortia and libraries the deadline for 470’s is June 23rd (28 days before the July 21st deadline).

K-12 Committee Projects

1. Palmetto Unified School District (DOC) Tyger River HS (100 Prison Rd. Enoree): Estimated cost is around \$50,000. The scope of this project will include a 10 Mbs MPLS circuit connecting back to the district home office with a due date of April 29, 2016. Circuit ID **ethr.2003120...spc**
 - a. Dec 4th – Spirit accepted DTO order for service at Woodruff High School. Order was held pending microwave installation between Woodruff High School and Tyger River.
 - b. Feb 4th – Spirit placed order for service at Woodruff High School. Estimated completion was April 29th.
 - c. April 8th – DTO (Charlie Zeberlein) received notice from Spirit that Charter has to build to Woodruff High School. It will take up to 90 days to complete. This puts the completion date around early July.
 - d. April 11th – Per Spirit (Lynn Fralick), although the order was placed in February, Spirit provisioning did not realize until the end of March that the order had been missed. Lynn requested an internal escalation with Charter and was informed that Charter does not expedite fiber builds. Spirit is working with Charter to improve the date.
2. SANS and GIAC vouchers - The expiration deadline for now is July 07, 2016. As of April 26, 2016, 61 vouchers have been redeemed for courses from the school districts and 33 vouchers have been redeemed for certifications. Libraries have redeemed 5 vouchers for courses and 5 vouchers for certifications. Total course vouchers redeemed is 66 and total certification vouchers redeemed is 38. There are 24 vouchers still available for courses and 52 vouchers available for certifications. Last month reported totals were 54 for courses and 30 for certifications.

- a. Testimonial – Hi James, I’m a little over half-way through with the GSEC course and my exam is scheduled for June 11th. Thank you so much for the opportunity to learn under this brilliant instructor. I have already put some of his teachings into practice on our library’s systems. **Jackie Angus/Library IT Support – Horry County Government.**
- b. Update 04/27/16: SANS has advised that the voucher account pools for K-12 will be extended one year from the date of payment for our NetWars purchase. Please note that payment for NetWars had not yet been received, but will extend the expiration date for the voucher pools once received. For a tentative date, Jay Armstrong (SANS) has quoted June 1, 2017 as he is trying to extend the voucher period for as long as possible.

State E-Rate Program Status

1. 2014-15 Old: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2014 – 06/30/2015)
 - a. The USAC/KPMG BCAP: The Audit exit call was on 03/23/16 and there were no findings.
 - b. On March 31, 2016 USAC submitted their Semi-Annual Audit Report to the FCC. As required by the FCC, USAC must submit this report summarizing the status of all outstanding E-Rate audit findings. The report details the process the USAC utilizes to recover improperly disbursed funds and also provides a summary of audits that may lead to the recovery of previously committed funds. Highlights from the report include:
 - 1,246 individual audits have been conducted
 - \$3.14 billion in disbursed funds have been audited
 - USAC has recovered \$36.4 million through audit findings
 - c. Pending – DTO will file the Official funding year closure activities (FCC Form 500).
2. 2015-16 Current: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2015 – 06/30/2016)
 - a. There are approximately 215 open vendor orders.
 - b. \$17.4 million in BEARS (Form 472) have been filed for the current year expenses through March 2016. \$15.8 million is still outstanding which means only \$1.6 million has been received so far this year. Two BEARS from February totaling \$9 million are still in the second phase of PIA review. (Form 472 (BEAR –Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form) is a FCC for that schools and libraries submit to USAC after paying for services in full to request reimbursement from the service provider for the discount on those services).
3. 2016-17 Upcoming: E-Rate Funding Year (07/01/2016 – 06/30/2017)
 - a. The E-Rate team is currently working on Forecast (Form 471) which will be done in five applications due no later than when the consortia window closes on 07/21/16:
 - Dark Fiber – completed and certified
 - Library Internet – completed and certified
 - Library WAN – completed and certified
 - School Internet – completed and holding
 - School WAN – completed and holding

Note: We are holding the School Internet and WAN applications in hopes that more funds will become available after the Internet RFP is awarded. The vendor charges as our forecast now stands, will increase \$3.9 million over last’s year’s forecast and the State match required to obtain the E-Rate funding will increase over \$900k. This essentially uses all of the State appropriations for connectivity and other costs. By holding the last two applications, we hope to come back to the committee with available funds. The budget forms have not been sent to the principals since funds are not available for distribution outside the connectivity, DDOS and Security projections. After the last two applications are entered, if the USAC funding percentage comes in higher, then even more funds may be available

- b. The E-Rate team is currently working on the MOU’s which will be going out to the schools and libraries. Cost Shares Sheets from the Free & Reduced lunch schedules from Dept. of Education are used to assign the Category 1 cost share percentage. A 90% school will be billed cost shares of 10% for service requested above their eligibility under the current Bandwidth Utilization Policy. An 80% or less school will be billed at 20%. Some schools that have been paying 10% in the past will be billed 20% this year due to a change in their percentage. Cost share corrected billing may not take place until next fiscal year (July 2017) in order to give the schools time to make budget adjustments.

K-12 Network Updates (External Broadband Availability Improvements)

1. **Charter/Special Schools:**

- a. **John de la Howe** – According to a report in the April 19, 2016 edition of The State Newspaper, John de la Howe has lost its accreditation with the Department of Education. They are currently waiting on a DIA (Internet) upgrade from 30 to 50mbs. Per Spirit it should be increased on 04/25/16, but is not confirmed at as of date. The article also quoted Molly Spearman, State Superintendent, as stating deficiencies cited by her agency include “concern about connectivity for online classes”.

Agenda Item 3	K-12 Security Project	Presenter:	Martin Crabtree
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1. **Sensor Coverage:**

K-12	Total	Deployed	Monitoring Validated
School Districts	80	79	20
Libraries	44	43	10
Charter Schools	33	15	8
Special Schools	28	11	7

2. **Senor Status – Feb/Mar Overview:**

Areas	Projected Deployment	Deploy	Refresh	Maintenance	Offline
School Districts	7	6	6	6	2
Libraries	3	3	5	8	3
Charter Schools	6	7	4	8	1
Special Schools	5	5	3	8	0

3. **Ticket Counts and Response: (Continue to Have a Low Number of Responses to Tickets)**

Month	Ticket Count	Responses	% Response	Month	Ticket Count	Responses	% Response
Mar 2016	71	16	22.5%	Aug 2015	92	11	12.0%
Feb 2016	63	12	19.0%	Jul 2015	103	13	12.6%
Jan 2016	76	15	19.7%	Jun 2015	82	8	9.8%
Dec 2015	17	3	17.6%	May 2015	72	7	9.7%
Nov 2015	84	15	17.9%	Apr 2015	59	10	16.9%
Oct 2015	77	12	15.6%	Mar 2015	74	16	21.6%
Sep 2015	68	14	20.6%				

4. **DDOS Mitigation:** DDOS attacks continue on the schools ranging from 0 to 3 per month over the last year. Protection Service is in place with mitigation procedures deployed and in most cases the issue is resolved within a few hours.

5. **Current Issues:**

- a. **K-12 Linux Engineer**
- Have statement of work, selecting candidate
 - Needed to help maintain the sensor health due to increase in sites, currently have 1 Engineer and 1 Analyst
- b. **Bandwidth Upgrades**
- Many schools asking for bandwidth upgrades for online testing
 - Will have to evaluate sensor capacity and configuration for each site
- c. **Ransomware Evolution and Protection**
- More is expected in the industry (Phishing, Drive-by downloads)
 - We have signatures in place for downloader activity, however the downloaders change constantly
 - Be careful of opening email attachments
 - Cyber Hygiene: patch systems, keep anti-malware software up to date, remove unnecessary software (i.e. Flash), do regular backups of all critical files and systems, TEST your backups.

Agenda Item 4	Open Discussion	Presenter:	Keith Osman
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1. None

Next Meeting	June 23, 2016
Location	Division of Technology, 4430 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210