

# **TC Forum, 10/24/07, GIPS Admin Bldg**

**Next Meeting: Feb 20, 2008, Grand Island (building TBA)**

## ***In Attendance:***

Peggy Medema-Valentine, Leonard Kwapnioski-Columbus, Chuck Wergin-Milford, John Mason-Cozad, Wayne Anderson-Bennington, Tom McConnell & Pat Wolff-Norfolk, Cort Smith & Jane Davis-Hershey, Maurice Shellhaas & Sue Burch-Grand Island, David Koch-Beatrice, Gary Needham-Kearney, Ron Cone-ESU 10, Trent Kelly-Hastings

## ***Policy Discussion***

### **E-mail and Archiving**

Most districts attending have their own e-mail server. Federal rulings regarding document retention have started the discussion regarding archiving. Some districts are employing chat/IM servers. They would fall under the same federal ruling.

Districts have major differences in retention practices, but the key is to have a written policy and make sure that practice matches it. For e-mail, an archiving system provides much more capability, and depending on the amount of archiving called for by the district policy, an archiving system could be much cheaper than managing tape or disk backups.

School districts should consider in-house e-mail accounts for board members to provide them an easy opportunity for archiving. Some board members may be resistant, but should be advised of the potential ramifications on their alternative e-mail account.

### **Personal Use of School Technology**

Some districts are considering or imposing a fee for incidental personal use of school technology. The fee should not be tied to network access because of potential USF violations. Laptops and cell phones were specific pieces of hardware targeted for this fee.

### **E-mail disclaimers**

Two districts are considering requiring signature disclaimers regarding confidentiality. Discussion focused on the enforceability, restrictions in current practices, and discouraging teachers from using technology.

### **Policy Violations**

Policy violations are enforced somewhat differently in various districts; however, the consensus was that enforcement is most effective when it comes from or through the building principal. Unblocking of filtered sites is also best when the building principal is part of the approval process because it requires the justification of educational value.

### ***Technology Administration***

#### **Print/Copy issues**

Networked copiers have changed how a lot of districts handle printing. To control costs, many districts are consolidating printing within buildings. Some have gone further into leasing agreements where pay by the page for both copies and prints, with supplies and repairs included. These agreements typically can add features like quotas and confidential network printing, along with scan-to-e-mail functionality.

#### **NSSRS**

A new steering committee is in place that has the opportunity to give feedback to NDE. They have already begun working on how to improve the communication process and reduce the burden on districts to make sudden recording or procedural changes. However, that conversation may take some time to have noticeable effects.

The SRS system can do the required SESIS report but must have the UniQIDs entered. There is an undocumented way to pull the right fields out of the student information system and imported into SRS.

Districts are noticing a personnel burden for implementation. Smaller schools often have technology staff doing the data entry. Many larger districts have added registrars to achieve consistency in data entry.

#### **Building-Level Technology Facilitators**

One district is looking at creating a facilitator position for each building to work with integration and simpler tech support. Depending on size of district, these positions are a common practice and range from media personnel duties to extra-duty pay for a classroom teacher. They provide a great advantage as there is an “official” person to contact regarding technology in every building.

#### **Help Desk Ticketing systems**

To help manage issues and paperwork, some districts have implemented and others are looking into such systems. Possibilities: ODIE, Spiceworks, RT, eCare, H2Desk. URLs are available from Gary.

## **Computer Disposal/Recycling**

Some districts still utilize public auctions. For non-working computers, a list of possible recyclers was discussed (available from Gary). Apple will also recycle working equipment on a trade-in policy with new machine purchases.

## ***Instruction***

**ISTE Standards** have been revised. Consider reviewing the new ones and re-aligning your curriculum with them.

**Digies and NETA Contests** have been posted. See your NETA Newsletter or [netasite.org](http://netasite.org) for NETA contest information.

## **“Using Technology with Classroom Instruction that Works”**

This book supports Marzano book, “Classroom Instruction that Works” which many districts are using for school improvement. This is a book specific to technology and provides great insight for teachers and professional development.

## **Video On Demand**

Districts are not doing much with video-on-demand technology besides what is available from ESUs. Many are considering vodcasting, and we discussed useful software for various applications. Contact Gary for a list.

## ***Wireless***

### **Infrastructure**

The group discussed several technologies for implementing wireless infrastructure, discussing the need to shore up wireless in cases of 1-to-1 initiatives and on-line assessments. Differences among network access control systems and costs were pointed out as well.

### **Peripherals**

Some districts have tried wireless peripherals such as interactive whiteboards and projectors. No one would recommend these products at this time.

## ***NETA***

**Tech Strand** presenters and topics are being sought. Send suggestions to Trent Kelly at [tkelly@esu9.org](mailto:tkelly@esu9.org).

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