

MSBO Technology Committee Meeting

October 25, 2018

12:00 pm – 3:00 pm – GoTo Webinar

Chair: Rick Webb, Fremont Public Schools

1. Welcome & Introduction

Members present:

Rick Webb, Fremont Public Schools, Fred Sharpsteen, Mecosta-Osceola ISD, Mark Smith, MACUL, Pietro Semifero, MDE, Cindy Lindner, Rochester, Damian Koob, Van Buren ISD, David Larson and Mark Rogers, Livingston ESA, Ken Jacobs, Lincoln Park, Jeffrey Hill, Dr. Joseph Pollack Academy, Kevin Galbraith, Ingham ISD, Russ Gerbers, Byron Center, Susan Bordewyk, Forest Hills, Mark Spackman, Kalamazoo RESA, Nancy Couto, Armada, Nancy Corner and Erik Drake, REMC and Debbie Kopkau, MSBO

2. Approve minutes from September 27 minutes – Motion Couto – seconded by Jacobs. Minutes approved.

3. Sharpsteen gives us an update of Broadband Radio Service and Education Broadband Service.

- a. Learning gap – more and more homework is becoming electronic and resources are all online.
- b. Two classes of students – high speed internet and the other group do not have it.
 - o Many are going to school afterhours to open wifi
 - o Some are going to restaurants for free wifi
- c. Alpena, Eastern UP ISD, and Newaygo called NCATS
- d. Fred Sharpsteen, Joel Phillips and gentleman from Eastern UP ISD is going to Washington D.C. to try and advocate for bridging the learning gap.
- e. MCAN report was done by Governor Snyder. This is a help but not the solution for the learning gap.
 - o Merit had mentioned they are working on a new project called MoonShot. They are looking for districts to help quantify the actual needs of bandwidth.
 - o Drove around county and with the following devices checking internet services
 1. T-Mobile has a \$250 grant for a hot spot.
 2. Verizon hot spots are bandwidth limited.
 3. Cell phone hot spot seemed to be the best.

4. Overall, these systems are not going to meet the needs of the homework gap.

- Michelle Ribant mentioned that the Title monies can be used for internet service. The feeling is that the funding is used up in other ways and not for internet.
- Sharpsteen recommends the Speak Up Tomorrow Survey so you can start to see a good guideline on what you need to do or purchase for technology.
- TV white space and EBS Spectrum space are different. Different frequencies.

4. Pietro Semifero – MSTEP Update

- a. Science is going to be much longer than in the past.
- b. Benchmark will also be added to the winter time.
- c. Central office is available for WIDA and DRC.
- d. Eighth grade is being replaced by paper PSAT.
- e. Technology update with better connecting. It will give you up to 5 minutes to re-connect.
- f. ACT is not shipping an audio DVD. They will be sending thumb drives with audio testing. Will check on whether to ship back the thumb drive. Semifero will check.
- g. Devices of TRIG grant are now becoming out-of-date. Check with administration for new computers for test.
- h. Overall “What you did last year” should “Work again this year.” We do not have the final manuals yet, but we expect the USB drives of accommodated materials to be returned the same way the DVDs of accommodated materials were. The usual instructions for return shipments will include details.

5. Mark Smith – MACUL

- a. New app for a planner to download and have been added with the MACUL Conference for 2019 – March 20-22 in Detroit – www.macul.org.
- b. First time that everything has been posted in September.
- c. See the logos for the MSBO certification classes on the MACUL Website
- d. TC Conference – added
- e. Growth of SIG-TC from 800 to 2300
- f. Student Tech Showcase at the Capitol on December 5, 2018 – Lt. Gov. Calley has been confirmed. Request is in for Gov. Snyder. Only two spots left to bring students in.
- g. No Upper Peninsula Professional Development day in May. Didn’t want to compete with local PD. MACUL will have something in northern Michigan and something in Marquette on other dates.

6. REMC – Drake

- a. Open items for purchasing printers, projectors, office supplies, etc.
- b. Much stronger presence for furniture, construction and robots along with virtual reality and carts for the devices. Finishing up the numbers for Device Purchasing.
- c. Forecast for next device purchasing will open up January 2019.
- d. Still developing the SPOT Website. We will be looking for people in early December to test.
- e. Adding a piece to collaborate on the site to maybe work together for purchasing.
- f. Desktop computers were going up in cost due to tariffs. Will jump from 10% to 25% on January 2019. It affects parts from China. Recommending to plan on 25% increase in pricing.
- g. Some of the large computer companies like Dell and HP tend to have a strong presence in Washington. Please let them know regarding the tariff

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Kopkau, MSBO