



**Educational Technology Advisory Committee
Littleton Public Schools
Meeting Minutes
01-30-2007**

Chair: James Morgese Chair-Elect: Jim Stephens CIO: Dan Maas
LOCATION: Littleton High School
Room 103

6:00 PM – Arrival

ETAC members networking and casual dialog

6:30 PM – Convene

Call to order: Mr. Jim Stephens, Committee Chair elect. Mr. Stephens led this meeting for Mr. James Morgese due to the change of the meeting day.

Mr. Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. in room 103 of Littleton High School.

Pledge of Allegiance

6:31 PM – Approval of Minutes

Review minutes of December 13th , 2006

Mr. Stephens asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of December 13th, 2006. There were no motions for any changes.

Mr. Bill Reddig motioned to approve the Minutes of December 13th as presented.

Mr. Matt Shankle seconds the motion for Minutes approval.

The committee is unanimously in favor of approving the minutes.

6:32 PM – Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Stephens asked if there are suggestions or additions to the January 30th meeting agenda.

There were no comments or suggestions to the January 30th agenda.

The committee was unanimously in favor of the agenda.

6:40 PM– Celebrating Successes-

Littleton High School

Kathy Dinmore, Principal of Littleton High School welcomed the committee and briefly described the technology showcases of the evening. The Committee toured two of three areas unique to Littleton High where novel and innovative technology is used. They were:

1. Technology Lab run by Pamela Wilkins who teaches things like CAD, manufacturing, robotics, computer graphics and communications. This lab houses a variety of tech tools including a vinyl printer/cutter, A laser engraver, graphing tablets, book binding system, and clickers.
2. Foreign Language Lab run by Becky Hauschild. The lab showcases brand new equipment that uses a software allowing students to converse either with each other or interactively with the software in other languages.

The “International Wing” soon to make its debut at LHS will be a Video Conferencing area. This exciting new technology was described by LaDonna Lenz will provide an exciting opportunity for LHS students to have both a visual and conversational experience with other students and sources of information across the country; eventually internationally.

7:15 Board Activities Report – BOE Liaison Renee’ Howell.

Renee brought the committee’s attention to several interesting articles that provide insight and initiate discussion on issues Colorado may face in the future. One article, an editorial in the *Denver Post* from Monday, January 29th called “*State Fiscal Process Needs Major Overhaul*” states that Colorado laws require both tax cuts and spending

increases. It's time to start discussions about a constitutional convention to untangle the mess. The article can be found at [www.http://denverpost.com/editorials/ci_5107036](http://denverpost.com/editorials/ci_5107036) A coherent reform package could be on the table for a 2010 ballot issue.

Renee also highlighted an executive summary called "*Tough Choices/Tough Times*" by Marc Tucker. The document can be found at www.skillscommision.org and downloaded for free. This document proposes broad changes to education and is being used to stimulate discussion across the state.

PLC's and the Calendar: The Board will vote on February 8th on PLC times. There will probably be 8-10 PLC times allotted on Wednesday's. This will go in on Wednesday's where there is no other day off during that week. Members of the district in general do seem to think that the implementation of PLC time is a good thing. How school busses will be run on these days is still under discussion.

7:30 PM –: CIO Report – Work Plan for the rest of the year-

UPDATE 8th Grade Technology Literacy compliance plan for NCLB- Boni Hamilton, Assistant Director for Instructional Technology.

Ms. Boni Hamilton and her team have been working on a narrow definition of Technology Literacy. We know that every 8th grade student in our district uses technology to take a MAPS Assessment several times within their school history which involves a working knowledge of technology in and of itself. In addition, a query from Littleton's student information system was created to assess how many middle school students have actually taken a Technology course and passed it. From the query it was discovered that no one middle schools has more than 30 students who *have not* taken a technology class. This information initiates the foundation for NCLB compliance. Mr. Dan Maas stated that the next steps in NCLB compliance will be looking at continuity, accountability, and best practices recommendations. Mr. Maas also noted that there are no technology requirements prior to graduation and suggested this committee might be the forum to propose that change.

ETAC –Student Agenda – Dan Maas, Chief Information Officer, Littleton Public Schools

Future ETAC agendas (perhaps as early as the next one) will be made by the student representatives and their peers. Most of our committee has come from an educational system more antiquated than the ones our students experience today, making us "digital immigrants." So why are we making the technology agendas? We would like to ask our student members to come together to build an agenda for us.

Dan, Jim and James have volunteered to coordinate with the three student representatives via e-mail or conference calls to help the students think an effective agenda through. If the student representatives agree, the invitation may be extended out to other members of the student body? Should we also extend the invitation to include other grade levels? Elementary students? Mr. Dan Maas asked student representative Mr. Briggs Buckley if it would it might be easier for the student reps if the ETAC framed a charge for them. For instance, "Describe how you want to use technology to help build your learning."

Ms. Renee' Howell wants to know: "What bugs you guys about the way we think and talk about technology?" As students, "What do we say that you would never like to see or hear again?" "What thing is your "Pet Peeve?"

Ms. Anne Smith thought it would be important for the committee to hear a student's perspective on "How does technology need to look different to enhance student learning?" As a student, "How does technology change your learning, what will you be doing better?" How does technology increase efficiency in the classroom?" "How does it feel to have or not to have certain technologies?"

Mr. Matt Shankle wanted to know "What are your fears about not getting the tools or the perspectives on technology that will be necessary to face the world? Are you properly prepared?" Matt also commented how much more engaging for the students a classroom is when they can have 1 on 1 learning experience.

Mr. Troy Greenwood described a way to pose questions in the positive. The method is called "Appreciative Inquiry" and might sound something like "When was a time that technology changed your educational experience?" When was a time when innovative technology encouraged you to learn more?" This could have happened at a friend's house, not necessarily in school.

Donovan O'Dell wanted to know "What do students think about on-line text books?"

How can we use your (student's) personal technology for learning? (cell phones) Are there any other tools that student might be able to use?

7:50 PM Break Out Discussions: 4 groups of 4 -5 participants

Divided into 4 groups of 4, preferably of mixed expertise, to discuss the reports and presentations of the evening. Typical questions are as follows:

- **Does this align with our district Strategic Plan?**
- **How does this impact Student Achievement?**
- **What issues will we face?**
- **What questions does this raise?**

8:10 Breakout Reports:

	Responses:
Group 1	1) A part of 21 st century learning should be learning that is hands on, self paced; one on one access to applications and individualized learning experiences in all subjects, give the student the ability to take that home. 2) The productivity multiplier is the whole class not focusing on one element at the same time. Similar to the language lab we experienced, provide more of an individualized hands on learning experience where the teacher is there to guide, but the students are engaged with their own self directed learning at their own pace.
Group 2	3) Is the 21st century learner being readied as an employee in industry and the business world? How will the student function collaboratively with work mates or as a public speaker? Let's not forget balance, diversity and communication skills. 4) Consistency of Technology throughout the district could be challenging if all funding is site based. It might be helpful if at least some of the funding came from the district level.
Group 3	5) It was noted how powerful it was when a teacher was compensated for teaching other teachers about how to use hardware and software rather than having an outside vendor instruct. 6) We saw enthusiastic young women in the tech lab downstairs where technology used to be a more male dominated world. Is it because the teacher is a female role model? Do we have enough female role models for young women in technology?
Group 4	7) 1:1 computing is an awesome goal, but seems to be a quantum leap from where we are at now. There are probably some more intermediate steps that need to be hammered out before we approach such a lofty goal. 8) It's interesting how technology can stimulate or speed up a process. Allows one to throw in different variables and increase the efficiency of the teacher. (clickers)

8:32 PM Announcements - *Next Meeting will be at Powell Middle School on February 28th*

On March 8th Mr. Dan Maas will be presenting to the Board along with other Littleton Public School staff members: "Technology and its effect on student achievement." The ETAC staff will have a chance to review this information prior to the Board presentation.

Mr. James Stephens proposed to the committee: Should we (this committee) start a discussion with the educators of the district to hash out what the standards should be for technology integration? (understanding and interacting with technology) How do we expect educators to deal with creating 21st century learners if we haven't spoken to the educators about what their experience is? What their level of comfort is?

REACTIONS

- We expect an awful lot of our teachers already; this could be an interesting discussion!
- There are only three teachers and three students on this committee, under-representation; perhaps we need to re-structure the group to include more teachers and students.

8:40 PM – Adjournment

Minutes respectively submitted by: Gail Schillinger-Technology Support Specialist