



**Educational Technology Advisory Committee
Littleton Public Schools
Meeting Minutes
12-02-2009**

Chair: Matthew Shankle Chair-Elect: David Chao CIO: Dan Maas

LOCATION: Newton Middle School

6:00 PM – Arrival

ETAC members networking and casual dialog

6:30 PM – Convene

Call to order: Mr. Matt Shankle, Chair of the ETAC 2009-2010 called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Library of Newton Middle School.

Pledge of Allegiance

6:32 PM – Approval of Minutes

Review Minutes of October 21, 2009

Mr. Matt Shankle asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of October 21, 2009. Mr. Briggs Buckley motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Steve Wolf seconds the motion. The committee was then unanimously in favor of approving the minutes after the motion.

6:35 PM – Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Shankle asked if there were any suggestions or additions to the December 2 meeting agenda. The committee was in unanimous favor of approving the agenda as presented.

6:37 PM – Celebrating Successes Newton Middle School –

Principal James O’Tremba welcomed the committee and highlighted some of the accomplishments and initiatives happening at Newton.

- As of last year Newton is a fully authorized International Baccalaureate School.
- Newton has 2 open access labs and 120 netbooks
- Newton has an award-winning technology education program; honored with several national awards and an array of state awards.

Principal O’Tremba introduced Ms. Julie Lacey, IB Coordinator and Language Arts Teacher who outlined the essential tiers of the IB program, technology being one of those tiers. Ms. Lacey said a common misconception about IB is that it is a curriculum. IB is not a curriculum she explained, but a method of delivery. IB has 8 subject areas and students receive 50 hours or more in all of the 8 subject areas. Technology is infused into the other 7 subject areas. IB has reshaped how all content areas of the curriculum are viewed.

Mr. Dan Cohen, Technology Teacher at Newton stated that there are approximately 500 computers at Newton including 120 laptops. 60 netbooks were allocated by the district to the 6th grade inspired writing project, 60 laptops were purchased by the school.

Newton students participate in a daily reading program in which students have the ability to “test out” on computers enabling them to access immediate test results. Mr. Cohen stressed the point that

technology is embedded in the curriculum and Newton staff members try to incorporate the technology into the content of the class producing a more ubiquitous use of technology with daily lessons. Mr. Cohen also introduced Marc Finer another integral member of the Technology Team at Newton.

Mr. Dan Maas asked the Newton staff where they felt their greatest technological needs lie. The reply was that Newton could still use extra peripherals such as monitors, and keyboards. In addition, Newton would like to add more Smartboards (they have 2) and document cameras (they have 4-5) so that each classroom might have access to these tools. Mr. O'Tremba also stated that he has been getting more and more requests from teachers for laptops. Ms. Lacey also added that time for professional development teacher training is very much valued by the Newton Staff. Newton boasts a strong PTO support.

The ETAC committee was invited to meet the Special Ed staff at Newton and watch as they demonstrated how they enhanced learning and created enthusiasm for learning with use of the Smartboard. The SmartBoard was part of a grant received by the district from the Morgridge Family Foundation in a partnership between Special Education and ITS.

Thanks to Principal O'Tremba and all the great presenters at Newton.

7:25 PM - Discussion Items and Reports- BOE Liaison Sue Chandler on behalf of Renee Howell

Ms. Chandler reported that 3 returning members of the Board were sworn in for the next 4 years at the last BOE meeting. Those members are Ms. Renee' Howell, Ms. Sue Chandler and Mr. Bob Colwell.

The last quarterly financial report, in addition to all of last year's comprehensive financial report was approved by the auditors with no major problems.

At the December 10th Board meeting the BOE will initiate discussions around the fiscal challenges facing the district. A district financial prospectus brochure was passed around for all committee members viewing. Ms. Chandler stated that the Board has conscientiously tried to collect input from district committees, teachers and administrators and continues to encourage anyone in the community of the LPS district with input regarding the school district's financial conundrum to come forward. The Board will not only be studying fiscal years 2010-2011 but trying to pre-plan for future years so that Littleton is not a "reactive" but a proactive district. The Board will continue to try to make the best choices for kids.

7:30 P.M.- CIO Report: Dan Maas:

In January Dr. Mark Warschauer author and Professor at the University of California at Irvine will be coming to Littleton. Dr. Warschauer is one of the foremost researchers and publishers on using laptops in classrooms. Dr. Warschauer is presently doing some research on the net book and has asked to visit a couple of our schools. (East and Hopkins)

7:35 PM – Small Group Work:

Each subcommittee group leader stated to the best of their ability the group task as they perceived it; what their work plan approach will be and what kind of timeline they were hoping to be on for completion.

8:00 PM – LPS Conference Vision:

Mr. Dan Maas unveiled a concept for a technology conference that could take place in the LPS district in April at the Ames Facility. The idea is for a two-day conference in LPS using our own educators as expert presenters to provide internal professional development, showcase our technology advances to the community, welcome external interest with minimal disruptions and generate funds for the district. The conference could include live video feeds from LPS classrooms; include corporations/businesses who would be interested in the kinds of technology implementations LPS is participating in. The conference would be marketed nationally. Please see

the attachment for more details.

Announcements:

**Next ETAC Meeting
will be at Twain Elementary School
on January 20, 2010
6901 S. Franklin St.
Centennial, 80122**

8:30 PM –Adjournment

Minutes respectively submitted by: Gail Schillinger-Technology Support Specialist