



**Educational Technology Advisory Committee
Littleton Public Schools
Meeting Minutes
02-18-2010**

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

**LOCATION: Pathways Alternative Program
Whitman Facility**

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 Room 12 of the Whitman Facility which houses Pathways.

Pledge of Allegiance

6:32 PM – Approval of Minutes

Review Minutes of January 20, 2010

Mr. Matt Shankle asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 20, 2010. Mr. Adam Blank motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ben Horblit 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 February 17 meeting agenda. The committee was in unanimously in favor of approving the agenda as presented.

6:37 PM – Celebrating Successes Pathways Program

Ms. Karen Goodwin, Director of Alternative Education welcomed the committee and introduced Ms. Heather Cotham, teacher at Pathways. Ms. Cotham also fills a great many other roles as needed within the Pathways Program. Ms. Therese Hustis, Facilitator and school psychologist was also present.

Pathways is a non-traditional program designed to meet the individualized personal, social and academic needs of alternative learners. Pathways serves 7th, 8th and 9th grades and approximately 60-75 students are enrolled. Two Pathways students, Ms. Bernice Arroyo Arellano and Mr. Nick Mello spoke to the committee about the manner in which Pathways uses new technologies recently made available to them since moving into the Whitman Facility.

Pathways has

- State of the art computer lab
- 3 scanners
- 2 color printers
- 5 Smart Boards
- 1 Document Camera
- 2 Digital Cameras and 1 flip video camera
- An 18 EEE laptop cart and enjoys using
- Google Tools

Ms. Cotham and the Pathways students spoke of important and useful lessons on the topic of

Internet Safety instruction given by Mike Harris. Students at Pathways use Skype and hope to expand their use of this technology. While constructing research papers, students learn how to authenticate sources being used. A unique culmination of the year is the Pathways Video Yearbook which is made possible by the generosity of the Binning Family Foundation. Looking ahead, Pathways would like to expand their technology initiatives to include the introduction of Podcasting and Photoshop. In addition Pathways would especially enjoy having laptops for every student, and the creation of digital interactive notebooks which would be used to keep students organized and on track.

7:25 PM - Discussion Items and Reports- BOE Liaison Renee Howell

Good News! Littleton Public Schools continues to be recognized as a premier school district and was recently given the distinction of receiving the highest academic accreditation Colorado has to offer.

The Board will continue its conversations regarding the budget at its regularly scheduled meetings. No good news for recovery is anticipated for the next 2-3 years. Further information regarding the budget can be found at www.littletonpublicschools.net under "Budget Matters."

7:30 PM – Small Committee Group Reports-

It was decided that additional ETAC committee time is required at meetings to allow for development of the many ideas the sub-committee groups have formulated.

Sub Committee work will convene at 6:00 p.m. for the next several ETAC meetings.

LPS Conference Concept: The focus of the sub-committee work will be working toward the LPS Conference Concept. It was decided that June 3rd will be the targeted date for the conference. While others will be invited to attend, it was also decided that the primary target audience for this year's conference will be the LPS community, students and staff.

7:45 P.M. - CIO Report: Mike Porter: Inspired Writing Project.

The final results of the grant initiative called "Powering Up Writing" were presented to the Board on January 28 by Mr. Dan Maas and Mr. Porter. Results show a definitive correlation between the use of netbooks and raising student achievement on test scores. This pilot project took place in 5 district schools. In presenting this information to the committee, Mr. Porter revealed that the data distinctively demonstrates an accelerated rate of growth toward student writing proficiency when students with ongoing access in their classrooms to netbook technology. In other words, the presence of the netbook technology, along with the teachers' willingness to use them in instruction and writing blocks, represents a significant force multiplier for student achievement.

Announcements:

**Next ETAC Meeting will be at
The ESC in the Boardroom in conjunction with DAC- however
SUB COMMITTEES WILL MEET AT 6:00 IN THE COMPUTER LAB OF THE ESC.
THERE WILL BE SIGNS POSTED FOR DIRECTION
on March 17, 2010
5776 S. Crocker Street
Littleton 80120**

The ETAC Executive Committee will meet at 3:00 p.m. on March 1st for Agenda Planning

8:30 PM –Adjournment

Minutes respectively submitted by: Gail Schillinger-Technology Support Specialist