



**Educational Technology Advisory Committee
Littleton Public Schools
Meeting Minutes
9-24-2008**

Chair: Briggs Buckley Chair-Elect: Matthew Shankle CIO: Dan Maas

LOCATION: Heritage High School

6:00 PM – Arrival

ETAC members networking and casual dialog

6:30 PM – Convene

Call to order: Mr. Briggs Buckley, Chair of the ETAC 2008-2009 called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the library of Heritage High School.

Pledge of Allegiance

6:32 PM – Approval of Minutes

Review Minutes of August 27, 2008

Mr. Buckley asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of August 27, 2008. There were no motions for any changes.

Maureen Medved motioned to approve the Minutes of August 27th, 2008 as presented.

Ben Horblit seconds the motion to approve.

The committee is unanimously in favor of approving the minutes.

6:35 PM – Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Buckley asked if there were any suggestions or additions to the September meeting agenda. The committee was unanimously in favor of approving the agenda as presented.

6:37 PM Celebrate Our Successes-

Heritage High School

Ken Moritz, Principal and Mr. Steve Wolf, Vice Principal welcomed the committee. Heidi Dudley and Diane Frank, Computer Coaches for the school gave an overview of the presentation for the evening. They explained that the HHS presentation would contain an array of ways in which Heritage uses technology and they did not disappoint!

Who thought technology could be used in so many clever ways to enhance H.S. marching bands and orchestral group participation! But Kevin Keena Band Director showed a number of ingenious ways technology has improved both the student learning curve and provided an integrated participation both in and outside the music classroom. Kevin embedded a beautiful audio of the wind ensemble band he conducted as background music on his website. For parents, the website contains announcements, schedules, answers to frequently asked questions and required forms. There are links to LHS and AHS high school band sites and links for every instrument used in the program to aid students who are having difficulty with fingering techniques, or rhythmic issue. Kevin makes use of an MP3 player to record band rehearsals, students upload the rehearsal, listen to themselves practice, and then provide feedback on how they thought they performed and what could be improved. Finally, Kevin incorporates a link that can illustrate animated drills for the marching band so students can more easily see where they need to be on the field and why.

Through Dim-Dim, a Smartboard and some Eee computers, Mr. Mike Rudolph Physics teacher showed how he can conduct a Physics class not just for students within the Heritage High School walls but also includes 5 students in Center Colorado who are distance learning with him. This method of communication is called Skype. The students in Center Colorado are able to see Mr. Rudolph as he conducts experiments and writes on the Smartboard. This is great way to fill out seats in a partially filled classroom and can be used to generate revenue.

Unsatisfied with student performance on a written assignment involving students interviewing a famous person and asking them about their vacation, Miss Mary Kay Cummings Spanish Teacher for Heritage High showed the committee how she increased student proficiency and enthusiasm for learning by using the Eee-Pc webcam feature. Miss Cummings had students record and video tape conversational Spanish dialog in teams of two acting as famous people using puppets. The exercise was very entertaining and provided a great way for students to learn and have fun. Miss Cummings was able to upload the performances to her website and Wiki where students could view them giving them authorship. Student progress in conversational Spanish was notably improved.

7:00 PM - Discussion Items and Reports- BOE Liaison Renee Howell

Ms. Howell reported that the calendar committee has convened. The calendar committee meets every two years to develop a school-year calendar that best meets the educational needs of the students we serve and their families.

The Facilities Use Task Force continues its discussion regarding the four million dollar deficit the district faces. A public forum was held at Heritage High School on Monday September 22nd. Approximately 695 community members attended. There were many questions being addressed as citizens of the Littleton community voice concerns regarding these challenging issues. If you have any questions concerning the Facilities Use Task Force all information is posted on the website. The Facilities Task Force will present to the Board on October 23rd.

Ms. Howell suggested if more details regarding ballot issues is needed by anyone please Go to the Google site and put in: Colorado ballot initiatives to get information.

October count, a count of student enrollment critical to the districts funding level began this week.

Graduation Requirements and Course completion requirements are also being discussed.

7:10 PM – CIO REPORT– Mr. Dan Maas –

Along with 2 executive representatives from ASUS the manufacturers of the Eee-PC, Mr. Dan Maas made visits to a number of Littleton schools in addition to 2 schools in Englewood. The purpose of the visits was to view how the EEE pc is being used in schools to enhance learning.

“Laptops for Learners” is a concept being worked on by Mr. Bob Young and the Littleton Foundation. The framework of the program revolves around marketing space on these pint size laptops to help subsidize kids buying them for \$100. It is also the hope that the district can subsidize a scholarship program for kids who cannot afford the \$100. This is a self sustaining project partnership.

Presently, there are 580 Eee-PC computers in the district in use right now. Mr. Maas reports that “We have increased student access to cyber space by 20% increase for students since last year.” As we saw by the evening’s presentation by Heritage, they are being highly used.

Mr. Chip Roepke, owner of Contact-PC, the local distributor for the Eee-PC also attended the ETAC meeting this evening.

7:30 PM –: Action Item: Board Report Preparation: Dan Maas –

The committee created a summation of technology initiatives to be presented to the Board October 9th.

Recommendation Priority 1

Concept: Document cameras and mounted projectors in all classrooms to create a collaborative learning environment that every teacher can use.

Cost: \$600,000

*Unanimous decision by ETAC Committee

Recommendation Priority 2

Concept: Allocation of funds to be used for staff time and training for additional contract days, training stipends and substitute pay for release time. Staff will have job-embedded time to get training to focus on student-centered learning.

Add 2 days to the teacher contract (\$341,000/day/year) and the balance for stipends (\$150) and substitute pay (\$110).

Cost: \$1.5 million/year

*Unanimous decision by ETAC Committee

Recommendation Priority 3

Concept: Staff computers should be maintained on a reasonable refresh rate of 3-5 years with options for desktops and laptops at no additional cost to school budgets.

This will ensure that staff will be equipped at least as well as other knowledge workers.

Cost: \$425,000/year

*Unanimous decision by ETAC Committee

Recommendation Priority 4 – Future Bond Election Initiative

Concept: VOIP phone system and infrastructure upgrades should be included in a future bond election initiative. Without an upgrade, our phones will fail within 3-4 years drastically impacting service and safety. Internet and network redundancy will also become essential.

Cost: 4.5 million

*Unanimous decision by ETAC Committee

Recommendation Priority 5

Concept: High School language arts classroom sets of notebook computers (such as eee pc's) Deploy 1:1 environment in the high school classroom where writing and authorship are the highest premium.

Cost: \$400,000 implementation with \$100,000 recurring annually

*ETAC Committee 21 aye 2 opposed

Recommendation Priority 6 – Future Bond Election Initiative

Concept: 1:1 laptop project K-12 requested to be included in future bond election initiative

Cost: TBD

*ETAC Committee: 7 member for 5 members against 10 abstained

Announcements: Next Meeting is at Peabody Elementary School on October 24, 2008 visit Board of Education Report TBD

9:10 PM – Adjournment

Minutes respectively submitted by: Gail Schillinger-Technology Support Specialist