

Technology Minutes – October 28, 2002

Attending: Helfried C. Zrzavy, Marianne Adams, Marci Homan, Michele Johnson, Liz Stone, Richard Newman, Keith Burke, Paul Bartolomucci, Dick Dunning, Peter Monether, Karen Paul, Andy Paul, Greg Morris, Paul, LaFreniere, Ken Campbell, Ray Cote, Sue Copley, Barbara Busenbark

Demonstration: Ray Cote gave a demonstration of Open Office. A free office suite which includes a word processor, a presentation program, an HTML editor, a drawing program and a spreadsheet program. It was very much like Microsoft office which sells for approx. \$400 a seat vs. Open Office which is free and runs on Windows. As a test for its stability we will be importing the district budget into the spreadsheet. Office documents can be opened into Open Office without any anticipated problems. It is currently being developed for System 10 on the Mac.

Utilization of older technology: A review of some of the ways older technology was being used was discussed.

- β SMS has a lab of LCIII's (10 yr. Old systems-386 vintage) being used for word processing, keyboarding and an old CAD program. The next level of systems are spread throughout the building in open areas for easy access.
- β PES has LCIII and an Apple IIE still in use in classrooms. They are used for drill work and word processing, simple Math and reading .
- β GES has LCIII's going as well in the classroom
- β CVHS uses 486 systems as card catalogs and language labs systems
- β TES has an old Mac lab for word processing, Math Investigation and keyboarding – these were donations from Sanders

Technology and the LEIP: In addition to the goals set forth in the Technology Plan are the goals of the LEIP around technology. These goals include the district plan and accessibility of technology to staff and students, technology used for parents to access student work and school information – assignments, grades, etc., the use of electronic and portfolios. Electronic newsletters and links to the community are also stipulated in the LEIP.

Web Sites Update: Web page coor. met and worked together at one of the labs at ConVal, receiving extra training and input. They were able to update pages. Staff and contact pages for all schools are now current.

SMS requested additional accounts for building web pages. More and more teachers are wanting to build pages for their individual classrooms. They will be provided the accounts and we will look into providing web based page building software for future use.

Other Updates:

- β Point of sale at the high school cafeteria should be available in a couple of weeks
- β Work order web page is ready
- β Librarians received training in new software – collections are continuing to be build and imported throughout the district
- β Virus protection software has been setup at the server level so that all systems on the network are protected

Next Meeting: November 25