LICKING AREA COMPUTER ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the Technology Advisory Committee held
March 1, 2000 convening at 8:30 A.M.

Call to order

  The following members answered present to the roll call: Heath represented by
Michele Berry, Johnstown represented by Tony Mangette, Licking County ESC
represented by Dave Calloway, Licking Heights represented by Bruce
Revennaugh, Newark City Schools represented by Mindy Vaughn and Wally
Spence, North Fork represented by Larry Smith, Northridge represented by Lisa
Smith, Southwest Licking represented by Theresa Kucsma, Tri-Valley
represented by Randy McFerren, West Muskingum represented by Ray Dunlap,
and LACA represented by Sandy Mercer. Jesse Lyon arrived from Licking
County JVS arrived 9:15.

Representatives from the following districts were unable to attend: Granville,
Lakewood, and Maysville.

Barry Haley from Licking Valley, Jill Merry from Saint Frances, Sandy Paxton
and Gloria Closser from SchoolNet, and Lonny Claypool, Joey Alexander, Trish
Baker and Bobbie Warthman from LACA were also present for the meeting.

 Approval of Minutes

00-009
It was moved by Theresa Kucsma and seconded by Larry Smith to approve the
minutes of the December 1, 1999 meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

Discussion Items

A. Sandy Paxton and Gloria Closser lead a discussion on Professional
Development offerings via SchoolNet.
1. Training via the Internet is available from Netg and Ziff Davis
University. Netg offers over 500 online courses ranging from basic
Windows 95 to advanced administration (MSCE Certification) to
Oracle, Office, and many, many more. These courses are free and
every school district has accounts available to them for use. Also,
Accounts from The Gartner Group are available for research. More
information can be obtained from Sandy Paxton at SchoolNet.
2. Also discussed was IVDL Round 2. Sandy Paxton stated that Round 2
monies haven't been released yet pending the April/May
announcements from OneNet. ITSCO will be offering training via
IVDL. There will also be a demo at Northridge High School on April
5, 2000.
3. Professional Development: Sandy Paxton stated that 50,000 Novice
Certificates have been issued. She is encouraging everyone to send
more people for advanced training. A Technical Assistant meeting
will be held on March 14, 2000, a Tech Coordinator meeting will be
held on March 16, 2000, and Practitioner training will be held April 4,
2000, at Woodside.
4. Tech Plan reviews are posted on the SchoolNet web site. Copies of
the criteria were distributed. All 3 yr. Tech Plans must be in place by
July 1, 2000. Current Tech Plans are good through June 30, 2000.
5. Round IV - SchoolNet +: Building surveys are also online at
SchoolNet or can be completed via bubble sheets.

Microsoft Offering: Sandy Mercer gave feedback on Microsoft's offer for
software updates. They are offering a yearly fee to allow schools to keep
their MS software current and legal. Unfortunately the cost is
about $50 per machine, which is still considered too high for most
schools to afford.

Websense: Issues were raised about response to requests and some objectionable sites were being placed into categories that were accessible from school computers.   LACA will contact Websense ASAP for possible solutions.

Webmail: It was stated that some people were having problems changing their password.   Sandy said that LACA would find a solution ASAP.

Updates: E-rate: Sandy handed out a spreadsheet that showed the cost summary of the various phases of E-rate. Discussion followed.   A drawing showing how SCOCA, who has a lot of IVDL going on, has implemented ATM. Several examples on the drawing show how ATM will be implemented in our districts. Round-2 equipment is in the process of being installed.
OSU/COTC grant: She discussed the OSU/COTC grant proposal.   There is a need for volunteers to serve on committees that are reviewing remediation software.   The remediation committee is meeting April 6th if anyone is interested. Call Sandy for info.
Governing Board: A search is currently being conducted for a new position titled Director of Operations at LACA.
ONEnet: Connectivity monies will be flowed to LACA for FY00.   School districts will be reimbursed $1500 per T1 and $750 per 56k line to pay for phone lines. July 1, 2000:   All phone bills will be transferred to LACA. During FY01, all T1 upgrades will be completed and LACA will receive a DS3 line to DAS for ATM connectivity. ONEnet is still reviewing hardware.   There is current discussion of $6000 per building for ATM switch equipment.

Jerry Eby did a demonstration of DSIS, the desktop student information system and discussion ensued. This software currently provides a web-based interface for teacher and administrator access to student test scores, demographics, and schedules. Sandy Mercer also commented on the current student services software development that included MOLE (grade entry), TOAD (attendance entry), STINQ (Student inquiry), and a Web-based version of grade cards.

Trish and Bobbie did a demonstration of INFOhio. Districts were encouraged to take part in the electronic resource previews. Examples of valuable resource sites included Campaign 2000. Trish Baker announced an upcoming Information Literacy Workshop on April, 12, 2000, at LACA. Brochures were distributed. Discussion followed on web site services provided for teacher/student/parent communication and the need for districts to think about web content/disclaimer policies for this. LACA offers training on ProQuest SiteBuilder which enables local webmasters, information professionals, and teachers to create links to ProQuest content.

Unfinished business: Lonny Claypool stated that LACA now has an ILS (Internet Locator Service) server installed.   This will allow anyone in the districts to use NetMeeting for communications or remote troubleshooting.   The address for the ILS server is web2.laca.org. If you need help, call Lonny Claypool at LACA. Jesse Lyon commented about a cash settlement with Toshiba notebooks and agreed to provide more detail on the LACATECH listserv.

The next meeting will be on April 5, 2000, at Northridge HS and will include a demonstration of the IVDL, Interactive Video Distance Learning project. Discussion will include districts interested in applying for IVDL round 2 grants.

00-010 Adjournment: Dave Calloway moved for adjournment at 11:30 am, Mindy Vaughn seconded it.

Reported by,

Lonny Claypool