LACATech Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2004

Roll Call
The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:30am on February 4, 2004. The following members were present: Denny Souder (Granville),Jesse Lyon (LCJVS), Beth Speith (Lakewood), Lesa McGarity (Licking Heights), Larry Smith (North Fork), Lisa Smith (Northridge), Mark Goodall (Tri-Valley), Dave Calloway (Licking County ESC), Michelle Berry (Heath) and Sandra Mercer (LACA).   Others attending included Chad Carson (LACA), Jon Bowers(LACA), Joey Alexander (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA), Carol VanDeest (SchoolNet) and Rachael Granatir (SchoolNet),

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
04-012 It was moved by Beth Speith and seconded by Dave Calloway to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2003 meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

Introduction of new Staff Member
Dave Stein was introduced to the group as LACA's new Network Coordinator.

SchoolNet Update
A Schoolnet Update document was handed out and presented by Carol Vandeest and Rachael Granatir. Please contact Carol at vandeest@osn.state.oh.us or Rachael at Rachael.granatir@osn.state.oh.us with any questions about the Schoolnet Update.

E-Rate Update
The 2004-2005 LACA Network Priorities were presented to the group. This outlined the items being purchased by the Network Pool fund. Beginning in 2005, Sophos Anti-Virus will also be purchased using Network Pool funds.   The Network pool will not be picking up a portion of the WAN fee as it did in FY03 and FY04. Check Schedule A on LACA's Network Fee billed to the
04-013 district. This can be obtained from your district office. It was moved by Beth Spieth and seconded by Denny Souder to approve the 2004-2005 LACA Network Priorities as presented. A vote of approval was taken.

OneNet funding may change its requirements in FY05. The ratio of buildings to T-1s may change from 4:1 to 2:1, which will require LACA to install more T-1 circuits with no additional funding. LACA is currently reviewing the ATM requirements for the state video network.   LACA may be able to remove the 8510s and significantly decrease our maintenance costs for those devices.

WAN Updates
Some DA-Sites may be connected to the Third Frontier Network as early as spring 2004. "Last Mile" connection costs will be picked up out of the T.F.N. funding, but LACA may have to pay some equipment costs. LACA hopes to meet with local higher education entities to see about sharing the cost, but this will need to wait until more information is received from OSN.

LACA is contracting with Innovate for a fiber feasibility study. LACA expects to have the finished study results by August 2004.   The study will cover EVERY building in the network that is not currently connected with locally owned fiber.

LACA's new generator was installed and is now operational. The Storage Area Network is installed and has been running for districts since January 18, 2004, when we had a hard drive that began failing. The rest of the districts are scheduled to be moved on February 19, 2004. LACA has our new Windows servers and failover SQL servers, and we are beginning the

construction of a clustered Windows network to run DASL and Progressbook.   LACA began unofficially logging Internal to External IP address mappings, and date/time of connections to troubleshoot a complaint from an outside network. LACA proposed we keep this logging in place for future troubleshooting. This will be presented to the governing board for approval. LACA is now running on a new DS-3 that was provided by OneNet, with a bandwidth increase from 10mb/s to 15mb/s.

Technical Services Update
There are no updates to report on the State Helpdesk software.

The AOL/Webmail problem was discussed. There was a change with AOL's proxy server setup that was affecting LACA's Webmail sessions if a user logged in from home through AOL using AOL's browser. This was resolved by enabling session tracking with cookies on the Webmail server, an option that was never needed in the past.

Mailmarshal will no longer send notices to the Sender and Recipient of e-mails that are infected with viruses. Since the majority of viruses spoof the sender address anyway, delivering a notice to the address is worthless and generates even more e-mail traffic while the virus attacks are going on.   Documentation on the requirements for running Sophos Anti-Virus were distributed to the group.   There was brief discussion about Cisco's new C.S.A (Cisco Security Agent) software, which is a policy-based software that could replace lockdown software such as Fortress, and also protect against virus activity using a behavioral approach, rather than scanning for certain virus signatures.   LACA will try to bring Cisco in to present on this product after the April 7 LACATech meeting.

The computer hardware recycling effort organized by Dave Calloway at the LCESC was successful again this year. Over 2 semi-truck loads of old equipment was disposed of.

Other Discussion
TSI will be at LACA on February 6, 2004 to review the core ATM network configuration. There will be a meeting on February 24 at the Cornell School in Johnstown for Superintendents interested in sharing teachers through video distance learning.

Progressbook's Special Education module is in the final stages and will be going live on Monday, February 9, 2004. LACA plans to have a pilot of the parent module by the end of the 3rd nine weeks. Over 1,100 teachers and 51 buildings in the LACA consortium are now making use of the Progressbook software.   The original commitment by the Governing Board included all member districts participating in Progressbook by FY06.

Unfinished Business
There was no unfinished business.

New Business
Jesse Lyon asked about hosting the JVS in-house developed leave tracking system on an SQL/Web server at LACA. We will research this possibility.

PC Inventory Software was discussed, and Chad Carson mentioned software in use at TCCSA which was believed to be freeware. This software is called EZAudit and is available for purchase from http://www.ezaudit.com, and is NOT freeware as originally believed.

A question about the Security Committee that was formed 2 years ago was brought up. LACA will find out where the left off and bring it back up at the next LACATech meeting.

The next LACATech meeting will be April 7, 2004, at 8:30am.

04-014 It was moved by Beth Spieth and seconded by Denny Souder to adjourn the meeting at 10:30am. A vote of approval was taken.