LACATech Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2006

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:30am on April 5, 2006. The following members were present: Denny Souder (Granville), Mike Carter (Johnstown), Jesse Lyon (C-TEC), Keith DeVore (Licking County ESC), Chris Cashdollar (Licking Heights), Sondra Wilson (Newark City), Larry Smith (North Fork), Lisa Smith (Northridge), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Jeff Orr (Tri-Valley), Beth Spieth (Lakewood), Kevin Snyder (West Muskingum), and Sandy Mercer (LACA) Others attending included Mike Kelley (Licking Valley), Brian Gottfried (Granville), Megan Robinette (Newark City), Dave Calloway (LCESC), Tom Jacob (Excel Academy), Paul Kamenan (Fairfield Christian), Jill Merry (St. Francis), Tess Wigginton (Newark Catholic), Sally Sperry (Mount Vernon), Chip Zolman (Mount Vernon), Jon Bowers(LACA), Joey Alexander (LACA), David Stein (LACA), and Chad Carson (LACA). Representatives from Maysville and Heath were unable to attend.

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

06-18   It was moved by Dave Calloway and seconded by Denny Souder to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2006 LACATech meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

Introduction of New LACATech Representatives

Sally Sperry and Chip Zolman, from our new member district Mount Vernon City Schools, were introduced to the group. Mike Kelly from Licking Valley was introduced to the group. Mike is our new LACATech representative following Barry Haley's retirement.

ITSCO Update

No representatives from ITSCO were able to attend this meeting.

eTech Update

No representatives from eTech were able to attend this meeting.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

An update was provided on the new Internet provider for the OECN, and the switchover to new IP address ranges. LACA will be moving all services and servers housed at LACA to private 172.16 address space in anticipation of this switchover. Services that are being pointed to using hard-coded IP addresses by district client computers are the primary concern. These are the 156.63.145.3 and 156.63.145.4 DNS servers, and any Reflection users set up to point to

06-19   156.63.145.6 instead of the hostname LACA0.LACA.ORG.   It was moved by Jeff Orr and seconded by Larry Smith to set a drop-dead date for the removal of the LACA 156.63.145 network on April 13, 2006. A vote of approval was taken. Work on the Third Frontier Network is progressing, but there are no new updates for LACA at this time.

Wide Area Network Updates

An overview of the Time-Warner fiber project implementation plan was given by Joey Alexander. Three different scenarios that cover all district configurations were shown using powerpoint and discussion of each took place.   LACA needs final descriptions of demark locations for those

buildings where fiber will be installed.   Also, each district needs to review future locations on the Time-Warner contract for accuracy.

Technical Services Updates
8e6 Content Filter - It was agreed upon by all for LACA to renew another 3 year agreement with 8e6 Technologies (FY07 – FY09). The price may increase, as the number of computers in our network increases. We will get final pricing from our 8e6 reseller soon. A wildcard feature for URL filtering is in the new release of the 8e6 software (allowing additions like *.myspace.com) , but there are bugs to be worked out. Keyword filtering feature should be available the end of June. Some suggestions for improvement of the software were brought up. One was adding a hierarchy scheme where some options could be added to ALL subnets for a district by adding to a top level folder (currently, blocking a site for all subnets requires manually editing ALL subnet configurations). A second was support for cutting-and-pasting. These suggestions will be passed on to 8e6.

Sophos Virus Scan –   LACA recently negotiated pricing with both McAfee and Symantec, and presented these pricing options to the group. A powerpoint presentation outlining the pros and cons of each product was presented by Joey Alexander, and discussion on each product

06-20 followed.   It was moved by Dave Calloway and seconded by Larry Smith to recommend LACA enter into a 3-year agreement with Symantec on behalf of the LACA districts effective November, 2006, pending pricing under $4.00 per workstation per year.
GR- aye, JO – no, LA – aye, LC – aye, LH - aye, NE - aye, NF - aye, NR -aye, SW -

06-21 aye, TV -aye, WM – aye.   It was moved by Kevin Snyder and seconded by Dave Calloway to recommend LACA enter into a 3-year agreement with McAfee on behalf of the LACA districts effective November, 2006, if Symantec fails to meet the $4.00 price point. A unanimous vote of approval was taken. Sandy Mercer will take the appropriate recommendation to the Governing Board when final negotiations are reached in May.

StorServer – LACA's StorServer tape backup system is installed and operating very well. LACA is still outlining a service to be offered to districts allowing remote backups to LACA. LACA staff need to increase comfort levels with the product before offering the service to districts.

Secure Telnet – Reflection for the Web has been purchased, and will be installed on a new dedicated Web server sometime after April 10, 2006. Once Reflection web is in place and information is passed out, LACA will continue with the previous course of action of shutting down telnet access from outside the network. LACA is not recommending a change to any current user setups or Reflection licensing in place at district locations unless the user is having problems (I.E. Running Mac OS-X).

LAMA – Individual LAMA Access forms were distributed to each district for review, showing who in the district has basic LAMA access (view only) and who has LAMA change access (reset passwords).   This form will be approved and signed by the superintendents at the August Governing Board meeting. Please let LACA know if there need to be additions or corrections to these forms before this time.

MailMarshal Spam Console - Discussion took place on the new MailMarshal Web Console tools, which allow users to log in and view messages that have been spam-blocked for their account. One issue we have is Licking Valley and Fairfield Christian Academy each have their own e-mail systems, but no LACA accounts for each of their employees. These users have no way to log into MailMarshal and release messages.   LACA will require a staff user security form for anyone with a LACA account, but we will modify the form to have a "spam only" option, for these districts that only need accounts for spam administration.

LAN Switch Maintenance – Dave Stein will be getting with each district (as has been done in previous years) to get a list of Cisco equipment for FY07 maintenance coverage. LACA proposed

using some spare equipment we have on-hand as a cheaper alternative to paying Smartnet maintenance, but there was no interest.

Other Discussion
IVDL Updates – In September the state will begin to pilot IP bridging. Johnstown will be participating in the pilot program. The tentative date for removing ATM support at the state level is September 2007.
USD Helpdesk Updates – LACA network staff will begin using the Helpdesk software on July 1, 2006.
DASL Update – LACA is still on target for Tri-Valley to go live on May 11, 2006. Plans are for the SIS software to be retired by June of 2008.

Unfinished Business
No unfinished business.

New Business
The next LACATech meeting date will be June 7, 2006 at 8:30am in the LACA Conference Room. Interest in a site license for Synchronize was discussed. There was interest in this product from Southwest, Tri-Valley, ESC, Mt. Vernon, C-TEC, and Johnstown.

Adjournment
06-22   It was moved by Denny Souder and seconded by Beth Spieth to adjourn the meeting at 10:45am. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.