LACATech Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2013

Roll Call
The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:35am on May 8, 2013. The following members were present for the roll call: Joe Winnenberg (Crooksville), Michelle Snow (C-TEC), Randy McFerren (East Muskingum), Michele Berry (Heath), Mark McGee (Lancaster), Eric Smith (Maysville), Angie McCutcheon and Jamison Ables (Newark City), Larry Smith (North Fork), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Harold Gottke and Chris Irvin (Tri-Valley), Matt Snyder (West Muskingum), Tim Owen (Lakewood), and Jon Bowers (LACA). Representatives from Granville, LCESC, Licking Heights, Mount Vernon, and Northridge were unable to attend.

Others attending were Paul Kamenan (Fairfield Christian Academy), Tess Wigginton (Newark Catholic), Dave Stenson (St. Francis), Jeremy Wise (Foxfire), Joey Alexander (LACA), Robert Rittenhouse (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA), and Chad Carson (LACA).

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
13-7   It was moved by Harold Gottke and seconded by Jeff Cameron to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2013 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Introduction of New Members
Chris Irvin from Tri-Valley was introduced to the group.

eTech Ohio Update
Mike Edwards presented the eTech Ohio update. Please direct any questions about the update to Mike at mike.edwards@etech.ohio.gov or visit the eTech Ohio website at http://www.etech.ohio.gov.

ITSCO Update
David Hayward provided an ITSCO update over video. Please direct any questions about the ITSCO update to David at david@itsco.org or visit the ITSCO website at http://www.itsco.org/

Video Services
Jon Bowers reminded everyone that it is very important to buy the maintenance contracts on the Polycom equipment. The cost of a single failed camera or other component can easily meet or exceed the cost of the maintenance, and then your system is offline until a new part can be purchased, shipped and installed. If you wait to renew and let the coverage lapse, there is a re-certification charge of around $1,000. Jon Bowers proposed rolling this coverage into the LACA Video Support fee if that would help. It is very important if you rely on it every day to deliver a course to your students. Contact Dave Stein at LACA with any questions or to get status of maintenance on your systems. Michele gave an update on courses over video that are available. Michele can come to your district and give a demo/presentation on delivering courses over video. Please let LACA know if there is a change in the Video Lead Teacher so we can update the distribution list. We are applying for two RUS grants, which provide support to video distance learning projects. We are hoping to get our own video conferencing bridges through this grant, so we have full control over bridging our own calls. Much discussion took place over how district

rurallity and free/reduced lunch count was used to apply for the grant. Please replace batteries in your Polycom remotes…if they leak and ruin the remote, it is expensive.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates
All K-12 network money has flowed to the districts for the year ($1,800 per instructional building). It appears this will be in the state budget for next year.

WAN Updates
ISP Contracts – All contracts are done and everything is set.   Please review receipt acknowledgement letters and reference the correct 470.
LACA Circuit Renewals - As part of Time Warner renewals and bandwidth upgrades, we are switching all circuits from point-to-point to a Time Warner product called ELAN.   About ½ of the current LACA circuits are on ELAN already.   This makes all LACA circuits connect to a "cloud" rather than individually to certain endpoints. LACA then separates the traffic within our network using VLANs. LACA will work with each district to schedule times to make this change…it will require downtime. At the new facility, we will have a single 2 GB connection at the new location that all ELANs will come to LACA through. No re-addressing will be necessary for the ELAN changes, but for anyone going from 100MB to a higher (200mb, 500mb, etc) we will need to update the Cisco 3560 hardware at that location to accommodate the higher speed. LACA is also working with Windstream to obtain a 2nd upstream link to Oarnet at our new location, so we have redundant links through alternate providers. Our plan, if possible, is to load-balance across these two circuits, so they are always live and working, not just a failover configuration.   There is still no definite clarification if a hosted wireless service is eligible for federal eRate funding, as it was blessed by the FCC, but not by USAC.
Periodic Bandwidth Testing – LACA has an IPerf server running in our office at the address iperf.laca.org (172.16.145.61). If you download an iperf executable from the LACA website, you can run bandwidth tests against this box to see if you are able to push through the amount of data that you are paying for from Time Warner. We have discovered that sometimes the configuration on the Time Warner circuit is not set properly for what we pay for, and the only way to really discover this is via an iperf test to flood the link with traffic. Be aware that this will affect your live traffic, so it should be done off-hours.   Contact Joey Alexander at LACA for assistance with this.

Technical Services Update
Internet Filtering Discussion – LACA currently has an iBoss filter demo running. We turned on minimum filtering, so everyone MAY see an iBoss blocked page pop up, even if you are not actively participating in our demo.   So far we really like the product. More information will be coming on this as we continue the demo over the month of May. If anyone wants to demo this, we can even add a single PC from your district into a more restrictive group so you can test the filtering. If we want to switch to this, we need to do something before the end of October 2013, when our M86 contract expires.   June 5 will be a demo of Barracuda's filtering system, which will be a webinar that you can view remotely, or here at LACA.
Exchange Email – LACA will be doing a service pack installation on May 16 at 8:00pm

Old Business
LACA Facility Move – Everything appears to be on schedule. LACA office space is almost done. We are still targeting the evening of July 22nd at 5:00pm to shut down the data center. The downtime COULD extend to July 25th before all services are back online.
Mobile Device Management – No additional information on this topic. LACA staff time has been consumed by preparing for the move and we have not had the resources to pursue this further at this time.
PARCC Assessments – LACA has a link button on the front page of our website for PARCC. This is a repository of all information LACA has received on the subject.   Sam Orth from the Management Council of the OECN sits on the national committee for PARCC, so we feel well represented. Discussion has taken place to possibly get an instance of the assessment server

internal to the Ohio state intranet, or to get it on Internet2, to reduce the amount of Internet traffic being used by the assessment testing.

Hiring Network Coordinator – We are in the process of conducting interviews for another member of the LACA network team.   We hope to have someone hired before the move.

Digital Curriculum and Testing Software – LACA completed the agreement with the Northwest Education Association, resellers of the MAP testing software. This does not change anything with your software….this agreement just locks in your pricing for 3 years, and enables the company to do training for multiple districts in the area at once by working as a consortium.

Document Imaging and Warehousing – Newark, Heath, West Muskingum will be using Onbase through LACA, and they are in the process of getting their documents converted to digital images.

New Business

Acceptable Use Policy vs. Responsible Use Policy – Jon will send this electronically. Generally, Acceptable Use Policies are about school-owned equipment, but Responsible Use Policies also cover how you should behave online while using their own devices through school networks. LACA can work with districts to complete a template for everyone to use.

FY14 LACATech Schedule - Below are the scheduled dates for the upcoming FY14 LACATech meetings.

Regular Meeting Dates
- September 11, 2013
- November 6, 2013
- January 8, 2014
- March 5, 2014
- May 7, 2014

Topic-Based Meetings
- October 2, 2013
- December 4, 2013
- February 5, 2014
- April 2, 2014
- June 4, 2014

Discussion took place about the timeline of a switch to iBoss, if it were to happen. We don't foresee making the switch over the summer due to the amount of work due to the move.

13-8   It was moved by Larry Smith and seconded by Michele Berry to adjourn the meeting at 10:10am.

Reported by Chad Carson, Director of Technology, LACA