



LACATech Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2015

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting took place starting at 8:38am on May 13, 2015. The following members were in attendance : Rocky Ringhiser (C-TEC), Randy McFerren (Tri-Valley), Rob Sexton (Granville), Michele Berry (Heath), Kevin Adams (Johnstown), Kevin Snyder(Lancaster), Amy Norman (Newark City), Jack Kruse (Northridge), Jeff Cameron (Southwest Licking), Ted Harrison (West Muskingum), Larry Smith (North Fork), Randy Miller (Lakewood), and Jon Bowers (LACA).

Others attending the meeting were Kim Watson (North Fork), David Dewese (Fairfield Christian Academy), Timothy Ballard (Newark Digital Academy), Robert Rittenhouse (LACA), Justin Post (LACA), and Chad Carson (LACA).

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

- 15-12 It was moved by Kevin Snyder and seconded by Larry Smith to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2015 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

ITSCO Update

There was no ITSCO update at this meeting.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

K-12 Network Subsidy – The subsidy should be the same as last year (\$1800 per building, in two payments). K12 Network Committee is also working on getting a 10GB connection to all ITCs (LACA already has ours). ODE has also given each ITC a grant to purchase an Arbor Networks DDOS attack mitigation appliance. This device watches for DDOS attacks and has the ability to redirect our traffic through the Arbor Networks cloud where it can be scrubbed, then sent back to LACA. LACA will be implementing this device over the summer as we learn more about how it will work, in hopes that it can help cut down on DDOS attack disruptions in the coming 2015-2016 school year.

WAN Updates

ISP Contracts - Make sure you get a signed contract to LACA for any eligible services. If you get a PIA please forward those to Jon Bowers. PIAs are expected to be more stringent this year.

E-Rate Changes Presentation

Lorrie Germann provided an update on the new e-rate processes to the group. Any questions about this presentation should be directed to Lorrie at lorrie.germann@education.ohio.gov.

Video Services

LACA was awarded a RUS grant which we used to purchase a video bridge. Over the week of May 4-8 SKC was onsite installing LACA's bridge and the scheduling software. We are slowly migrating classes to the bridge. On May 12, we ran 4 production classes through this new bridge, which is the first step in eliminating our dependence on the BEMC bridge. The bridge can currently handle either 20 HD ports or 40 SD ports. Each endpoint is a port, so a typical call with the classroom, instructor, and RSS recorder takes up 3 ports.

Technical Services Update

Avast Antivirus Update Discussion – After recommendation from the LACATech group and approval by the LACA Governing Board, LACA will NOT be renewing our site license for ESET Nod32 when it expires. Our license expires mid-July 2015, and we are encouraging everyone to migrate off Nod32 to Avast before July 1st. After July 1st, the Nod32 software will continue to work, but you will not receive any updated virus signature DAT files.

iBoss Issues – We have had multiple issues with iBoss recently. The most recent was an issue where a firmware update caused a slowdown in throughput, rendering Internet useless. This update was meant to fix issues where inappropriate sites slip through the filter. Chad Carson shared that LACA staff have started investigating alternatives (add more iBoss appliances, or research new products). Choices of filters that can handle the level of traffic that LACA generates are very few. Out of 21 ITCs across the state, 11 use iBoss, and the remainder use either M86 or Lightspeed. Rob Sexton has Lightspeed and warned that the company is not doing well and may not be around for long. LACA staff will be doing more extensive research into this to get the problems resolved and will keep you posted.

Email Migrations (GAFE or Office365) - If you are looking to move email from LACA to Google or Office365, please get with Chad Carson to discuss your plans. Many districts have started doing this or talking about it and we just want to be informed.

Chrome and OWA – The Chrome “IE TAB” plugin works for Outlook Web App, but only on Windows machines. This plugin requires IE to be installed on the machine (which you can only do on Windows) so this option does not help Chromebooks at all. Jeff Cameron suggested a possible way to alter the OWA code ourselves to remove that function call. This option will be investigated, but we do not want to do anything that would affect the stability of the OWA product.

Old Business

PARCC Assessments – Discussion took place on PARCC. Chad Carson asked if there were any issues we could help with, but most of the issues stem from the PARCC website itself, not issues with bandwidth. Most districts reported bandwidth dropped during the testing, since fewer people were using the Internet and were focused on the testing instead.

New Business

INFOhio – INFOhio funding is being cut by 47% in the proposed state budget. If you have the opportunity to speak with a legislator, explain to them the importance of the resources INFOhio offers to the schools (Bookflix, Ebsco Host...these resources would go away under the proposed budget). Kevin Snyder shared that Troy Balderson is on the Senate Finance Committee that is developing the budget, and would be a key person to appeal to.

It was asked if LACA has done any testing on Windows 10 with LACA applications. LACA has not done any official testing. Even if it does work, until our **vendors** say their software is supported, it affects our ability to get support if we use unsupported operating systems or browsers.

FY16 LACATech Schedule - Below are the scheduled dates for the upcoming FY15 LACATech meetings.

Regular Meeting Dates

- September 9, 2015
- November 11, 2015
- January 13, 2016
- March 2, 2016
- April 4, 2016
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Topic-Based Meetings

- Last one for FY15: June 3, 2015
- October 7, 2015
- December 2, 2015
- February 3, 2016
- April 6, 2016
- June 1, 2016

15-13 The meeting ended at 9:30am. It was moved by Kevin Snyder and seconded by Jeff Cameron to end the meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Reported by Chad Carson, Director of Technology, LACA